



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence

39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH - 01234 711212

Parish Priest: Fr David B Barrett

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Fr Patrick Hutton - Retired

Deacon: Rev Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

deaconpeter.griffin@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

parish.olney@northamptondiocese.org

St Joseph's Convent – Sr Eileen Gorman DHS - 01234 711267

Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org

Christus surrexit vere, alleluia

21 st April 2024 Psalter Week 4	Fourth Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday – Day of Prayer for Priestly Vocations	
First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 4:8-12 <i>This is the only name by which we can be saved.</i>	
Responsorial Psalm	The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.	
Second Reading	1 St John 3:1-2 <i>We shall see God as he really is.</i>	
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me. Alleluia!	
Gospel	John 10:11-18 <i>The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.</i>	
Saturday 20th April +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday 21st April +	10.30am	Mass – (Family & Friends of the Ayles family – Ints.)
Monday 22nd April <i>Feria</i>		No Parish Mass today
Tuesday 23rd April ST GEORGE – Martyr – Patron of England	10.00am	Mass - (Fr Anthony Roberts RIP) <i>Priest of the Diocese of East Anglia</i>
Wednesday 24th April St Fidelis of Sigmaringen – Priest & Martyr St Adalbert – Bishop & Martyr		No Parish Mass today
Thursday 25th April ST MARK - Evangelist	10.00am	Service of Word & Communion
Friday – 26th April <i>Feria</i>	9.15am 10.00am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Mass – (Charlie Creed RIP)
Saturday – 27th April <i>Feria</i>	10.00am	Mass – (John Pichowicz RIP)
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER		
Saturday – 27th April +	6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Una Kearns RIP)
Sunday – 28th April +	10.30am	Mass – (Pro Populo)

Second Collection this weekend for the Priest Training Fund

Last Sunday's Collection

Offertory: £434.54

DGP – £15.00

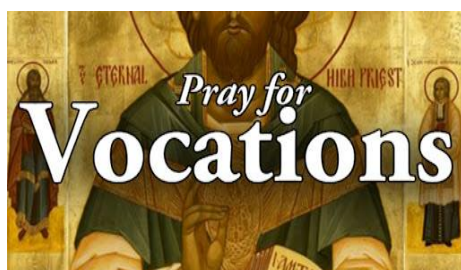
Average Standing Orders: £464.00

Total: £913.54

Good Shepherd Sunday



Today we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday. This is a day across England & Wales when we pray for vocations to the Priesthood. We especially remember and pray for our Shepherd, Bishop David and his Co-Workers, our priests. Please continue to pray for priestly vocations - our Diocese currently only has **three men** in the seminary. The second collection this weekend will go towards priestly formation, seminarian formation and promoting vocations. Did you know that it costs over **£30,000 per year to train a man to be a priest?** You are encouraged to prayerfully give as much as you can to support this vital ministry as without priests, we do not have the Church.



God our Father, you give us the Sacraments as signs and instruments of your love and mercy. Draw from amongst your disciples in the Diocese of Northampton men who are willing to generously serve your Church as priests, to minister to your people and to proclaim the Gospel to all. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Our Blessed Lady Immaculate, patroness of our diocese
St Thomas of Canterbury, patron of our diocese
St John Vianney, patron of priests
pray for us**



Sr Margaret Geraghty RIP

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Sr Margaret who returned to the Lord on Friday 12th April 2024. Her Requiem Mass will be celebrated here at Our Lady's on **Friday 10th May at 11.00am.**

Please pray for the repose of her soul and for her family, the Sisters here at St Joseph's and Burlington Hall and the wider community of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit. Requiescat in Pace.

SVP Healing Mass – Fr David will be celebrating a Healing Mass here on **Saturday 18th May at 12 noon.** It is an opportunity to pray for healing and, for those who need it, to receive the sacrament of the anointing of the sick. It will be followed by lunch afterwards. The SVP can provide transport if required; simply contact a member of the parish SVP – everyone will be very welcome.



CATHOLIC GRANDPARENTS' ASSOCIATION *Passing on the Faith*

Many thanks to all who came to our last meeting and to those who helped provide tea and coffee. The next meeting will be this coming **Wednesday 24th April at 2.00pm** in the parish hall and will explore, "How well do we know our grandchildren?" All welcome!

Gardeners Diary



Terry has again been very busy throughout the autumn & winter months cultivating seeds & plants to adorn our gardens and patios this spring/summer. You are invited to share in the fruits of his labours by supporting the two plant sales that he has organized after the Sunday

Mass on the following dates:

April 28th - sale of over-wintered, garden ready, perennial summer flowering plants

May 26th - Annual spring sale of summer bedding plants.



All donations to **Northampton Street Pastors** - Street Pastors are Christian volunteers from local churches (including our own Church) who provide care, support, and help to people using Northampton Town Centre on Friday and Saturday nights.



Parish Choir – we are truly blessed in our parish to have such a dedicated group of parishioners who form our Parish Choir – their contribution greatly enhances the celebration of the Liturgy. If you would like to join the Choir or find out what is involved, please do speak with Nick, Eva or any choir

member – you will be made very welcome. The choir are particularly looking to enrol more male voices into the choir. As St Augustine once wrote – ‘He who sings prays twice’



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE
OF NORTHAMPTON

Diocesan Music Day Saturday 11th May 2024

This year's Diocesan Music Day is being held at Thomas Becket Secondary School, Northampton on **Saturday 11th May between 11am – 3.30pm**. For Singers and Choirs, showcasing Parish Music for all ages. Instrumentalists welcome. Between Ascension and Pentecost is a great time to encourage singers and music groups of all ages in your parish. For further information and to book your place, please go to:

<https://northamptondiocese.org/courses/diocesan-music-day/>

Diocesan Life in the Spirit Seminars – 16th April – 24th May 2024

The Catholic Charismatic Renewal in Northampton Diocese team are organizing a series of talks & discussions to be held in the Cathedral with ‘live streaming’ to selected hubs across the diocese. Further information & registration can be found by going to:

<https://northamptondiocese.org/life-in-the-spirit-seminars-2024/>

A Year of Encounter With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see cafod.org.uk/encounter for more information, including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more.

Faith Summer Break 2024 11-15 yrs

Monday 12th - Thursday 15th August
St Mary's School, Ascot, SL5 9JF.

Faith Movement is a Catholic charity helping children grow in faith and friendship.



See www.faith.org.uk



Inspiring talks, discussion, daily Mass and prayer, football, activities & a trip to **THORPE PARK!**

Cost = £200 inc. accommodation, meals, sports, crafts, games, coach & Thorpe Park entry.

Spending money required for tuck shop & Thorpe Park.

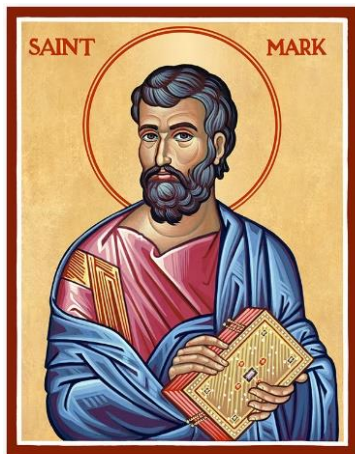
Booking Deadline - 26th July '24!





Faith Summer Break 2024 – An exciting conference for young people (11yrs – 15yrs) is being organised by 'Faith Movement' a Catholic Charity helping children to grow in faith and friendship. This is being held at **St Mary's School, Ascot** – a Roman Catholic independent school. The dates are **Monday 12th August – Thursday 15th August. Inspiring Talks – discussion – daily Mass and Prayer – fun activities plus a trip to Thorpe Park.** The cost is £200 which includes accommodation, meals, sports, crafts, games plus coach

and entry to Thorpe Park. **Booking Deadline: 26th July 2024.** This is a good opportunity to attend a very organised and good conference for our young people. Further information available on: www.faith.org.uk



ST MARK – Evangelist - Much of what we know about St. Mark, the author of the Second Gospel, comes largely from the New Testament and early Christian traditions. Mark the Evangelist is believed to be the 'John Mark' referred to in the Acts of the Apostles, the history of the early Church found in the Canon of the New Testament. He was the son of Mary of Jerusalem (Acts 12:12) whose home became a meeting place for the apostles. He is also the cousin of St. Barnabas (Colossians 4:10), a Levite and a Cypriot. Mark joined St. Paul and St. Barnabas on their first missionary journey to Antioch in 44 A.D. When the group reached Cyprus, Christian tradition holds that Mark left

them and returned to Jerusalem, possibly because he was missing his home (Acts 13:13). This incident may have caused Paul to question whether Mark could be a reliable missionary. This created a disagreement between Paul and Barnabas and led Paul to refuse Mark's accompaniment on their second journey to the churches of Cilicia and the rest of Asia Minor.

Thought for the week – There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us.

St John Mary Vianney

May Our Lady, Help of Christians, St Joseph, St Lawrence, St John Henry Newman, St Rita, St John Mary Vianney, St George, St Mark pray for us all as we continue to bask in the joys of Easter.

With our love and prayers, Fr David, Fr Patrick, and Deacon Peter