



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence
39-41 West Street, Olney MK46 5HH - 01234 711212

Priest in Charge: Fr Biju Chittuparamban
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Deacon: Rev. Peter Griffin – 07850 499414

Parish Website: www.ourladysolney.co.uk

Parish Secretary: Denise Wallinger

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

Parish Safeguarding: Janet Goodland

safeguarding.olney@northamptondiocese.org

SVP Contact: 07469 717760

1 st June 2025 Psalter Week 3		Seventh Sunday of Easter	
First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 7:55-60 <i>‘I see the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.		
Second Reading	Book of Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20 <i>‘Come, Lord Jesus!’</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord. I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice. Alleluia!		
Gospel	John 17:20-26 <i>‘May they become perfectly one.’</i>		
Saturday 31 st May +		6.00pm 6.30pm	Confessions Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday 1 st June +		10.30am	Mass – (Marion & Bernhard Grabowiecki Ints.)
Monday 2 nd June <i>Feria</i>		9.15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass – (Catherine Botts Ints.)
Tuesday 3 rd June St Charles Lwanga & Martyrs of Uganda		9,15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass - (Robertson family Ints.)
Wednesday 4 th June <i>Feria</i>			No Parish Mass Today
Thursday 5 th June St Boniface of Crediton, Bishop & Martyr		6.00pm 6.45pm	Adoration with Confession Mass (Tom Treherne Ints.)
Friday – 6 th June <i>Feria</i>		9.15am 10.00am	Adoration with Confession Mass- (Humphries family Ints.)
Saturday – 7 th June <i>Feria</i>		9.00am 9.30am	Adoration with Confession Mass – (Sisters in Olney & Burlington Hall Ints.)
Pentecost			
Here ends Eastertide			
Saturday – 8 th June +		6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday – 9 th June +		10.30am	Mass – (Tessa Woolmer RIP)

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: WORLD COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Thank you for your Weekly Offering

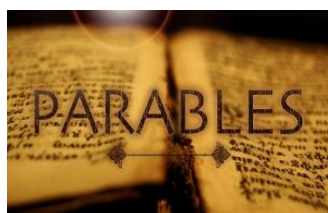
Offertory	£389.40
Digital Collection Plate	£40.00
Standing Orders	£502.00
TOTAL	£931.40



Month of June

Dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

The month of June is traditionally dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This devotion is a way to honour the love and compassion symbolized by Jesus' heart. The Solemnity of the Sacred Heart will be celebrated on **Friday 27th June**. During the month of June Fr Biju is offering to visit and bless your home if you wish. Please speak directly to Fr Biju to arrange this.



The First Thursday Discussion Club – will meet as usual on **Thursday, 5th June, at 7.30pm, after Mass at 6.45pm**. Fr Biju Chittuparamban will be leading the discussion on his choice of Parables. All are welcome. The final meeting of this 'school year' will be on **3rd July** which will be a social gathering when we will reflect on the 2024-5 sessions, decide whether to

continue the Club and, if so, choose a theme for 2025-6. The July meeting will be accompanied by drinks and nibbles which have featured in the parables (think of vineyards, bread, lamb, mustard, salt, fish, figs) and, weather permitting, will allow us to go outside to enjoy the work of the Gardening Club. First, though, please join Fr Biju on 5th June.

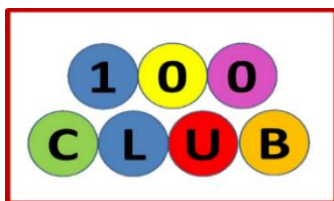


Parish Forum - Last week we published the first notice of the Parish Forum meeting due to take place on **Monday the 9th of June at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall**. The Forum is your best opportunity to find out what the many volunteers are doing on your behalf. On this occasion the Parish Council is reporting on its first year of operation. They have produced a summary of some of the work in progress and there are copies of this available to you as you leave the church. Have a good read and bring your ideas to the meeting. Your voice really does matter!



Plant Sale – Many Thanks – to everyone who supported last weekend's Plant Sale – this raised the magnificent sum of over **£280.00**. The proceeds will be divided between - **Olney is Kind** - a local community driven initiative dedicated to providing help and support to local people facing challenging circumstances, crisis, poverty, and other difficulties. **A new**

mower for cutting the grass - The mower is on order but we are awaiting a delivery date. We are ever grateful to both Terry & Joan who put in a great deal of work to prepare the plants for sale and to be present on the days of the sale itself – **Thank you both**.



Thank you – to all who have returned their application forms to join the parish 100 Club – the response has been very good. If you would like to join The 100 Club, we are requesting that you return your application form and make payment by **Sunday 15th June** to ensure you are entered in the first draw

which will take place on **Sunday 6th July**. If you have not had an information pack yet, please see Maura, Michele, or Toby after Mass. **Many thanks from The 100 Club Committee for supporting this new fundraising venture for our parish.**



The Parish SVP continue to provide transport for people who need it. We aim to be able to get people to Mass once a week (often a lot more). There is often a high demand which makes the transport arrangements difficult. We are very grateful to our volunteer drivers who are an enormous help to us. We have a great need for more volunteers - the more we have the less we will need

to call on you. If you can help, please contact Veronica or any member of the SVP as above. **Thank you.**

Sacred Art Ongoing Formation - Zoom Talk **Tuesday 17th June 11.00am- 12.30pm**

Fr Liam Castle invites you to an ongoing formation zoom talk on the importance of sacred art and image. Ordained in 2022, Fr Liam has a keen interest in sacred art and wrote his STB on the Council of Trent's decree on sacred art and image, and its subsequent implementation.

Mission Jubilee Evening – **Mission Northampton** invites all to a Mission Jubilee evening on **Monday 9th June 7pm -9pm** at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Aylesbury. The evening will include music, a talk, prayer, and some drama by the young people of Aylesbury. No need to book, though it would be helpful with refreshments if you register. <http://northamptondiocese.org/courses/jesus-our-hope-aylesbury-with-mission-northampton/>



The Diocese of Northampton is seeking a committed and experienced safeguarding professional to take on the voluntary role of Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Advisory Board. This vital position involves leading quarterly meetings, offering expert advice on safeguarding matters, and supporting our diocesan safeguarding team. We are looking for someone with senior-level safeguarding experience who also has a good understanding of the Catholic faith. If you or someone you know might be

interested in this rewarding opportunity to help ensure the safety and wellbeing of all within our Church community, **please contact Danielle Dixon, Safeguarding Coordinator, on 01604 723514** or email safeguarding@northamptondiocese.org for more information. Applications are now open, with the new Chair due to take up the role in December 2025.

Seventh Sunday of Easter – Scripture Reflections

From Fr Biju's desk... Today's readings are about people's bearing heroic witness to Jesus through life and death, and the Source of the inspiration behind such witness-bearing. They urge us to work for greater Christian unity and to consider the power of Christian witnessing.

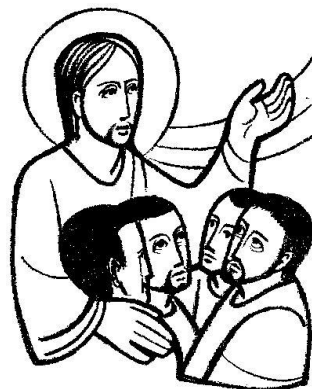
The first reading describes the martyrdom of Stephen, showing us how he bore witness to the forgiving love of Jesus by his last prayer. In the second reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, Jesus, the Alpha, and the Omega, is pictured as having all the forces of Heaven and earth at his disposal, standing ready to help us in our Christian witness-bearing.

Today's Gospel is the last part of the "priestly prayer" of Jesus after the Last Supper. This chapter of John has been called "The Testament of Jesus" or "Jesus' High Priestly Prayer." During that long prayer, Jesus prayed first for himself – for his own glorification as he faced the cross. Then, he prayed for his disciples that they might be unified and protected in the face of opposition from the world, and finally he prayed for those in distant lands and far-off ages, including ourselves, who would enter the Christian Faith through the witness-bearing of the Apostles and their successors. Thus, this is Jesus' prayer for each one of us. We have complete Faith and certainty because Jesus put his confidence in God and entrusted us to Him.

We need to pray for unity and serve one another in unity. We must pray for unity and discuss the similarities we share with others as well as our differences. Along with prayer, we must put our words into action. This means that we are to serve one another and to love one another as brothers and sisters in the Lord.

As we move nearer to Jesus Christ, in him we move nearer to one another. Such unity is ultimately a gift of the Holy Spirit and of His guidance. Only by a renewal of the spiritual, by common prayer and common listening to the Word of God, can we hope to overcome the present ecumenical impasses and difficulties. In the words of Pope St. John Paul II:

"The door to ecumenism is opened only on our knees."



With our love and prayers, Fr Biju, and Deacon Peter