



Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence
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4 th May 2025 Psalter Week 3		Third Sunday of Easter Season of Easter	
First Reading	Acts of the Apostles 5:27-32, 40-41 <i>‘We are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit.’</i>		
Responsorial Psalm	I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up.		
Second Reading	Book of Revelation 5:11-14 <i>‘Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth.’</i>		
Gospel Acclamation	Alleluia, alleluia! Christ is Risen, who created all things and has shown compassion on the human race. Alleluia!		
Gospel	John 21:1-19 <i>‘Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish.’</i>		
Saturday 3 rd May +		6.00pm 6.30pm	Confession Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday 4 th May +		10.30am	Mass – (Anthony & Eddie Bagg RIP)
Monday 5 th May <i>Feria</i>			No Parish Mass Today
Tuesday 6 th May <i>Feria</i>		10.00am	Service of Word & Communion
Wednesday 7 th May <i>Feria</i>			No Parish Mass Today
Thursday 8 th May <i>Feria</i>		10.00am	Service of Word & Communion
Friday – 9 th May <i>Feria</i>			No Parish Mass Today
Saturday – 10 th May St John of Avila – Priest & Doctor			No Parish Morning Mass Today
Fourth Sunday of Easter Good Shepherd Sunday			
Saturday – 11 th May +		6.30pm	Vigil Mass – (Pro Populo)
Sunday – 12 th May +		10.30am	Mass – (Terence Cockings RIP)

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND – PRIESTS TRAINING FUND

Thank you for your Weekly Offering

Offertory	£357.70
Digital Collection Plate	£10.00
Standing Orders	£502.00
TOTAL	£869.70
Holy Places (Good Friday)	£333.48



Apostolica Sedes Vacans Apostolic Seat is Vacant

The Holy See has announced that the Conclave to elect the successor to St Peter will officially begin on **7th May 2025**. The announcement follows the funeral of Pope Francis, who was laid to rest with solemn rites last Saturday in the Basilica of St Mary Major — a church he dearly loved throughout his pontificate. Following established tradition, the College of Cardinals will gather in the Sistine Chapel to elect the 267th Successor of Saint Peter. **Cardinal Kevin Farrell**, the Camerlengo of the Holy Roman Church, has been overseeing the interregnum period (the “sede vacante”) and the preparations for the Conclave.



Prayer for the Conclave

Father Most Holy, Our God and King. Protect Your Church in this time of transition. Guide the Cardinals in their sacred duty. Grant them Wisdom and Courage, Hope and Charity and the Faith they need to discern Your Holy Will. You alone know the heart of the one You have chosen as the next successor to Saint Peter. Reveal Your will to the College of Cardinals. Open their hearts to Your inspirations. Open our hearts to receive, with faith and obedience, the one whom You will raise up to sit on the Chair of Saint Peter.

May he be a man of deepest compassion, a man of profound faith and hope, a man whose charity shines forth, permeating the darkness of this world with the light of Christ. You are God Most High, the God of the living and the dead the Great I AM, the Alpha and the Omega, Eternal Being and Source of all that is. May Your holy will be done, now and forever. **Amen. Alleluia.**

A selection of prayers for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis as well as prayers on the election of a new Pope can be located on the Prayers & Reflections tab on the parish website.

Tea/Coffee – This Sunday we will be serving tea / coffee after the 10:30 am Mass with a VE Day theme. All welcome.

Thank you – Fr Biju wishes to thank you all for your very generous Easter Offering. Thanks also for the Good Friday Collection for the Holy Places which raised **£333.48**



Sr Norah Tracey RIP

The Requiem Mass for Sr Norah will be celebrated here at Our Lady's on **Friday 16th May at 11.00am**. Please pray for the repose of her soul and for her family, the Sisters here at Olney and Burlington Hall and the wider community of the Daughters of the Holy Spirit. Requiescat in Pace.



We launched our Parish 100 Club last weekend - please pick up a joining pack if you've not had a chance to do so already. For those who collected one last weekend and wish to join, please return them to Michele, Maura or Toby or leave them in the box at the back of the church. Our first draw is on Sunday 6th July after the 10.30am Mass. You can buy as many tickets as you like - you have to be in it to win it! Thank you all so much for supporting this parish fundraising initiative.

Message from CAFOD Group - With limited interest from the parish at this time our CAFOD Parish Group has decided to postpone the planned 'Summer Social Gathering' event scheduled for 10th May until maybe later in the year. Thank you, Monica, for your continued commitment to CAFOD. For those who had paid for the event Graham Ryan will be available after Sunday Mass this weekend to recompense you with £10.00.



SVP Healing Mass – The annual SVP Healing Mass will be celebrated by Fr Biju on **Saturday 31st May at midday** and will be followed by lunch. It would help us with the catering if you could let us know if you will be joining us for lunch. Please add your name to the list at the back of the church. Also please let us know if you would like transport either by phone on **07469 717760** or by email on veronicatarrant@aol.com



Month of May – Our Lady's Month

As we begin the month of May which we dedicate to Our Blessed Lady – Mother of God & Mother of the Church.

It would be good if we could all set aside some time each day during the month to pray the rosary. It would be good also if families could come together in their homes to pray the rosary – this will be a source of great grace. Suggested intentions: That the Holy Spirit will guide the Cardinals in Conclave to appoint a worthy successor to St

Peter; for peace in our troubled world, (particularly in Ukraine, the Middle East, and the Sudan). For the poor and marginalised in our society, for our families, friends, our parish...

Mass Intentions - Message from Denise - A payment of **£40.00** was made on the digital collection plate on 16th April at 10.34 under the cater gory of 'Mass Intentions'. Can the donor please contact me so I can book the Masses for you.

Newsletter Deadline - Items for inclusion in the Parish Newsletter should be submitted to Denise **no later than 5.00pm on Wednesday afternoon**. Whilst we will do our best to include your item this cannot always be guaranteed.

Third Sunday of Easter – Scripture Reflections

From Fr Biju's desk... Today's Gospel narrative shows us the rehabilitation of Peter, who denied Jesus three times in the courtyard of Caiaphas, repented, and then received Primacy in the Church from Jesus. The Gospel also shows us God in search of man, even when man tries to evade Him.

The First Reading is taken from the Acts of the Apostles, tells us how the Holy Spirit transformed Peter, whom Jesus had appointed head of his Church, from a man fearful of powerful men into a brave witness to the Resurrection.

Today's Responsorial Psalm reminds us that it is God Who rescues us from our troubles.

The second reading is taken from Revelation, presents John's vision of the Risen Lord as the glorified "Lamb of God" enthroned in heaven. Using rich imagery, John explains that Jesus has done something unprecedented and has given us more than we deserve. Hence, the angels sing praises around God's throne.

The Gospel tells the post-Resurrection story of our merciful Savior who goes in search of His band of disappointed, dejected disciples. In the first part of today's Gospel, the risen Jesus appears to His disciples and gives them a symbol of their mission in a miraculous catch of fish followed by a grilled fish breakfast prepared by Jesus. The second part is a dialogue between Jesus and Simon. Three times, Jesus asks Simon Peter, "Do you love Me?" and Peter responds that he does, as if in reparation for his triple denial of Jesus. As his primary mission, he is given the care of the vulnerable lambs and sheep, and he is told that his fidelity to this mission will lead him to martyrdom.

We need to open our eyes, ears, and hearts wide to see, hear, and experience the Risen Lord coming into our lives in various forms, and circumstances. The Risen Lord is present in our pains and suffering. The same Jesus often visits us in the form of accidents, illnesses, the loss of dear ones, pain, suffering, and problems in relationships. The Risen Lord visits us in the form of unexpected help from the least expected persons in our dire needs.

Let us pray that we may be a Church that continues in that Gospel lifestyle of fishing for people, of tending the sheep and feeding them with the word of life.



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