

# NEWSLETTER

16th January 2026



Our Lady Of Peace Catholic  
Primary and Nursery School



***“With Christ in our hearts, together we grow”***

Dear Parents,

At the end of the second week of Spring Term, it has been wonderful to welcome the children back after Christmas and get into the full swing of school life again.

At the beginning of the week, the children heard from the Gospel the story of Jesus' baptism and how it made a bold statement - Jesus is God's Son! During the assembly, the children reflected on how they can follow Jesus' example and go out and make bold statements for God in the way that they live their life.

On Wednesday we celebrated our start of term Mass with Fr Amal. Year 4 led this celebration of the Eucharist incredibly well. We have been focusing a lot more on how the children can lead our times of worship during Mass, in Gospel assemblies and also in their own class celebrations of the word. The children are leading our acts of worship incredibly well and we look forward to seeing how this develops over the rest of this year.

Today the Friends of OLOP held their first coffee morning of 2026. Thank you to those who were able to join this morning for a quick cuppa and chat.

Finally, it is customary that when a new Headteacher takes up post in a Catholic School, that an induction Mass is held where the Bishop issues their mandate for the new person in post. A date has now been set by the Diocese for my Induction Mass. We would like to invite all parents and children to join us for this service on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 5:30pm at Our Lady of Peace Church.

Wishing you all a blessed and restful weekend.

Mr Stopps

## Important Dates

**16<sup>th</sup> January-Coffee Morning**

**16<sup>th</sup> January-Friends of OLOP AGM**

**23rd January-School Disco**

**23rd March - Headteacher Induction Mass**



**Our Lady Of Peace**



**[post@olopprimary.co.uk](mailto:post@olopprimary.co.uk)**



**01628 661886**

# Catholic Life and Religious Education



## Catholic Social Teaching

This half term the children will be focusing on the Catholic Social Teaching principle of 'Solidarity and Peace'.

In Catholic social teaching, solidarity and peace are two important principles that guide the understanding of social justice and the promotion of a just and harmonious society.

**Solidarity:** Solidarity refers to the recognition of the interconnectedness and interdependence of all people. It emphasises the unity of the human family and the responsibility to care for and support one another.

**Peace:** Peace encompasses the pursuit of justice, reconciliation, and the establishment of conditions that allow individuals and communities to thrive in harmony. Peace is rooted in respect for human rights, the dignity of every person, and the promotion of dialogue and understanding. It involves addressing the root causes of conflicts, working towards reconciliation, and fostering a culture of nonviolence and solidarity.



The children are encouraged to put their learning about Catholic Social Teaching into action. Each week we award a pupil from each class with the OLOP Love in Action award to those who show their faith in action.

These children's names are also added to a leaf and added to the tree in our entrance.



## January 2026

January often feels like a fresh page: a new year, a new term and a chance for new beginnings. Many families use this time to think about hopes for the year ahead – perhaps to grow in kindness, gratitude or faith.

Through our January resources, children will be reminded that God is with them at the start of this new year, and that Jesus is the light that guides them each day.

This newsletter shares some of the content children will experience in school throughout January, and suggests ways for you to engage with them about it. We hope it is a useful resource for your family prayer time.

## BOLD STATEMENT

In the week beginning 12th January, the assembly points to the feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Matthew 3:13-17). Performed as a short Gospel drama, children will hear of Jesus' Baptism in the River Jordan, where God the Father declared from Heaven that Jesus is His beloved Son.

Through this, children will understand that Jesus' Baptism was a bold statement about who He is – God's Son – and that God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit were all present at this significant event. Children are given the opportunity to reflect on how the sacrament of Baptism welcomes people into God's family and invites them to make a bold statement for God in their own lives, knowing that they too are God's beloved child.

*With your child/ren, you may also like to...*

- *Look at photos or keepsakes from your child's Baptism, and talk about what it means to be "God's beloved child".*
- *Encourage your child to make a simple "bold statement for God", e.g. "Today I will include someone who is left out."*
- *Trace a small cross on your child's forehead at bedtime and quietly say, "You are God's beloved child".*

## BORN TO FISH, CALLED TO FOLLOW

In the week beginning 26th January, the assembly focuses on the calling of the first disciples (Matthew 4:12-23), who left their boats immediately when Jesus said, "Follow me."

A quickfire quiz highlights why the disciples were able to say such a confident "yes" to Jesus. Children will be invited to think about their own gifts and talents, and how Jesus calls them to use these for good. Through simple prayer actions, children will be given time to reflect on listening to Jesus' voice and trusting Him with their "yes".

*With your child/ren, you may also like to...*

- *Talk about your family's gifts and how each person can use them to help others at home, school or in the parish.*
- *Choose one simple "yes to Jesus" action your family can take this week, for example, visiting someone who is lonely or making extra time to pray together.*

## **JESUS IS THE LIGHT**

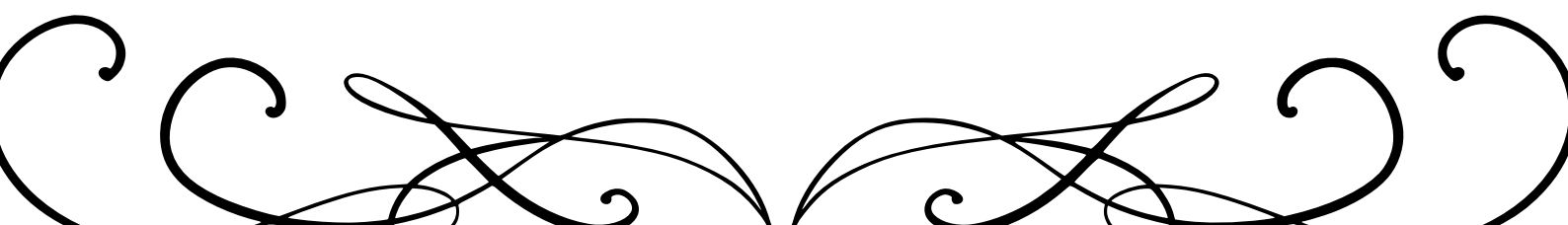
Throughout January, the daily classroom prayers will allow children to reflect on Jesus, the Light of the World. In the first week, they will pray with words from the Gospel of John (John 1:1-18) and from St John Henry Newman, asking Jesus to be the true light of life, who lights their path.

Children will be encouraged to shine Jesus' light by helping others to see His love, kindness and goodness through what they say and do.

You might like to use this prayer as a family at home:

**Jesus,  
You are the true light.  
The light of life,  
The light on my path,  
The light of glory!**

**May your light shine brightly  
through my words and actions each day.  
Amen**





# Attendance



Please ensure you are calling the Office on 01628 661886 or emailing [attendance@olopprimary.co.uk](mailto:attendance@olopprimary.co.uk) before 9am to advise of any absence.

RHA St Valentine 95.7%

RRP St Joseph 99%

IEH St Bernadette 94.4%

IRS St Faustina Kowalska 91.3%

2SS St Mary Magdalene 78.6%

2SK St Teresa of Calcutta 88.8%

3CK St Martin de Porres 94.8%

3MB St Paul 94.0%

4SS St Peter 91.7%

4RB St John Bosco 97.3%

5TH St Thomas Moore 89.3%


5HH St Assisi 99.5%

6JOK St Maximillian 96.7%

6SP St Josephine Bakhita 95.4%







# OLOP DISCO

**FRIDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY**

**RECEPTION/YR1/YR2: 4-5PM**

**YR3 & YR4: 5.15-6.15PM**

**YR5 & YR6: 6.30-7.30PM**

**£3 PER CHILD - BOOK THROUGH**

**PARENTPAY BY THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup>**

**JANUARY**



# GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service  
East Berkshire



01753 373 244 / 0800 999 134  
weekdays 9am to 5pm



<https://www.gems4health.com>



[gems.4health@nhs.net](mailto:gems.4health@nhs.net)

GEMS works with parents and carers, sharing understanding of autism & ADHD and collaborating on strategies that respect each child or young person's ways of being in the home environment.

GEMS supports families living or has a registered GP in Slough, Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Bracknell Forest.

## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS AND COURSES

**AuDHD - 7pm to 9pm**  
**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2026**

**Autistic Burnout - 7:30 to 9:30pm**  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Sleep - Autism and ADHD , 7-9pm**  
**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Sensory Processing - 7 to 9pm**  
**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

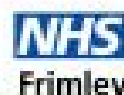
**Interoception - 7 to 9pm**  
**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026**

**Barriers to School, Can't Go, Not Won't Go - 10am to 12noon**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

**Visit our website to book your space - [www.Gems4Health.com](http://www.Gems4Health.com)**



Parenting  
Special  
Children





# Church Bulletin



## Our Lady of Peace & St. Andrew's Church Parish Newsletter



Missal  
Page 578

### Second Sunday of the Year (A)

**OLOP YOUTH GROUP:** The OLOP Youth Group meets on the **first Thursday of every month at OLOP Church.**

**Next meeting:** Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February, 6.30pm – 8.30pm.

**Who:** Year 7 and above (friends are very welcome!)

**Activity:** Special Escape Room Night – come along and test your teamwork and problem-solving skills.

**Cost:** £2 or a donation, including chips and drinks.

All are welcome—bring your wits and join us for a fun evening together! 🍷🔑

#### Mass Times & Intentions

Sat	17 Jan	OLOP	6 pm	Adriana Pena-Torok Family INT (Maria Rawling) Heard (Foundation)
Sun	18 Jan	OLOP	9.30	Margaret Josephine Kelly RIP 12 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Kelly) Martin Keaveney RIP 20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary & Con O'Keefe RIP (O'Shea Family) John Lawlor RIP Birthday Remembrance (Goldberg) Fr. Patrick Hayward RIP (Batt)
		St. A	11.30	Andrew Hatch INT (Richard) Mamu K Ratna RIP Birthday Remembrance (Karunaratna Family)
Tue	20 Jan	OLOP	9.30	Fr. Marek Balawender INT (Val Warner & Family) Mgr. Sean Healy INT (Val Warner & Family) Thanksgiving for Gary & Anna Goldberg 30 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary INT (Goldberg Family) Aleksander Pepaj RIP (Pepaj & Family)
Wed	21 Jan	OLOP	9.30	<b>St. Agnes, Virgin &amp; Martyr</b> Thanksgiving for Edward & Sinica Wedding Anniversary INT (Cardoso Family) Fr. Adrian Hailer RIP 6 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Edward)
Thur	22 Jan	St. A	9.30	Grace Gifford RIP (Maria Rawling) O'Flynn (Foundation)
Fri	23 Jan	OLOP	9.30	Keenan RIP (Boundy Family) Katie & Terry Keenaghan RIP (Boundy Family)
Sat	24 Jan	OLOP	10.00	<b>St. Francis de Sales, Bishop &amp; Doctor of the Church</b> Joseph Plunkett RIP (Maria Rawling) Pascoe (Foundation)
			6 pm	Fr. Edmund Worthy RIP Birthday Remembrance (Batt) Thanksgiving for Asher Fernandes INT (Good Health) (Fernandes Family)
Sun	25 Jan	OLOP	9.30	Thanksgiving for Rodrigues Family INT Joseph Okoase RIP (Okoase Family) Jackie & Paudie INT (Brid & Family) Donal Boyce INT (Mary Hogg & Family) Thanksgiving for Luiza & Alessandra Pepaj Birthday INT (Pepaj Family)
		St. A	11.30	Kathleen Kerrigan RIP 19 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Kerrigan) Melanie Morley RIP (Karunaratna & Sepala Family) Barry Family Sympathy (Ann Shiels)

**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:** St Peter's Church in Burnham warmly invites everyone to a special service to mark the conclusion of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 2.00pm.**

A simple **soup lunch** will be served in **Cornerstone** from **1:00 pm**, before the service. The service at **2:00 pm** will be a time of **prayer and reflection**, as we come together in unity with Christians from different traditions.



ADDRESS: THE PRESBYTERY, LOWER BRITWELL ROAD, SLOUGH, SL2 2NL

#### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

Loose Collection: £622.61  
Sunday Tea & Coffee: £34.40  
Wednesday Tea & C: £12.00  
DONA Plate: 204.68



#### MASS SCHEDULE

Monday Priest Day Off

Tuesday, Wednesdays & Fridays  
OLOP @ 9:30am

Thursdays St Andrews @ 9:30am

Saturdays OLOP @ 10:00am

#### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays Vigil OLOP @ 6:00pm

Sundays OLOP @ 9:30am

St Andrews @ 11:30am

#### MORNING PRAYER

Tue, Wed, Fri OLOP @ 9:15am

Saturdays OLOP @ 9:45am

Thursdays St. Andrews @ 9:15am

#### ADORATION

Tue, Wed, Fri OLOP @ 8:15am

Saturdays OLOP @ 8:45am

Thursdays St. Andrews @ 8:30am

#### PARISH INFORMATION

**Priest-In-Charge:** Rev. Amalraj Lawrence, SMA

**Deacon:** Rev. Deacon Michael Ossei-Williams

**Secretary:** Mrs. Venecia Godinho  
☎ 01628 605764 / ☎ 07514 699730  
✉ [office.ourladyofpeace@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:office.ourladyofpeace@northamptondiocese.org)

**Lead Sacristan:** Ms. Alma Pepaj

**Safeguarding:** Mrs. Mairin Comfort  
☎ 07456 948001 /  
✉ [safeguarding.olop@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.olop@northamptondiocese.org)

**PPC Chairperson:** Mr. Cijo Joseph  
✉ [ppc.ourladyofpeace@gmail.com](mailto:ppc.ourladyofpeace@gmail.com)

**Our Lady of Peace Catholic Primary & Nursery School** ☎ 01628 661886



**RETIRING COLLECTION:** There will be a retiring collection for **Lepra** at the end of all Masses **NEXT** weekend.

**PRAYER PETITIONS - MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE:** Parishioners are invited to submit special prayer intentions to be presented to Our Lady during the Medjugorje pilgrimage. Please write your intention, place it in a **sealed envelope**, and drop it in the **designated basket** by **Thursday, 26 February**.

#### FROM THE DIOCESE

**CALLING YOUTHS FOR LUX BELONG 2026!** If you've not heard about it before, LUX is the diocesan residential weekend for teens, held every February, packed with activity including workshops, dramas, music, worship, Mass, prayer times, games, inputs, and time with friends. This year's theme is **'Belong'**.

**When:** 13<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> February 2026 **Where:** Kings Park Centre, Northampton  
**Who:** Ages 11-18 (school years 7-13) **Cost:** £110. **To register**, sign up at <https://nymo.org/lux-belong-2026/>

**COME AND SEE – DISCERNMENT DAY FOR MEN:** Are you a man who is wondering whether God may be calling you to the **priesthood**?

The Diocese warmly invites you to **"Come and See"** — a **day of prayer, reflection, and questions** for men who are thinking about or discerning a vocation to the priesthood.

**Date:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2026 **Programme:** A day including prayer, reflection, input on priestly vocation, and an open **Q&A** **Who is it for?** Men who are exploring, questioning, or discerning a call to the priesthood  
**Where?** Our Lady of Christian and St Lawrence, Olney

This day offers a relaxed and supportive opportunity to reflect on God's call, to learn more about priestly life, and to ask honest questions in a prayerful setting.

**To register your interest or for more information, please contact:** Fr Pius [vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:vocationsdirector@northamptondiocese.org) 01753 523147

**SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD:** On **Sunday 25 January 2026**, the Church celebrates the Sunday of the Word of God, with the theme "The word of Christ dwells among you" (Col 3:16).

**Zoom Session:** **Wednesday 21 January, 7.30-9.00pm**, offering an introduction to the Sunday and its theme.

(For the link, please contact [deaconpeter.collins@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:deaconpeter.collins@northamptondiocese.org))

**Cathedral Liturgy:** **Sunday 25 January at 3.00pm**, including reflections by Fr Jerome Ituah OCD and the commissioning of readers. This will also be livestreamed, with the service booklet available on the diocesan website.

**Day of Reflection for Readers:** **Saturday 31 January, 11.00am-3.00pm**, at the Holy Ghost Centre, Luton. A time to reflect and share together (refreshments provided; booking details to follow).

**JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH LENT:** During Lent, the Pastoral Development Vicariate is offering the opportunity for online small group sessions once a week for 6 weeks beginning w.c. **16<sup>th</sup> February**.

During each weekly small group session, facilitators will be using St Beuno's Outreach Prego resources, allowing you to pray and reflect on Scripture for the coming Sunday. Within the session, there will also be time for silent reflection and sharing what spoke to you from the readings. Sessions will be available on multiple days and at different times.

Sign-up to our introductory webinar on **Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January** from 7:30pm on the link <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/northamptondiocese/1963574>

You can also find out more on the diocesan website: <https://northamptondiocese.org/lenen-journey/>

**Bank:** NatWest **Sort Code:** 60-06-11

**Account Number:** 46716203 **Account Name:** RCDN Our Lady of Peace.

#### ST PATRICK'S DANCE : SAVE THE DATE

This year's St Patrick's Dance will be held on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** at **St Andrew's Shared Church**. More details will follow shortly.

**RETRouvaille HELPS MARRIAGES** It can bring hope and healing to relationships. Next date: **12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**.  
[www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 07887 296983

Our Lady of Peace & St. Andrew's Church

**Caspar**

Have You Registered with the Parish?

Receive Our Parish newsletter by email & Reduce Carbon Emissions by Registering with the Parish through Caspar

**Get Registered Now**

**NEED HELP?**

**Contact**

- Parish Office
- PPC Digital Team
- Anitha Babu
- Ludo Fren
- Lawrence Adair

**SCAN ME**

Secure and GDPR Compliant

#### SING THE SEASON – Lent 2026

The latest in a series of events from the music liturgy team in Northampton Diocese

New music, seasonal music, fresh ideas  
For cantors, choir leaders, singers and musicians

**St Aidan's Catholic Church**

Finch Lane, Little Chalfont, Amersham HP7 9NE

**Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January, 11am-4pm**



To register, or for more details, scan the QR code or visit our webpage

BYO packed lunch (tea & coffee provided) and bring your voices and instruments

[www.northamptondiocese.org/music\\_liturgy\\_commission](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/music_liturgy_commission)

The event is free of charge but a donation of £5 to cover the cost of this and future events will be very welcome

Community  
**DINNER**  
sponsored by Burnham Parish Council  
In aid of  
**LIGHTHOUSE BURNHAM**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

**Burnham Park Hall  
Windsor Lane  
Burnham  
SL1 7HR**

Doors open at 6:30pm for 7:00pm

£25 per person  
Payment by QR code below:



**✠ GO IN PEACE**



# Church Bulletin



  
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

The Retrouvaille programme helps couples work through difficult times in their marriages...it's never too late

 07887 296983 or 0797 3380443

 [info@retrouvaille.org.uk](mailto:info@retrouvaille.org.uk)

