



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

22nd August, 2021

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest
(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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Sunday, 22 nd August Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Diocesan Novena to Blessed Dominic Barberi	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30pm Sunday Morning: 11.00 am 3.00 pm Baptism	<i>Robert Curtis (Birthday)</i> <i>Laurie Debono</i> <i>Amelie Heap</i>
Monday, 23 rd August <i>Feast of St. John Wall, Priest, Martyr</i> Diocesan Novena to Blessed Dominic Barberi	(9.15 am at Sacred Heart)	<i>Mariyamma RIP</i>
Tuesday, 24 th August <i>Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle</i> Diocesan Novena to Blessed Dominic Barberi	9.15 am Mass	<i>Mick McManus (Anniversary)</i>
Wednesday, 25 th August <i>Optional Memorials of St. Louis or</i> <i>St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest</i> Diocesan Novena to Blessed Dominic Barberi	No Mass Today	
Thursday, 26 th August <i>Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi, Priest</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	<i>John & Family (Thanksgiving)</i>
Friday, 27 th August <i>Memorial of St. Monica</i>	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Anne Marie Lyons (Birthday)</i>
Saturday, 28 th August <i>Memorial of St. Augustine, Bishop,</i> <i>Doctor of the Church</i>	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30pm	<i>Martin and Bridie Keane RIP</i>
Sunday, 29 th August Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time	Sunday Morning: 11.00 am	<i>John Pill (Birthday)</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians.

If you have recently moved into Our Lady's parish, or if you are returning after lockdown, please say hello to me.

If you wish to join us for Mass from your home, we are now live and can be viewed at

<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

Here is a prayer, **an Act of Spiritual Communion**, which you can say as you watch a Livestream Mass:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You."

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Brenda Browning, Maria Mirto**, and the souls of all who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Richard J. Foster, Frs. Alan Smith, Patrick Branagan, Francis Rowe, James Downey and Isaac William Savin, Deacon David McCarroll and Gabrielle Crawforth, Ezra Moore, Elizabeth Piercy, Adam Dennis Quelch, Peter King and Pietro Lindo. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Prayer at the end of Mass:

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O merciful, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! *Pray for us, O holy Mother of God*, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Please pray for Domenico Mirto and all those we know who are sick. If you would like to ask for prayers on this newsletter, please let me know.

Parish Fun Day, next Sunday, 29th August, noon to 4.00 pm. It is the Bank Holiday weekend, so if you are making plans for the family, count this one in! **No charge.** A last blast of summer holiday! We are not allowed to “bring and share” yet, so bring your own food and come and go as you wish. There will be games and a BBQ. Free tea, coffee, soft drinks and wine will be served throughout the afternoon. **We still need some games for the children**, so if you have things that can be set up in the carpark, perhaps goalposts and (soft) footballs, please let me know and bring them along. And let’s all pray for good weather!. Thank you.

CAFOD responding to multiple emergencies across the world. CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. They are working with local Church organisations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, they are working to ensure the safety of their local partners and their communities. They are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters & brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped them to stand together and enable them to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.

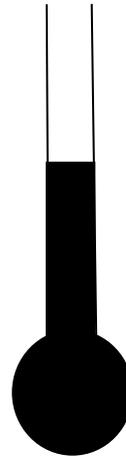
March for Life UK. March for Life UK is happening on Saturday, 4th September, in London. This is an actual, in-person event that will hopefully inspire, educate and motivate our nation to value all life from the moment of conception. Further details to follow.

Novena Prayer for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi

O God, who so lovingly raised Blessed Dominic to the heights of holiness, learning and apostolic zeal and made him a powerful minister of your mercy, listen to our humble request. We pray that you will, in your goodness, grant a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Dominic, so that the Church may further honour him on earth and that many more people will come to know and invoke the help of this faithful servant of the Church.

Mary, Mother of Holy Hope,	Pray for us.
St. John Henry Newman,	Pray for us.
Blessed Dominic Barberi,	Pray for us.

Target: £10,000



Present level: about £6,250

Our Lady’s Roof and Drains Appeal. We have recently had some very generous donations, and our total is now standing at £6,250. That is wonderful news. The collection box (built by the children in Year 5 at Our Lady’s school) will remain at the back of the church for the rest of this month. All contributions are welcome. Thank you all.

If you can help raise funds for the church (e.g. do a sponsored activity) please do.

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC in the Archdiocese of Birmingham wants to appoint a Governance Manager. “The MAC currently comprises eleven Catholic schools in Oxfordshire, two secondary and nine primary schools. This is an exciting time of expansion as we work to secure and protect the future of Catholic education. As part of this expansion, we now have an exciting opportunity for a person with the right strategic knowledge, experience and skills to support the Catholic Senior Executive Leader (CSEL), Chair and PFMAC Board of Directors in realising and sustaining this vision. For further details and to apply, please follow this link: <https://www.eteach.com/careers/bgn-oxon>”

The annual diocesan Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage will take place on Saturday 9th October, 12.00 noon at St Chad’s Cathedral. The Mass is open to all married couples, as well as those preparing to marry in 2021 but you will need to register a place via email – marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk. Closing date to register for the Mass is 1st October.

Do you want to become a Catholic?

Do you know anyone who wants to be a Catholic?

Do you know anyone who is lapsed from their faith but would like to know more so that they can come back?

I am planning a series of meetings on Monday evenings, starting on 27th September at 7.00 pm. The meetings will be “live” in the hall, but they will also be Zoomed to people who do not want to attend in person. Everyone is welcome. Please extend an invitation to anyone you know who may be interested.

Tailpiece: This comment comes from a long-suffering parishioner (but hopefully not one in this parish): “Our priest’s sermons always have a happy ending. The moment they’ve ended everyone feels happy.”

May God bless you and all those you love.

Fr. Harry