



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th September, 2021

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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Sunday, 19 th September Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year <i>Home Mission Sunday</i>	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am 3.00 pm Baptisms	<i>Marco Lalli</i> <i>Sally Dunne</i> <i>Jay, Ava and Sunny Lal</i>
Monday, 20 th September <i>Mem. of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Comps., Martyrs</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	<i>Dina Randolfi</i>
Tuesday, 21 st September <i>Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>Jose Manuel Da Cunha & Maria Augusta Ribeiro</i>
Wednesday, 22 nd September	No Mass Today	
Thursday, 23 rd September <i>Memorial of St. Pio of Pietrelcina</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	<i>John McVeigh (Anniversary)</i>
Friday, 24 th September <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Walsingham</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 4.00 pm Baptism 6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Reivan Da Silva Jesus Antunes In Thanksgiving</i>
Saturday, 25 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Sunday, 26 th September Twenty-sixth Sunday of the Year	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am 3.00 pm Baptisms	<i>Anthony Armstrong Shae and Jaiden Cooper</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians.

If you are here with us for the first time today, welcome. If you are returning to Mass after a period of time away because of the pandemic, welcome back! It is lovely to see you again today. If you are a new student at Oxford or Oxford Brookes University, welcome to Oxford and to our parish. Welcome too to returning students whose digs this year are in our parish. We would love you to make your home with us during your time at university.

Things are starting to come to some sense of ‘normality’, but I should not like our new normal to be only half-filled churches. I think the time has come to ask everyone here today to encourage others to return to Mass soon, please. A personal invitation may be just the encouragement some people are needing. You can assure them that the church is ventilated, masks are worn, sanitiser used, the benches are cleaned, and parishioners respect the need to be careful. If people are nervous about coming to Sunday Mass, they can start with a weekday Mass (Tuesday morning or Friday evening). The feast is ready, all that is needed is the guests. Come to the wedding feast.

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 Mary Manning RIP (Anniversary).

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Ayesha Gill.

Home Mission Sunday. Today is Home Mission Sunday – a day when the Bishops invite parishes to pray for the mission of the Church in England and Wales. There will be a second collection at Masses this weekend to support the Bishops' work of evangelisation. Here in England, in Oxford, in our own parish, there is a pressing need for Catholics (that's you and me) to discover a renewed missionary impulse which reaches out to people who have never known Christ and his Gospel as well as to baptised Catholics who have lost a living sense of faith. The mission territory of the Church is all the world; the families and communities of this part of Oxford is ours!

Please pray for Domenico Mirto and all those we know who are sick. And please pray for Sola Adewumi and Adedamola Falolu. If you would like your name to be included on the newsletter to be prayed for, please let me know.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Br Ambrose May OFM Cap, Deacon Michael McGrail, Manuel Marco, Fr Bengt-Ove Jakobsson CHS, Nuala Scarisbrick, and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canons David Mellor, Leo Twiney and Albert J. J. Adams, Frs. Peter Lees, John Steward, John Hanrahan, John Roddy, Bernard McAllister, John Love, Peter Lloyd and John Bale, Deacon Michael McCormack, and also Mary Manning. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

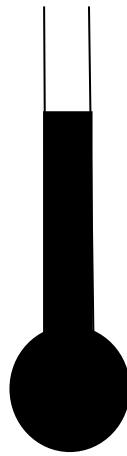
Br. Ambrose May OFM Cap RIP. Br. Ambrose passed away peacefully at Greyfriars Friary last Sunday afternoon. He was born in Oxford just over 88 years ago in Cowley Road and most recently has been parish priest at Greyfriars until 2011. Thank you for your prayers for the repose of his soul. The Requiem Mass will be at St Edmund and St Frideswide, 182 Iffley Road, Oxford, OX4 1SB on Monday, 27th September, at 10.00 am.

Nuala Scarisbrick RIP. Nuala and her husband Jack co-founded Life, a pregnancy support charity based on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Life helps more than 60,000 people a year as they face pregnancy or pregnancy loss. Her legacy is tens of thousands of people here today who otherwise would have been aborted.

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.

Target: £10,000



Present level: c. £7,560

Roof and Drains Appeal.

Thanks to some more generous donations this week our thermometer has passed the three-quarter mark; hurrah! but we are still short of our target. The collection box has now been removed from the church, but any contributions that you may wish to make are still very welcome.

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

Thank you all.

First Holy Communion Preparation. Starting on Monday, 27th September at 3.30 pm there will be a series of instructions for children aged 9 or over on 1st September, 2021. **Parents, if your child is aged 9+ and you would like them to make their First Holy Communion, please fill in the form on the parish website (olhoccowley.co.uk/forms/application-first-holy-communion-reconciliation-2021), or ask me for a paper copy.**

Eucharistic Ministers' Day of Recollection. **Saturday, 25th September, 10.00-2.00.** This is a chance to reflect and pray about what it means to share the Body and Blood of Our Lord with others. We shall start by praying together before the Blessed Sacrament in the church and then move into the DBC. It is open to all ministers and those who would like to know more. Tea/coffee provided.

Kenelm Youth Trust. The KYT is the Youth Service in the Archdiocese. They are seeking to recruit enthusiastic and capable retreat leaders and operational staff. All the information can be found on their website: <https://www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/work4kyt.html>

Tailpiece: The morning after the Marriage Feast at Cana, St. Joseph woke up with a terrible headache. Our Lady was very concerned and asked if he would like a cup of water. "Oh, yes please," replied St. Joseph, gratefully. And then he added, "But don't let our Boy near it!"

May God bless you and all those you love.
Fr. Harry

CATHOLICISM MADE SIMPLE
There will be a series of meetings on Monday evenings for anyone who wants to know more about the Catholic Faith, starting on Monday, 27th September at 7.00 pm. The meetings will be "live" in the Don Bosco Centre, but they will also be Zoomed to people who do not want to attend in person. Everyone is welcome. Please mention this to anyone you know who may be interested.