



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

3rd October, 2021

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

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Sunday, 3 rd October Twenty-seventh Sunday of the Year	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am	Mary Mist (Anniversary) Mary O'Connell & Pat O'Connell
Monday, 4 th October Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart) (11.00 Requiem Mass at Sacred Heart)	The People of the Parish Pamela Campbell
Tuesday, 5 th October Op. Mem. of St. Faustina Kowalska	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Ruth & Joel Da Cunha
Wednesday, 6 th October Op. Memorial of St. Bruno, Priest	No Public Mass Today	Pawan (Birthday)
Thursday, 7 th October Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Tom (Thanksgiving)
Friday, 8 th October	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Pedro & Verediana Fernandes
Saturday, 9 th October Feast of St. John Henry Newman	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Anne Marie Lyons (Anniversary)
Sunday, 10 th October Twenty-eighth Sunday of the Year Prisons Week	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am 3.00 pm Baptisms	Natalia Olo, Andreas Bere, et al. Nathan and Lily Hanks
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, welcome to Oxford and to our parish. Welcome too to returning students whose digs this year are in our parish.

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 Cromey RIP (Anniversary).

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.

Our Lady's Candles are burning this week for Godfrey Roberts RIP and also for Josephine McMahon (Birthday).

St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Robert Joseph Smith.

St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for James Brown (Speedy Recovery).

Baptisms. Recently we have welcomed Miguel and Nina Serrano and Yoona Maxanches Freitas into the family of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Please pray for them and for their families.

Please pray for Domenico Mirto, James Brown 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 Barbara Rank, Brian Harper, Doreen Watkins, Pamela Campbell, Deacon Michael McGrail, and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Tony Piercy, Frs. John Nightingale, John Danaher, Percival Styche, John Bullen, Philip Casey, John Fitzpatrick, Thomas Power, Deacon Patrick Selwood, and also Maureen Connolly, Teresa (Ann) Spencer, Pearl Jenkins, Noleen (Bernie) Keenan, Mary Cromey, Mary Murphy. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. 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.

Roof and Drains Appeal.

The collection box has now been removed from the church, but we are still collecting, and any contributions that you may wish to make for our appeal are very welcome. Thank you all.

The Assisted Dying Bill, 2021 and a Novena asking for the prayers of Pope John Paul II.

The Assisted Dying Bill is due to receive its Second Reading in the House of Commons, with full debate, on Friday, 22nd October, 2021. This means legalised assisted suicide and it is not something that, as Catholics, we should simply allow to come to pass. There will be a national novena asking for the intercession of St John Paul II. **It will run from 13th-22nd October.** Bishop John Sherrington (the Bishop responsible for the Day for Life) has said: 'Jesus told his disciples to pray at all times and not lose heart. Providentially the discussion of Baroness Meacher's Bill in the House of Lords falls on the feast of St John Paul II on 22nd October. The novena, asking the intercession of St. John Paul II, who spoke courageously about the infinite worth of each human person and witnessed to the cross in his final illness, calls upon Catholics and all who share our view that assisted suicide is wrong, to pray with perseverance that this Bill will be defeated. St. John Paul II, pray for us.'

The Novena Prayer:

Merciful God, we pray with thanks and gratitude for the great spiritual gift of Saint John Paul II's apostolic life and mission. Through his heavenly intercession we ask that the 'Assisted Dying' Bill be defeated and that the infinite worth of each human person is upheld through proper investment in palliative care. Grant also that we may grow in love for You and proclaim boldly the love of Jesus Christ to all people. Through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be....

Vacancy for a Headteacher. The Archdiocese of Birmingham in partnership with The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company wish to appoint a Headteacher for Blessed George Napier School in Banbury for Easter 2022 start or January, if available. For further information and to apply, please use this link: <https://www.eteach.com/careers/bgn-oxon/>

CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day. Did you remember to give up something last Friday for the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day? Well, it's not too late if you forgot. You can always put some money into the envelope today and then fast tomorrow! The money that we give will help CAFOD in their work among people who do not have a choice about whether they go hungry. Thank you.

This weekend we welcome John Guy, who is one of the Trustees of CAFOD. He will say a few words to us about what our contributions mean.

Welcome to the members of the Salesian Old Boys' Association who are here in Our Lady's today for their final reunion Mass and meeting. May God bless them.

CATHOLICISM MADE SIMPLE

We began a series of talks last Monday, intended to help people who want to find out more about the Catholic Faith, either to seek Baptism or reception into the Church or simply to reinforce their understanding. If you missed it last week you can still join this Monday, at 7.00 pm in the Don Bosco Centre. This week we shall explore the Bible. Everyone is welcome.

This year's Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage at St Chad's Cathedral is now full so please if you haven't already booked, please join online via the Cathedral Website livestream (www.stchadscathedral.org.uk). Next Saturday, 9th October, at 12 noon, celebrated by Bishop David Evans.

Tailpiece: Last week I gave you a question to think about: *when Our Lord was crucified there was a notice over His head written in Latin, Greek and Hebrew. Where or when could you come across a combination of those three languages today?* It certainly got you talking and I had many clever answers given to me – I particularly liked “a dictionary” – but the answer I was looking for was at Mass when it is celebrated in Latin; as well as Latin there is Greek (*Kyrie eleison*) and Hebrew (*Alleluia!* and *Hosanna!*). Congratulations to the clever parishioner who rushed in to see me with the right answer.

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