



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

17th October, 2021

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

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Sunday, 17 th October Twenty-ninth Sunday of the Year	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am 3.00 pm Baptisms	<i>Tommy Gildea (2nd Anniversary)</i> <i>Loro Maxanches</i> <i>Arthur and Alicia Odong</i>
Monday, 18 th October <i>Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	<i>Holy Souls (MD)</i>
Tuesday, 19 th October <i>Memorial of St. Frideswide, Abbess, Patron of Oxford</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>Nalini (Birthday)</i>
Wednesday, 20 th October	No Public Mass Today	<i>Shaheen Joshi (Birthday)</i>
Thursday, 21 st October	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	<i>Alexander McVeigh</i>
Friday, 22 nd October <i>Op. Mem. of St. John Paul II, Pope</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Josephine McMahan</i>
Saturday, 23 rd October <i>Op. Mem. of St. John of Capestrano</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	<i>Eugenia Perreira Lobato (Anniv.)</i>
Sunday, 24 th October Thirtieth Sunday of the Year <i>World Mission Sunday</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am 2.00 pm Baptism	<i>Maria D'Souza</i> <i>Emmet Murphy-Spiers</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 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.”

Baptism. This weekend we welcome Arthur and Alicia Odong into the family of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Please pray for them and their family.

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.*

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for The People of the Parish.

Please pray for **Domenico Mirto, James Brown, Katherine Raj** 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 **Mary Harrington, Brian Harper, Doreen Watkins**, and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Bernard Stephen O'Connor, Frs. Gerald J. Adams, John Francis Hughes, Aidan White-Spunner, Brendan Byrne, Thomas Burbage, John Murray, John Galcius and also Tommy Gildea, Peter Wootton and John O'Brien. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

Pastoral Letter: The Synod 2021-2023. This weekend a Pastoral Letter on the Diocesan response to the recently launched Synod will be read out in churches. A video and audio recording of Archbishop Bernard's letter will also be available on the Archdiocesan website. The overall theme is *'For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, Mission'*. A Mass to mark the Opening of the Synodal Pathway in the Archdiocese of Birmingham will take place at St Chad's Cathedral this morning, Sunday, 17th October, celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley. The work to be undertaken across the Archdiocese during the Synodal process will be done in conjunction with the ongoing implementation of the *Diocesan Vision, Unfolding God's Plan*.

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, starting this Wednesday, asking for the intercession of St John Paul II. **It started last Wednesday and will run until 22nd October.**

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....

The Catholic Universe Newspaper. The *Catholic Universe* newspaper is to return as a digital, website-based publication. See universecatholicweekly.co.uk The first digital edition is available free. A year's subscription direct to your computer, tablet or smart phone is £20, but have a look at the free first edition.

World Mission Sunday. Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his official charity for overseas mission. World Mission Sunday unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, celebration and care for the mission of the Church. Your prayers and donations will support the work of missionaries as they share God's mercy and love with those who are suffering.

November is approaching, and it is the month when we traditionally pray for those who have died:

- **November Prayers for the Dead.** Next week there will be memorial slips available to write the names of those for whom you wish to pray during November. Place the slips in the basket in front of the altar and they will be remembered at Mass throughout the month.
- Cardinal Vincent has recently asked the Bishops of England and Wales to celebrate a Mass in their cathedrals on Sunday, 7th November, for those who have died during the pandemic and for all healthcare and frontline workers who have supported our local communities during the last eighteen months. Archbishop Bernard will be offering this Mass in St Chad's Cathedral on that Sunday at 11.30 am. We can join with his intention especially during our 11.00 Mass that Sunday morning.
- **Mass for the Deceased Clergy of the North Oxford Deanery.** Every year the clergy of the Deanery celebrate Mass together for their deceased brothers. You are welcome to join us to pray for your priests. This year it will be on Tuesday, 9th November (time and place still to be decided).
- **Parish Memorial Mass for those in the parish who have died,** especially those whose funerals have been held here during the past year, on Saturday, 13th November, 11.00 am. If you would like anyone's name to be included please let me know (in writing). There will be refreshments afterwards in the Don Bosco Centre. All are welcome.
- **Remembrance Sunday.** Sunday, 14th November, will be Remembrance Sunday when we remember and pray for those who have died in past and present wars.  We shall have a short service after the 11.00 am Mass to lay a wreath at the foot of the cross and pray for those who have died and for peace.

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.

Tailpiece: A notice from a parish magazine: "We are pleased to note that there has been a change of mind by the Housing Department regarding the name for the new housing complex for the elderly. 'St Peter's Close' did seem inappropriate."

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