



Our Lady Help of Christians

First Sunday of Advent

28th November, 2021

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

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Sunday, 28 th November First Sunday of Advent	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am	Helen Towey (Birthday) Deceased Parish Benefactors
Monday, 29 th November	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Thomas Duff
Tuesday, 30 th November <i>Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	James O'Brien (Birthday)
Wednesday, 1 st December <i>Feast of St. Edmund Campion, Martyr</i>	No Public Mass Today	Margaret Griffin (Birthday)
Thursday, 2 nd December	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Bibiano Hollero
Friday, 3 rd December <i>Memorial of St. Francis Xavier, Priest</i> <i>Migrants Day</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 2.00 pm Marriage Service and Baptism 6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Evelyn and Godwin Jack Robbins (ill)
Saturday, 4 th December <i>Opt. Memorial of St. John Damascene,</i> <i>Priest, Doctor of the Church</i>	7.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Forgotten Souls
Sunday, 5 th December Second Sunday of Advent	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am	The People of the Parish
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.

Advent. Today we enter into the Church's new year. The Sunday Mass Lectionary Cycle is Year C, and the Weekday Cycle is Year 1.

Collections for 14th November: £530.03; Gift Aid: £163.60. **Johnson Association:** £5.00 (in total £118.62).
Thank you.

Please pray for James Brown and all those we know who are sick. 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 Elizabeth Brennan, Patricia King, Sr. Patricia Millinson and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop Joseph Masterson, Archbishop Edward Ilesley, Frs. Edward Neary, Joseph du Moulin Browne CO, Reginald Anwyl, Norman Millard and Peter John Rogers, and also Clare Curtis, Wendy Burns, Joan Taylor, Mrs. Higgins, Cecilia (Sheila) Harris, Susan Keane and Ronald Rowles.

The 11.00 am Mass this weekend will be offered for all the Deceased Benefactors of this Parish. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

Pope's Prayer Intention for December: Catechists. Let us pray for catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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.”

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 Private Intention.

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Margaret Griffin RIP (Birthday).

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Clare Curtis RIP (Anniversary).

St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for our Parish Community.

Honouring Sunday.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have not yet reimposed the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays, but if you have not been attending Mass since the pandemic began they ask you strongly to reflect on your Sunday practices and, if you can, to return to Mass on Sundays. The full statement is available at the back of the church.

Poor Parishes Fund. There will be a second collection at Masses next Sunday for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese. The Fund was put in place to help those smaller parishes where they experience difficulty in paying their day-to-day bills.



Missio Red Boxes. If you have a Red Box, please bring it in to be emptied by Sunday, 5th December. You can leave boxes in the Sacristy. Thank you.

Marriage. Please pray for Evelyn and Godwin who will be having their marriage blessed here next Friday afternoon, and for Valerio whom we will welcome into the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism.

Wanted!!

After Christmas we shall be starting the lessons to prepare children for Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. But we need people who are willing to help. If you would like to try this ministry, please talk to me about it. Training will be provided.

First Holy Communion Lessons. Parents, if your children are aged 8 or over and you wish them to receive their First Holy Communion next June, please register them with me, using the form enclosed with this newsletter, or on-line at www.olhoccowley.co.uk (go to Sacraments). Preparation will start in February.

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus
We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Congratulations to Anne, Michelle, Marion and Dinah who were enrolled as new Salesian Cooperators last Thursday. God bless them.

Accommodation for a Catholic family. A young family are returning to Oxford and need accommodation. They require two bedrooms and a rent of no more than £1,000 per month. Please let me know if you can help them.

First Friday. This Friday is the First Friday of the month and we shall pray the Novena Prayers before Mass.

Christmas Afternoon Tea. Next Saturday, 4th December, at 3.00 pm, we shall have a little party in the Don Bosco Centre, to have some fun and raise funds for the church. There are a few tickets left; they will be available after Mass, £5 each. If you could donate a prize for the raffle, please leave it in the Sacristy. Thank you.

Oxford Pro-Life Social Evening. Tuesday 30th November. 7.30 pm at the Britannia Inn, Headington (free parking!). A get-together for those in the Oxford area interested in doing a little drop of good for the pro-life cause in the melee of everyday life, together. No experience required and all ages welcome. For more info and to RSVP (optional but helpful), contact Ed Smith: ednsmith@gmail.com/07897194483.

Tailpiece: A small boy was taken by his parents to visit Santa who asked him what he would like for Christmas. “A train set”, came the eager reply. “If you get your train set,” Santa warned him, “your dad is going to want to play with it too. Is that all right?” The boy became very quiet. So Santa asked, “What else would you like?” He promptly replied, “Another train set.”

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