



Our Lady Help of Christians

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

13th February, 2022

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

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Sunday, 13 th February Sixth Sunday of the Year <i>Racial Justice Day</i>	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am 4.00 pm Mass (the Syro-Malabar community)	Winnie D'Souza The People of the Parish
Monday, 14 th February <i>Feast of Ss. Cyril & Methodius</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Europe</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Patrick Joseph Meridith
Tuesday, 15 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Bob Hinchon (Birthday)
Wednesday, 16 th February	No Public Mass Today	Private Intention
Thursday, 17 th February <i>Op. Mem. of the Seven Founders</i> <i>of the Order of Servants of the</i> <i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	John PM RIP
Friday, 18 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Thomas Dunne
Saturday, 19 th February	7.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Saldanha Perreira
Sunday, 20 th February Seventh Sunday of the Year	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Sunday Morning: 11.00 am	Ernesto Madeira & Domingos Rebelo
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday, 6.00 - 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians today.

Collections for 30th January: £510.11; Gift Aid: £251.00. Thank you.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Mgr. John Heslin, Fr. David Lloyd, Kath Kavanagh, Dolores Connolly, Carlos Esteban, Daniel Holdsworth and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Joseph Healey, Mgr. Canon Peter W. Lawler, Canon William Roughan, Frs. Daniel Daly, Joseph Hogan, Charles Joseph O'Reilly, William Conefrey, Joseph Denis McEville, Timothy Healy, Terence McDonnell, Francis Jordan, Alexander McGavin and Francis Coyle, and also Bridget (Bridie) Willoughby, Reece Knott, Margaret (Peggy) Stone and David Barnes. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

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.*

Updated COVID Regulations. Following the new instructions from the Bishops' Conference we can relax some of the precautions. However, whilst infection rates remain high I ask that we all be as considerate as we can be in keeping each other safe, and I would still like to ask everyone to wear a face covering in church, please, and to sanitise hands on entering the church. Thank you.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.
St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Bob Hitchen (Birthday).**

Lent 2022. It's getting closer! Here are some things we can do as a parish family:

1. **Prayer petitions.** When Lent begins I shall invite you to write out any petition that you would like the rest of us to pray for and post it up on a board at the front of the church.
2. **My Day By Day and the Walk With Me Booklets** will be available.
3. **Stations of the Cross.** We shall meditate on the Stations together after Mass each Friday, 7.30 pm.
4. **Lectio Divina.** For half an hour, following the 9.15 am Mass on Tuesdays, to reflect and pray about a passage of the Bible. All welcome.
5. **Parish Lent Day of Recollection,** Saturday, 12th March, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm. Please note the change of date. It will start with Mass and there will be a talk and a time of prayer. It will be open to all, but especially to Eucharistic Ministers, in preparation for renewal of their ministry on Maundy Thursday.
6. **Parish Penance Service.** On Friday, 1st April, at 5.00 pm, before the evening Mass.

Healing Heart Wounds Group will be meeting again in the chapel after the 11.00 am Mass. This Sunday is a very important session in which each will "bring our pain to the cross." Please keep the group in your prayers.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, Sunday 29th May - Friday 3rd June. The leadership team for the Lourdes Pilgrimage is now actively planning for the pilgrimage. Lourdes has always been an important part of Diocesan life and therefore after two years' absence it would be good to make every effort to be present in Lourdes in 2022. For more information see www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage

Today is Racial Justice Sunday. The Bishops of England and Wales are encouraging Catholics to mark the day by praying the words of Pope Francis taken from his encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* – on fraternity and social friendship: *Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. Amen.* There will be a second collection today to help promote racial justice.

40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration. From Friday 25th to Sunday 27th February there will be 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration during the daytime in St. John Henry Newman's chapel at Littlemore (9 College Lane, Littlemore OX4 4LQ) to pray for the synodal process. Each day will include Prayer of the Church and the possibility for Confession.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Claudino Serra Vaz and all those we know who are sick.

Synodal Pathway. The 'Synodal way' is an invitation for us to listen to the Holy Spirit as we journey together. There is a box at the back of church for you to post your reflections. Thank you if you have already done so.

Preaching the Gospel in a Multifaith Society. Mission is one of the themes of the synodality process and walking together leads inevitably to the mission of the Church. Dr Rosalee Velloso Ewell, Principal of Redcliffe College, will be speaking on the theme of Mission in a multifaith and multicultural society. This will be an online meeting via Zoom to be held on Sunday February 20th from 2.30pm - 4pm. To get the link to join the Zoom meeting, please email actabhm@gmail.com.

First Holy Communion.

- Preparation classes will be in the Don Bosco Centre on Thursdays, at 3.30 pm, starting on the 3rd March.
- There will be a meeting for parents on Thursday, 24th February, 3.30 pm in the Don Bosco Centre.
- The Mass of Enrolment will be on the weekend of Saturday, 26th and Sunday, 27th February.

If you haven't done so already, please register your children with me if you would like them to take part.

Salesian Cooperators. The next meeting of the Cooperators will be this Thursday, 17th February, at 2.30pm at Elmthorpe Convent. Contact Chris Baker 01865 770102 if you are not a cooperator but would like to attend.

Job Opportunity: Warden & Clerk, St Scholastica's Retreat, Sheltered Housing for Catholics. Competitive Salary, pension, and accommodation onsite in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. The Trustees are seeking to appoint a Warden & Clerk to the Trustees for this almshouse charity that provides sheltered housing for Catholics in financial need aged 60 or over. For details of the role and how to apply, see: www.stscholasticas.co.uk/warden-clerk-vacancy
The closing date is Monday, 28th February.

Tailpiece. A few examples of classroom bloomers:

"Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark"

"Christians can only have one wife. This is called monotony."

"The patron saint of travellers is St. Francis of the Seasick."

May God bless you and all those whom you love.

Fr. Harry