



# Our Lady Help of Christians

## Second Sunday of Easter

### (Divine Mercy Sunday)

24<sup>th</sup> April, 2022

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

Parish Secretary: Geraldine Griffin

Safeguarding Officer: Elizabeth Moran, [sg.olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

The Presbytery, 59 Hollow Way, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 2ND.

Telephone: 01865 770 910, Email: [olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

Website: [www.olhocowley.co.uk](http://www.olhocowley.co.uk)

**Happy Easter, everyone.**

**Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!**

Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Second Sunday of Easter</b> Divine Mercy Sunday	<b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>Sunday Morning: 11.00 am</b>	Mrs Rose Oswin Nancy Lyons (Birthday)
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> April Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	The People of the Parish
Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> April Solemnity of St. George, Martyr, Patron of England	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Annie Kennedy (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniv.)
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Feria	No Public Mass Today	Special Intention
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> April Op. Mem. of St. Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr, or of St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	In Thanksgiving
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> April Feast of St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe. Day of Prayer for Europe	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Patrick Meredith
Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> April Op. Mem. of St. Pius V, Pope, Religious	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b>	Igor Bogatirjov
Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> May <b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>Sunday Morning: 11.00 am</b> 2.00 pm Baptism 3.00 pm Baptism	Emmi Egbuonu Filip Szczot Dominic Barcial-Purificacion

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today. If you have recently moved into Our Lady's parish, or if you are returning after lockdown, please say hello to me. Thank you.

#### The Easter Season

The Easter Season began on Easter Sunday, and ends after Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday. These fifty days are a very special time and, as St. Athanasius wrote, they "are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday."

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:

*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia;  
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,  
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia:  
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.*

**O Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia,  
Has risen as he said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Kathleen Mullagh.  
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for the People of Ukraine.  
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.  
St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Anne and John Kennedy (Anniversary).**

**Prayers for the Sick.** Please pray for Brenda O'Meara, Claudino Serra Vaz, Janet Oakley, Filomeno Da Cruz Martins and all those we know who are sick.

**Please pray for the souls of Stephen Bradley, Fr. Edward Simpson SCJ, Deacon Jack Foxall,** and all who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frs. Patrick Quilty, Benjamin Cox, Wilfrid Davenport, Desmond Donnelly, Peter Dennison, Joseph Bernard Hickson, Peter Cooney, Peter Heath and Deacon James Fantham and also Sheila Dempsey, Ellen Bolger, Elisabeth Fitzgibbons, Gaspare Licata, Annie Kennedy, John Gingell and Igor Bogatirjov. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

**Our Lady of Help Healing Group:** Are you or someone you know struggling with grief? Come join the Our Lady of Help Healing Group on Sundays after Mass. Using applied Scripture and scientifically proven mental health principles, we help address spiritual and emotional wounds from grief and loss. We will learn how to help others in their healing journey and, together, will make a safe space to bring our pain to the cross of Christ for healing.

Dates: May 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Time: 12.00 noon-1.45pm

Led by Ariel Dempsey, MD and Debbie Clark. Certified by the Trauma Healing Institute. To register please RSVP to [ariel.dempsey@theology.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ariel.dempsey@theology.ox.ac.uk). There are 8 spaces available. Registration requires commitment to attend the first four sessions.

*"It was a safe place and a group where it was easy to share because of the sense of trust and lack of judging, (i.e., nonjudgmental) being able to articulate one's feelings and hear them aloud helped my own healing. [The exercises were] a very new imaginative way to learn new things about myself and how the past has impacted me."*

*"Being listened to and my own healing. I understood how far and long is my journey healing process. Support in the group and praying for each other. Constant reminder that Jesus loves me."*

*"It was such a wonderful moment, realizing how hurt can hold us back if we do not let go. Allowing God to take over and let him lead the way."*

*"I have learned to be nonjudgmental. Be empathetic in every situation as you may not know what someone is going through."*

*"Learnt some ways to express grief to bring comfort and peace to oneself."*

Ariel will say a few words at the end of the 11.00 am Mass about the Healing Group.

**Welcome to Fr. Martin.** I'm very grateful to him for standing in for me while I am attending the AGM of Our Lady's Catechists this Saturday.

**What word do Catholics shout out in excitement and joy? Well, yes, "Alleluia!", but they also shout BINGO! There will be a fun evening of Bingo and refreshments in the Don Bosco Centre after the evening Mass on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> May. All welcome. Please put the date in your diary now. Further details to follow.**

**Congratulations** to Len and Elite Godinho who were married in Goa last Friday. Len is a regular Mass attender here and will be returning shortly. May God bless them both in their new life together.

**St Scholastica's Retreat – Sheltered Housing for Catholics – Job Opportunity.** Competitive Salary, pension, and accommodation onsite in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. The Trustees are seeking to appoint a Warden and Clerk to the Trustees for this almshouse charity that provides sheltered housing for Catholics in financial need aged 60 or over. Closing date: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May. For details of the role and how to apply, see: [www.stscholasticas.co.uk/warden-clerk-vacancy](http://www.stscholasticas.co.uk/warden-clerk-vacancy)

**The Solemnity of St. George.** In case you are wondering what has happened to St. George's Day – it's been moved. We usually celebrate the Feast of England's Patron Saint on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, but because this year that fell during Easter Week the feast has been transferred to Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**Tailpiece:** A young curate once found himself, ill-prepared and very nervous, in the pulpit of a cathedral, having to stand in for the Bishop. Somehow he stumbled through a sermon, but in the sacristy afterwards he felt bound to apologise to the sacristan. "Don't you worry, you did your best," the sacristan told him reassuringly, before adding ruefully, "It's those who sent you who should be shot!"

**Thank you for your generosity to me in the collection last Sunday and also for your gifts, cards, good wishes and prayers. I appreciate them very much.**

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