



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4th September, 2022

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

Parish Secretary: Geraldine Griffin

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Sunday, 4 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Michael Iago (Birthday) John Joseph McGroarty Maureen White (Anniversary) The People of the Parish
Monday, 5 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Edmund Griffin
Tuesday, 6 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Michael Gildea
Wednesday, 7 th September	No Public Mass Today	Mr. and Mrs. Connolly
Thursday, 8 th September Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7.00 pm Reception of Paul Watts with Mass (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	The Watts Family Special Intention
Friday, 9 th September Optional Memorial of St. Osburg, Abbess, or of St. Peter Claver, Priest	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 12.00 noon Requiem Mass 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Paul Watts Helen Towey
Saturday, 10 th September Memorial of Blessed Agnellus of Pisa	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 12.00 noon Baptism Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Grace Marie Morrissey The Barry Family (Intentions)
Sunday, 11 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Education Day	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass (1.00 pm Baptism at Sacred Heart) (2.00 pm Baptism at Sacred Heart) (3.00 pm Baptisms at Sacred Heart) 4.30 pm Syro-Malabar Community Mass (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Tony Donovan Richard Carroll Marley Nelson Elijah Blake Cummins Shayne & Sherin Mwasa The People of the Parish
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today.

Please pray for the soul of Paul Watts and the souls of all who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Thomas (Tom) Fallon, Frs. James J Holland, Anthony (Tony) Taylor, Arthur McCrystal, David Walter Hutt and Deacon Francis Andrews, and also Sr. Iolanda Marsella FMA. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace. Paul Watts' body will be brought into church at 7.00 on Thursday evening and Fr. Graham will be here to celebrate Mass. The funeral will be on Friday at 12.00 noon.

If you wish to join us for Mass from your home, we are 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 Before Mass:

God our Father, you sent Jesus, our High Priest, to redeem us and you willed that His saving work should continue through the ministry of priests. Enlighten us to celebrate this Sunday Mass with our priest, so that, empowered by the Word of life and the Eucharist, we may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live to the full our Christian calling. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 Rosemary (Mary) Reading RIP.
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Michael Iagoe.**

Baptism: welcome to Camilla Keaney who became a child of God through Baptism this weekend. Please pray for her and for her family.

A Message From CAFOD. “You will have seen on the news about the devastating floods that have hit Pakistan, leaving millions in need of urgent help to survive. Families have lost their homes, their cattle, their lands, and their livelihoods, and are totally dependent on humanitarian assistance. Thirty million people are affected as a third of the country is now submerged (that’s almost the size of Great Britain). We know our Catholic community will want to reach out to support our brothers and sisters in Pakistan.” CAFOD is a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). If you would like to give something to help there will be a second collection at Masses this weekend. Or you could put your offering in an envelope (marked CAFOD) through the presbytery letterbox. Thank you.

Pope’s Prayer Intention for September: For the abolition of the death penalty. We pray that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country.

Education Sunday. Next Sunday is Education Sunday when we are asked to pray for the work of Catholic education across the schools of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Education Service at Masses next weekend.

Future events. There will be more information later, but please make sure you have these dates in your diaries:

1. A CAFOD Parish Day of Recollection. Saturday 24th September, 10.30-3.30, in the Don Bosco Centre. This Day will be based on the CAFOD “Seven Station Journey” and will help us to reflect on how we use the blessings of God.
2. A Parish day out to Douai Abbey, with Mass, a tour and a talk. Tuesday, 11th October. Douai Abbey is a Benedictine Abbey at Upper Woolhampton, near Thatcham, Berkshire. It is about 36 miles from here.
3. A Day for Parish Readers. Saturday, 19th November, 10.00-4.00 in the church and the Don Bosco Centre. If you are a reader or would like to be one (I should welcome new readers), please make sure this date is in your diary.

Season of Creation. Last Thursday was the start of the Season of Creation (1st September to 4th October). This year’s theme is “Listen to the voice of Creation”.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Brenda O’Meara, Claudino Serra Vaz, Phil Bawden, David and all those we know who are sick.

My Day By Day Booklets. The September edition of these booklets, which give the Mass readings for each day of the month, are available in the basket at the back of church (£1).

The Relics of St. Bernadette, to whom Our Lady appeared at Lourdes in 1858, will be visiting the Archdiocese and will be in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Bicester, on the 9th and 10th October. This will be a chance to pray in the presence of St Bernadette’s relics and draw closer to Our Lady. To book your visit: <https://stbernadette.org.uk/registration/#birmingham-diocese>.

Anniversary List: If you would like a deceased family member or friend to be remembered in the bulletin during the week of the anniversary of their death please email their name and the date of their anniversary to Geraldine in the Parish Office: olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk.

Instructions in the Catholic Faith: If you would like to become a Catholic – maybe you have not been baptised, or baptised in another Denomination, or baptised in the Catholic Church but not received the Sacrament of Confirmation – please come and have a word with me or call me. I should be delighted to arrange a programme of instructions.

Remember: refreshments are available after Masses on Sundays and Tuesdays. Come and have a chat with friends and make new ones.

Tailpiece: One day a priest complained because he had noticed that after Mass his congregation all trooped rapidly across the road and straight into the pub. “But, Father,” replied one member brightly, “You are for ever telling us that we must thirst after righteousness.”

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