



# Our Lady Help of Christians

## First Sunday of Advent

27<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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Sunday, 27 <sup>th</sup> November <b>First Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) <b>11.00 am Mass</b> <b>2.00 pm Baptism</b> (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Josephine McMahon (Anniv.) Edward and Mary Murphy Helen Towey (Birthday) Yara Matthews Filomeno Martins
Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> November	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Antero Amaral & Maria Menezes
Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> November	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	John Pill (Get Well)
Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> November Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle	No Public Mass Today	Clare Curtis & the People of the Parish
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> December Feast of St. Edmund Campion	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Thomas Duff
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> December <b>First Friday</b>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Luis de Jesus Lemos
Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> December Mem. of St. Francis Xavier, Priest Migrants' Day	<b>6.45 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</b> <b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b>	Fernando Neves Liu & Luzia Pereira Lobato
Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>7.45 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</b> (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) <b>11.00 am Mass</b> (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	John Cullen Sabina Hennigan Martinah Madeira

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Zoja	Rachel and Anne-Marie	This weekend	Ann C.	Sandra and Stephanie
Agnes	Anne and Robin	Next weekend		

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today, especially if you are new to the parish.

**Advent.** Today we enter into the Church's new year. The Sunday Mass Lectionary Cycle is Year A, and the Weekday Cycle is Year 1. **Cycle of Prayer.** During the Seasons of Advent and Christmas we are asked to pray for the following intentions: Openness to the Word of God; Migrants and Refugees; Expectant Mothers.

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

**Don Bosco Calendar 2023.** Please take a calendar from the church porch.

**Baptism.** This weekend we welcome Yara Matthews into the family of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Please pray for her and her family.

*Our Parish Prayer: Help us, Lord, to receive you with an open heart this day.*

*May our community receive your grace and deepen its faith in you.*

*Make us lights to shine forth with your love, giving life and hope to those who have fallen away or who have never known you. Amen.*

## Christmas Angels



*As we prepare for Christmas we cannot avoid references to angels in the Scriptures: the Archangel Gabriel brings the news to Mary; he also advises Joseph; angels announce the news of Jesus' birth to the shepherds. Angels are messengers. This Advent I invite you to decorate our Christmas tree by writing your prayer for Christmas – for yourself, your family and friends, for the poor, for peace, and so on - on one of the paper angels that have been specially made for us by the children at Our Lady's School, and hanging it on the tree. God's messengers can help us with our prayers to God. Our tree is not just a decoration: it is a focus for our hope and prayer this Advent and Christmas.*

**Prayers for the Sick.** Please pray for Felix Saulong, Jr., Jean Carpenter, Brenda O'Meara, Claudino Serra Vaz, Bridie Barry, Phil Bawden, Pat Mazonowicz, Thomas Gaughan, David and all those we know who are sick.

**Please pray for the soul of Fr. Ian Ker, Antonio Gomes Goncalves Figueira, and the souls of all who have died recently,** and all whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop Joseph Masterson, Archbishop Edward Ilesley, Canon Augustine Emery, Frs. Edward Neary, Joseph du Moulin Browne CO, Reginald Anwyl, Norman Millard and Peter John Rogers, and also Josephine McMahon, Clare Curtis, Wendy Burns, Joan Taylor, Mrs. Higgins, Cecilia (Sheila) Harris, Susan Keane and Ronald Rowles. May they rest in peace.

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>

*"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."*

**Collection for 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> November:** £529.45; Gift Aid: £166.00. **Catholic Youth Services:** £198.65. Thank you.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Helen Towey (Birthday).**

**The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Clare Curtis RIP (Anniversary).**

**Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for John Pill (for successful operation and recovery).**

**St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Margaret Griffin RIP (Birthday).**

**Missio Red Boxes.** If you have not already done so, please collect your red box from the Don Bosco Centre.

### **Our Parish Lunch.**

**There will be a lunch, with a good variety of choices (vegetarian curry, beef lasagne, meat curry, cheese & potato pie, pizza, mince pie and cream for dessert), in the Don Bosco Centre after the 11.00 am Mass NEXT SUNDAY, 4<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Come along and enjoy the company of friends, and raise some funds for the Parish at the same time.**

**Tickets: £8 per adult / £4 per child**

**Prizes for the raffle would be welcomed.**

**Pope's Prayer Intention for December:** For volunteer not-for-profit organisations.

**The Advent *Walk With Me* booklet,** £1 (or whatever you can afford), with daily and Sunday reflections. And also the **Advent *Day by Day* booklets** (also £1) which have the Mass readings for each day of Advent.

**Cake Sale,** next weekend in the church after Mass to raise money for the Sisters' Missionary work.

**The new Diocesan Directories** are available from the Piety Stall. (Spiral bound: £4.50, plain bound: £3.50).

**Children's Liturgy of the Word.** Starting today at the 11.00 am Mass. After the Opening Prayer of the Mass children in Years 1 and 2 will be invited to go to the Chapel for their own service of the Word. They will return for the Offertory.

**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. 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 [Application for First Holy Communion & Reconciliation | Our Lady Help of Christians | Cowley | Oxford \(olhoccowley.co.uk\)](http://Application for First Holy Communion & Reconciliation | Our Lady Help of Christians | Cowley | Oxford (olhoccowley.co.uk))

**Tailpiece:** Modern life, huh? As a little girl climbed onto Santa's lap, Santa asked, "And what would you like for Christmas?" The child stared at him open-mouthed and horrified, then gasped: "Didn't you get my E-mail?"

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