



# Our Lady Help of Christians

## Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

8<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> January <b>FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) <b>11.00 am Mass</b> (4.30 pm Syro Malabar Community Mass) (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Cecilia Michael Winnie Gildea & Helen Towey (Anniv.)  The People of the Parish
Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Private Intention
Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> January	No Public Mass Today	Jim O'Brien (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>6.00 pm Mass</b> <b>7.00 pm Reception of Lucy Lynch</b>	Private Intention
Thursday, 12 <sup>th</sup> January <i>Op. Memorial of St. Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>10.30 am Requiem Mass</b> (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Lucy Lynch Thanksgiving (John and Family)
Friday, 13 <sup>th</sup> January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Hilary, Bishop</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Sr. Maria (Intentions)
Saturday, 14 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>6.45 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</b> <b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b>	Novena Santo Expedito (Special Int.)
Sunday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January <b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) <b>11.00 am Mass</b> (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Ursula Hestrade (Birthday) Josie Coughlan (Intentions) The People of the Parish

Confessions: 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
Josie	Anne-Marie & Anne	This weekend	Michelle	John and Sandra
Jackie	Robin and Asha	Next weekend	Ann C	Nalini and Stephanie

### Welcome to Our Lady's Church.

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, and Christmastide ends after Evening Prayer on Sunday evening. From Monday we return to "Ordinary Time" in the Church's Year. Sunday Mass readings are taken from Cycle A, and Weekday readings are from Year 1.

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

**We pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.** He served as Supreme Pontiff from April 2005 to February 2013, and died aged 95 on Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

**We pray for all those who have died recently, remembering Fr. Anthony De Vere, Deacon Joe Patterson, Kathleen Murphy, Dermot Carroll, Steven Motherway and Lucy Lynch,** and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Frs. Brian Harding, John Bentley, Charles Becker, Philip Wyles, Patrick Farrelly, Patrick McSwiney and Patrick Joyce, Deacons William Murphy and Brian Dockerty, and also Albina Carolina Rossetto-Riem, Brian McCurry, Winnie Gildea, Veronica Khan, James O'Brien, Colleen Surman and Peter Mullagh. May they rest in peace.

Fr. Anthony De Vere was ordained in 2000 and served the people of God at Corpus Christi, Headington, until his retirement. Reception and Mass will take place at Corpus Christi, on Thursday, 12th January, at 7.00 pm. The Funeral Mass will be at Corpus Christi, on Friday, 13th January, at 1.00 pm.

*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.*

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."*

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Winnie Gildea (Anniversary).**

**The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Carmel McMahon.**

**Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Sandra Cromey.**

**St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for the People of the Parish.**

**Next Sunday** is the **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**. It is also designated as **Peace Sunday**, a day to pray for world peace. The theme of World Peace Day this year is: *"No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace."* There will be a second collection for the work of Pax Christi

**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.** The traditional time for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January, the days between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul.

**Christmas Decorations.** The time has come once again to take down our Christmas decorations and put them into storage for another year. Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the tree with angels carrying your prayers. It helped us to appreciate the coming of Jesus. Thanks to everyone who has helped to make the church so beautiful and prayerful this Christmas.

**Christmas Crib Offerings. Today is the last chance if you want to make a donation.** Crib Offerings this year will be divided between Friends of the Holy Land and Emmaus (Oxford) who try to help homeless people in Oxford. Friends of the Holy Land is an ecumenical charity supporting the vulnerable Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan.

**Our Lady Help of Christians Healing Group.** A new course will be starting in January, after the 11.00 am Mass on Sundays. It will be led by Ariel Dempsey who will be here at Our Lady's on Saturday evening to say a few words at the end of Mass about what it is about. To register, RSVP to [ariel.dempsey@theology.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ariel.dempsey@theology.ox.ac.uk).

**My Day By Day Book.** The January edition is now available at the back of church (price £1).

**New Year's resolution - help build a better world through volunteering?** CAFOD is looking for people to give some time and join in their parish mission of global outreach. Could you help develop their work in parishes or Catholic schools? Training and support is provided. See [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](http://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch - Deborah Purfield 07786 114 390 | [dpurfield@cafod.org.uk](mailto:dpurfield@cafod.org.uk)

**Going Into Hospital.** Please do let me know if you or someone you know is going into hospital. It is also important that you ask for the Catholic chaplain when in hospital because Chaplains are often no longer automatically given the names of Catholic patients.

**Young Adult Group for 18-35s** at Holy Rood Church on Abingdon Road. The next meeting is on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January with Fr. Yamai, OCD. The talk starts at 7.30 pm. There will be a discussion and the meeting will end with prayer by 9.00 pm. Contact Kate on 07933765367 if you have any questions. All are welcome.

**Cake Sale.** My apologies. I got it wrong on the newsletter last week and there will be no cake sale in the church this weekend. I hope that you will be able to survive on the leftovers from Christmas.

**Cowley Collective** are collaborating with artist Micah Hayns at the Jungle art gallery in Templars Square Shopping Centre to offer a community space. They host a Story Time and Senior Social every Tuesday and Thursday (1.00-3.00 pm) and invite you to join them for conversation, puzzles, games and more. It's all free.

**Marriage Encounter England and Wales** are advertising an upcoming Experience on 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> March at The Campanile Hotel, Great Western Way, Delta Business Park, Swindon, SN5 7XG. The marriage enrichment course offers a unique opportunity for couples to rekindle their relationships and focus on what is important to them. Please go to their website for further information and to book, <https://wwme.org.uk>

**Tailpiece:** Here are a few Biblical howlers, all said to be authentic, but not necessarily all made by children.

*"In the first book of the Bible, Guinness, God got tired of creating the world, so He took the Sabbath off."*

*"The epistles were the wives of the apostles."*

*"The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert."*

*"Moses died before he ever reached Canada."*

**Thank you.** In case you missed it last week, I should like to thank you all for your very generous Christmas offerings and for the many gifts and cards that I received.

**May God bless you all. Fr. Harry**