



Our Lady Help of Christians

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th January, 2023

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

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Sunday, 15 th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Peace Sunday</i>	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)	Novena Santo Expedito (Spec. Int.) Ursula Hestrade (Birthday) Josie Coughlan (Intentions) The People of the Parish
Monday, 16 th January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Sr. Teresa (Birthday)
Tuesday, 17 th January <i>Memorial of St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>Daniel Tang (Intentions)</i>
Wednesday, 18 th January <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	No Public Mass Today	Private Intention
Thursday, 19 th January <i>Feast of St. Wulstan, Bishop</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Don Stephen (Thanksgiving)
Friday, 20 th January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Fabian, Pope, or St. Sebastian, Martyrs</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	The Davies Family (Intentions)
Saturday, 21 st January <i>Memorial of St. Agnes, Martyr</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Sr. Maureen Grigg (Intentions)
Sunday, 22 nd January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	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)	Ena Maguire (Anniversary) Special Intention 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
Jackie	Robin and Asha	This weekend	Ann C	Nalini and Stephanie
Maureen	Sandra and Mabel	Next weekend	Bernie D	Stephanie and John

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

We pray for all those who have died recently, remembering Fr. Anthony De Vere, Deacon Joe Patterson, Kathleen Murphy, Dermot Carroll, Stephen Motherway and Lucy Lynch, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canon Matthias (Matt) Corrigan, Frs. Benedict O’Gorman, Gerard Peuleve, Cyril Bennett, Archibald (Archie) John Snell, Timothy Dinan, Cecil Keane, Bernard Robertson, C. J. Gregory Winterton, CO, Edward Leicester, CO, and Edward Kirner, Deacon Thomas Mark Carter, and also Peter Mullagh, Mary McNamee, Sean Dominic Smith, Sarah (Sally) Roberts, Margaret Hodson, Johnny Evans, William (Bill) Barber, Marianna Slezak and George Sykes. May they rest in peace.

*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 Peace in Ukraine.
St. Joseph’s Candle is burning this week in thanksgiving for prayers answered.
St. Don Bosco’s Candle is burning this week for the People of the Parish.**

Today 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 at Mass today.

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.

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

The Annual Novena to St. John Bosco begins next Sunday, leading up to his feastday on 31st January. Please take a copy of the Novena prayers home with you.

Our Lady Help of Christians Healing Group. A new course will be starting next Sunday, after the 11.00 am Mass. It will be led by Ariel Dempsey who will be available at the end of Masses this weekend if you wish to know more. To register, RSVP to ariel.dempsey@theology.ox.ac.uk.

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 for more information or get in touch - Deborah Purfield 07786 114 390 | dpurfield@cafod.org.uk

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 3rd – 5th 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>

Next Sunday is the “Sunday of the Word Of God”. It is a day when we reflect on the importance of the Bible in our faith. This year’s theme is *Blessed are those who hear the word of God!* (cf. Lk 11: 28). Next weekend:

1. Please bring your family Bible or the Bible that you use most to Mass to be blessed.
2. Before Christmas we had a Day of Recollection and training for our Readers. During the Masses next weekend I shall re-commission and ask God’s blessing on the Readers, whether they are able to be present physically at the Mass or not.

First Holy Communion Preparation. Children aged 8 or older will be invited to receive Holy Communion for the first time on the Feast of Corpus Christi (10th/11th June). Preparation classes will be in the Don Bosco Centre on Thursday afternoons, at 3.30 pm, starting on the 23rd February. There will be a meeting for parents on Thursday, 9th February, 3.30 pm, with the Mass of Enrolment on Saturday, 25th and Sunday, 26th February. If you haven’t done so already, please register your children’s names with me, either with one of the application forms at the back of church 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))

Invitation from CAFOD (The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). Lent begins this year on 22nd February and attention is turning to Lenten plans and commitments. Across the country, schools, parishes, groups and individuals are lacing up their walking shoes to walk in faith and solidarity, with CAFOD’s Big Lent Walk. It’s an event for a school, a parish, or a group of friends to plan now to walk together. Or simply, a chance to commit to some timeout and quiet reflection along the way. Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends, have fun or take time to pray and reflect. As a Lent commitment, it’s an inspiring way to actively commit to bringing our faith physically into every day of Lent, and support people as they overcome poverty. For more information go to walk.cafod.org.uk

Tailpiece: A priest was leading a class for five-year-old children about the Church’s Year and he asked them brightly, “What happened on Christmas Day?” One small boy replied solemnly, “Daddy was sick on the stairs.”

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