



# Our Lady Help of Christians

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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Sunday, 29 <sup>th</sup> January <b>Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</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> (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Cecilia Lorraine Smith  Eduardo Esteban Peter Nottingham RIP Fernando Neves Liu & Luzia Pereira Lobato
Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Mark (sick)
Tuesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> January <b>Memorial of St. John Bosco</b>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.15 am Mass</b>	Daniel Tang (Intentions)
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> February	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> February <b>Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)</b> World Day for Consecrated Life	<b>12.00 noon Mass</b> (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	MaryAnne Borthwick (get well) Sr. Helen Carey
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February Op. Memorial of St. Blaise or of St. Ansgar or of St. Werburg	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Azad (Birthday)
Saturday, 4 <sup>th</sup> February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b>	Dolores Connolly RIP (Anniv.)
Sunday, 5 <sup>th</sup> February <b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Racial Justice Sunday	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)	Dec'd McVeigh & McGarry Families Daniel Tang (Intentions) Horacio Liu & Filomena Liu

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
Vitalija	Rachel and Anne-Marie	<b>This weekend</b>	Ann C	Ella and Ellie
Nora	Anne and Robin	<b>Next weekend</b>	Michelle	John C and Naomi

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

**Feast of the Presentation (Candlemas), this Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February.** Mass at Our Lady's will be at 12.00 noon and at Sacred Heart at 7.00 pm. We shall start at the back of the church with the blessing of candles and process to the altar.

We pray for all those who have died recently: Sr. Helen Carey FMA, Canon Gary Byrne, Deacon Joe Patterson, Ryszard Kaniszewski, Richard Hansen, Dermot Carroll, Stephen Motherway and Robert Gleeson, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Michael Williams, Canon Kevin Good, Frs. Charles Smith, Mortimer Loftus, John Berry, David Condron, Denis Clancy and Joseph Connelly, and also Joseph Hughes, Iris Morton, Thomas Penders, Anna (Anne) Barlow, Wayne St Clair, Patrick Tuttle, Sheila Evans, Christopher Graham, Carlos Da Costa, Speranza Mirto and Kath Kavanagh. 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 Sr. Helen Carey FMA.  
St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for all members of the Salesian Order.**



**Tuesday this week is the feast of St. John Bosco. Happy Feast Day to all members of the Salesian Family.** We shall have Mass at Our Lady's at 9.15 am, and the children from Our Lady's school will join us. There will be refreshments available in the hall after Mass.

**First Friday.** This Friday is the First of the month. Novena Prayers to the Sacred Heart will be said before Mass.

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

**Prayer and Praise Group.** On the second Tuesday of each month, after the 9.15 am Mass and coffee, you are invited to spend some time with others, praying and giving praise to God. Starting on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February.

**Our Lady Help of Christians Healing Group.** The course will continue in the Chapel after the 11.00 am Sunday Mass. Please pray for those attending.

**Invitation from CAFOD.** CAFOD's Big Lent Walk is for a school, a parish, or a group of friends to walk together. 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 bring our faith into every day of Lent, and support others in need. For more go to [walk.cafod.org.uk](http://walk.cafod.org.uk)

**Cake Sale.** Next weekend the Salesian Cooperators will be selling cakes after the Masses to raise funds for the missionary work of the Salesian Sisters.

**First Holy Communion Preparation.** Children aged 8 or older are invited to start preparing to receive Holy Communion on 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> June.

- Preparation classes will be in the Don Bosco Centre (the parish hall) on Thursday afternoons, at 3.30 pm, starting on Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February.
- There will be a meeting for parents on Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> February, 3.30 pm, with the Mass of Enrolment on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> February.

Parents, 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))

**Lepra.** There will be a second collection at Masses this weekend for Lepra, a charity whose mission is to beat leprosy. In the 99 years since their founding, they have helped millions of people affected by leprosy. There is now a cure for leprosy, however there is still work to be done as prejudice, discrimination, and lack of healthcare and resources mean not everyone can receive this in time to prevent disabilities.

**Marriage Encounter England and Wales** are offering a course 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 chance for couples to rekindle their relationships. Please go to <https://www.me.org.uk> for more information and to book.

**Pope's Prayer Intention for February: For parishes.** We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

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

**Lent 2023.** Don't worry, it's still a few weeks away! But you should start thinking how you can best enter into this holy season of grace. *If you have palms that we could use to make this year's ashes, please let me have them during the next few weeks.*

1. **Prayer petitions.** Please write out any petition that you would like the rest of us to pray for and post it up on the wall at the front of the church.
2. **My Day By Day and the Walk With Me Booklets** will be available.
3. **Stations of the Cross.** We shall meditate on the Stations together after Mass each Friday, 7.30 pm.
4. **Parish Lent Day of Recollection,** Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm. There will be a talk and a time of prayer. It will be open to all, but it will be especially for Eucharistic Ministers, in preparation for renewal of their ministry on Maundy Thursday.
5. **Parish Penance Service.** On Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> March, before the evening Mass at 5.30 pm.

**Tailpiece.** A child was on an American religious TV programme and she was asked what was her favourite Bible story. She replied that it was the story of Jesus turning water into wine. The interviewer said, "Yes, that was a great miracle, wasn't it. And what does it teach us?" With great wisdom the child replied, "When you run out of wine, get down on your knees and pray!"

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