



Our Lady Help of Christians

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th February, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

Parish Secretary: Geraldine Griffin

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Sunday, 19 th February Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day for the Unemployed</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)	Anne Mullagh Cecilia Michael Daniel Tang (Intentions) The People of the Parish
Monday, 20 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Sacred Heart)	Janelio Andrade Sequeira Miranda
Tuesday, 21 st February <i>Op. Mem. of St. Peter Damian</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Marian Boggis
Wednesday, 22 nd February Ash Wednesday LENT BEGINS	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	The Murphy-Simmons Family (Ints) Mary O'Mahony (Get Well)
Thursday, 23 rd February <i>Op. Comm. of St. Polycarp, Martyr</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.30 am Requiem Mass (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Sr. Helen Carey FMA Mary McKenna (Get Well)
Friday, 24 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass 7.30 pm Stations of the Cross	Madeline Carvell
Saturday, 25 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Tonya Barbosa Ximenes Kath Kavanagh (Anniversary)
Sunday, 26 th February First Sunday of Lent <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</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)	Lucia Josephat Daniel Tang (Intentions) Ansel Netto

Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm

(At Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 -11.30 am)

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Agnes	Mabel and Rachel	This weekend	Michelle	Sandra
Henry	Anne-Marie and Anne	Next weekend	Ann C	Michelle and John

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

Collections for 5th February: £580.83; Gift Aid: £147.35. **Direct Debit Donations (January):** £1,371.00. Thank you.

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

We pray for all those who have died recently: Sr. Helen Carey FMA, Canon Gary Byrne, Ryszard Kaniszewski, Eufemia Maria Gentile Mastroddi, William McDermott, Felix Saulong and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishop Joseph Francis Cleary, Canons William Roughan and Sean McTernan, Frs. Alexander McGavin, Francis Coyle, Sean Farrell, Michael McCabe, Martin Meagher, John Collins and Oliver Kemp, and also Margaret Stone, David Barnes, Paddy Griffin, José Ribeiro, Jack McGrath, John Joseph Quigley and Francesca Iwanczak.

Sr Helen's funeral will be here at Our Lady's on Thursday at 10.30 am.

William McDermott's funeral will be at the Immaculate Conception, Bicester, on Friday, 3rd March.

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity Number: 234216

To see the Diocesan Privacy Notice go to <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

*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.mcncmedia.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 the victims of the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria.

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Thomas Gaughan.

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Bridie Barry.

St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Bob Hinchin.

Our Lady Help of Christians Healing Group in the Chapel after the 11.00 am Sunday Mass.

CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. The idea is for a school, a parish, or a group of friends to walk together. Rachel Breward is speaking about it on BBC Radio Oxford this Sunday at 8.50 am. You can listen to it on Sunday, or you can catch up with it later on BBC Sounds! For more go to walk.cafod.org.uk

Young Adult Group for 18-35s at Holy Rood Church on Abingdon Road. The next meeting is on Monday, 20th February, 7.30 pm, with Fr. Kelvin Ekhoegbe, OCD. Arrive from 7.00 pm. Talk starts at 7.30 pm. Discussion and prayer. Ends at 9.00 pm. Contact Kate Preston on 07933 765367 if you have any questions. All welcome.

"Discovery of Belonging. Finding Connection in an Age of Isolation". Many people experience loneliness in our society. We are invited to join a conversation with Kim Samuel and the Rt. Rev. Eric Varden, Bishop of Trondheim, at the Sheldonian Theatre, 4.00-5.30 pm on Sunday, 5th March. It's free, but please register at Bit.ly/Belonging5March

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Canon Mervyn from Corpus Christi, Headington, is leading a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 22nd – 30th August, price £1,995.00 pp (single suppl. £450). See www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk for more details and to book.

Missio. Archbishop Bernard Longley, Fr. Michael Glover and the Mill Hill Missionaries invite you to a Diocesan Mass to celebrate Mission, at St. Chad's Cathedral, St. Chad's Queensway, Birmingham, B4 6EU, on Saturday, 11th March at 12.00 noon.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 27th March. Led by Mgr. Daniel McHugh. £699.00 per person sharing (single supplement £150.00). For more information contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

First Holy Communion. Preparation classes will start this week in the Don Bosco Centre (the parish hall) at 3.30 pm. We shall have the Rite of Enrolment at Masses next weekend on Saturday evening and Sunday morning.



**Lent Begins
Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday. Lent starts this Wednesday! Mass at Our Lady's will be at 9.15 am. Ashes will be distributed as a mark of sorrow for our sins and a reminder of our mortality. Children from Our Lady's school will be joining us.

It is a day of fasting and abstinence when we should abstain from meat and those between 18-60 should also fast, taking only one meal and two lighter snacks.

A Liturgical Note: During Lent we do not say the Gloria during Mass on Sundays, nor the joyful word "Alleluia!" There are no flowers decorating the altar or the lectern, and the statues in the church will be veiled from the fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday) until Holy Saturday. We shall save it all up and let rip with sound, light and colour at the Easter Vigil.

Lent 2023.

1. **My Day By Day and the Walk With Me Booklets** are available (£1.00). Calendars and children's books are free.
2. **Stations of the Cross** after Mass each Friday.
3. **Parish Lent Day of Recollection**, Saturday, 11th March, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm.
4. **Penance Service**, Friday, 24th March, 5.30 pm.
5. **Mass on Monday mornings at 7.00 am**, followed by breakfast.

Lent House Masses. If you would like/be willing to host Mass in your home during Lent, please let me know.

Tailpiece. A woman went to Confession and told the priest, "Whenever my husband gets in from work he's always angry and we argue." The priest told her, "I want you to take some Holy Water home with you and each day when your husband gets home I want you to put a tablespoon of it in your mouth. Keep it there for ten minutes. Don't swallow it or spit it out." The next week the woman came back and said, "Father, it WORKED!! I kept the water in my mouth just as you said, and we've not argued once. We've been so happy. That water really is miraculous!" The priest smiled and said, "Let's just say, it wasn't the water."

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