



Our Lady Help of Christians

Third Sunday of Lent

12th March, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

Parish Secretary: Geraldine Griffin

Safeguarding Officer: Elizabeth Moran, sg.olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

The Presbytery, 59 Hollow Way, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 2ND.

Telephone: 01865 770 910 (Our Lady's and Sacred Heart)

Email: olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk Website: www.olhocowley.co.uk

<p>Sunday, 12th March Third Sunday of Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>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 4.30 pm Syro-Malabar Community Mass (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</p>	<p>Mrs Brennan (ill) Methodia Method Anthony Raj (Anniversary) Sally McVeigh (Intention)</p>
<p>Monday, 13th March Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</p>	<p>Aveen Kavanagh (get well)</p>
<p>Tuesday, 14th March Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass</p>	<p>Madeline Carvell</p>
<p>Wednesday, 15th March Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>No Public Mass Today</p>	<p>The People of the Parish</p>
<p>Thursday, 16th March Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</p>	<p>Lorraine McNally (get well)</p>
<p>Friday, 17th March Feast of St. Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Johanna Berg</p>
<p>Saturday, 18th March Op. Comm. of St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</p>	<p>Nathaniel Jacob Pawan and Nalini (Wedding Anniv.)</p>
<p>Sunday, 19th March Fourth Sunday of Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments Dementia Prayer Week</p>	<p>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)</p>	<p>Fr. John McNally Dermot Carroll Doyle and Ross Families</p>

Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm

(At Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm and 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
Josie	Sandra and Mabel	This weekend	Ann C	Udeme and John
Jackie	Rachel and Anne-Marie	Next weekend	Michelle and Bernie D	Ella and Ellie

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

Prayer and Praise. For this month and for April, the Prayer and Praise Group will meet on the third Tuesday of the month (i.e. Tuesday, 21st March) and not the second.

We pray for all those who have died recently: Johanna Berg, Francis (Tom) Billington, Felix Saulong, Regine Umurungi, Dermot McMahon, Baby Sidney Francis Hunt and Barbara Harrold, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishop David Cashman, Canons Gerard (Gerry) J Hanlon and Raymond Walsh, Frs. Connell Harkin, Vaughan Lloyd, Anthony Sims, Michael Crumpton, William Madden and Andrew Brennan, Deacons Patrick Duffy and Thomas Ashcroft, and also Antonio Iorio, Sissie McManus, Agustinha Dos Santos and Rosie Moore., Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. 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 Janet & Donald Oakley (In thanksgiving - 60th Wedding Anniv.).
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Dermot McMahon RIP.**

Cathedral Maintenance Fund. There will be a second collection at Masses this weekend for St. Chad's Cathedral Maintenance Fund.

Parish Penance Service followed by Confessions, Friday, 24th March, 5.30 pm.

During Lent there will be Mass on Monday mornings at 7.00 am. This week there will be no breakfast after Mass (sorry! – the hall will be in use).

Dementia Prayer Week, 12-19th March. We remember especially the often-forgotten pain of those suffering with dementia, and those who care for them. Prayers, short videos, printable materials, and other resources can be found at www.rpbooks.co.uk/dementia-prayer-week

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.

Holy Week For Altar Servers. Holy Week is the greatest week in the Church's year and it would be a help to our celebrations if we could have a good number of altar servers. There is a list in the sacristy for servers to sign up when they will be here. Parents of our younger altar servers please add their name to the rota. There will be rehearsals for the different services on "Spy" Wednesday (5th April):

- For Maundy Thursday, the Mass of the Lord's Supper, the rehearsal will be at 5.00 pm.
 - For the Good Friday Solemn Liturgy the rehearsal will be at 5.30 pm.
 - For the Easter Vigil the rehearsal will be at 6.00 pm.
- Many thanks for all your support.

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.

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new Gift Aid envelopes are available to collect from the Don Bosco Centre. If you no longer need them or if your circumstances have changed (e.g. you no longer pay income tax or you have changed your address) please let Geraldine, the Parish Secretary, know (olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).

We do need more people to be involved in the Gift Aid scheme, please. If you don't already gift aid your donations to Our Lady's could we ask you to consider doing so, please?

- To gift aid your donation you will need to complete a gift aid declaration form. This is a simple form (name, address, and signature) that gives us permission to reclaim tax that you have paid from the Inland Revenue.
- There is no cost to you to gift aid your donations.
- To be eligible to gift aid you need to be a UK tax payer.
- For every £1.00 you donate we can claim back 25p.
- You need to have paid enough tax to cover what we will claim back. For example, if you donate £10.00 to Our Lady's we can claim back £2.50. So, you will have needed to pay a least £2.50 in tax.
- You can donate using weekly envelopes or by standing order.
- This doesn't commit you to giving a regular amount every week. You can give a set amount on a regular basis or be flexible in what you give and when.
- You can leave the scheme at any time.

If you would like to sign up for gift aid, please see Fr. Harry or contact Geraldine in the parish office by email or phone for further information. Thank you.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Canon Paul Fitzpatrick will be coming to Our Lady's on Tuesday 30th May to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 6.00 pm Mass. If you have not already done so, would those who wish to receive this Sacrament apply on-line at www.olhoccowley.co.uk/sacraments/confirmation or fill in an application form found at the back of church. Lessons will be in the Don Bosco Centre, starting after Easter.

St. Patrick. It is the feast of St. Patrick on Friday – happy feast day to anyone of Irish extraction.

Tailpiece: A child's essay about today's Gospel which, I think, might be missing the point: "Jesus spake unto the woman and said, "How many husbands have you?" She answering, said, "Lord, five." Jesus said, "Give me a drink!"

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