



Our Lady Help of Christians

Fourth Sunday of Lent

19th March, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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Sunday, 19 th March Fourth Sunday of Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments Dementia Prayer Week	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)	Pawan and Nalini (Wedding Anniv.) Fr. John McNally Dermot Carroll Doyle and Ross Families
Monday, 20 th March Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 7.00 pm Mass for Permanent Deacons	Adelaide Saldanha Barreto)
Tuesday, 21 st March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Thomas and Aisling Gaughan
Wednesday, 22 nd March	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 23 rd March Op. Commemoration of St. Turibius of Mongrovejo, Bishop	(5.30 pm Penance Service, with Confessions, Exposition and Benediction at Sacred Heart) (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Sarah MvVeigh (Anniversary)
Friday, 24 th March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 5.30 pm Penance Service, followed by Confessions, Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass 7.30 pm Stations of the Cross	Regina Mihailova
Saturday, 25 th March Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Francisco Moniz & Leonito Carvalho Sissie McManus & Mary Kate McTague (Anniv.)
Sunday, 26 th March Fifth Sunday of Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments	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)	William McDermott Winnie Gildea (Birthday) The People of the Parish

Confessions: Friday, 5.30 – 6.45 pm

(At Sacred Heart: Thursday, 5.30 – 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
Jackie	Rachel and Anne-Marie	This weekend	Michelle and Nalini	Ella and Ellie
Maureen	Anne and Robin	Next weekend	Bernie D. and Michelle	Sandra and Nalini

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

Happy Mothering Sunday to all Mums.

Each of us has a mother, whether she is with us or has passed away. We thank God for them and pray for them especially today. We also pray for our holy Mother Church.

We pray for all those who have died recently: Johanna Berg, Dermot McMahan, Baby Sidney Francis Hunt and Barbara Harrold, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishops Bernard Ullathorne OSB and Francis Joseph Grimshaw, Fr. Laurence Crowe, and Deacon Louis Livesey, and also Mary Manning. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

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.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 in memory of Pat Murphy (Jnr.) (Birthday).
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week in memory of Pat Murphy (Snr.) (Birthday).
Our Lady’s Candle is burning this week for all Mothers.**

Today we have a Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Bernard about the Synodal process and the Diocesan Vision. The video and audio recordings of the Archbishop’s Pastoral Letter are available via YouTube: <https://youtu.be/pHFN9aKo qc>

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.

There are two big feasts this week: Monday is St. Joseph’s Day (transferred from today) and Saturday is the Annunciation. Mass will be at 7.00 am here on Monday, and 10.00 am at Sacred Heart on Saturday.

Prayer and Praise. For this month and for April, the Prayer and Praise Group will meet after the morning Mass and coffee on the third Tuesday of the month (i.e. this Tuesday, 21st March). You are invited to spend some time with others, praying and giving praise to God.

On Monday we welcome Canon Paul Fitzpatrick and the Permanent Deacons of the area for Mass at 7.00 pm, followed by a meeting. All are welcome for the Mass.

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

“Love The Stranger”. There has been much in the news about people making dangerous journeys across the Channel to reach the UK. They are called by various names: ‘refugees’, ‘asylum seekers’, ‘migrants’, and often by more derogatory terms. *Love the Stranger* is a new publication by the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales’s Department for International Affairs that presents a Catholic response. It articulates our Christian duty to look beyond such labels and see the person who has left their homeland in search of a better life. Go to: www.cbcew.org.uk/love-the-stranger/

The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company (PFMAC) is the family of local schools in Oxfordshire. The Board of Directors want to recruit new members of the Board – volunteers from the Catholic community – who will help to take the vision forward. A letter from the Chair, Paul Concannon, is available on: [The Pope Francis Catholic Multi Academy Company - Recruiting New Directors \(pfmac.org.uk\)](http://www.pfmac.org.uk)

During Lent there will be Mass on Monday mornings at 7.00 am, followed by breakfast.

Holy Week For Altar Servers. It would be nice to have more altar servers coming back now that things are more “normal”. There is a list in the sacristy and I ask altar servers to sign up when they will be here for the services during Holy Week. Parents of our younger altar servers please add their name to the rota. There will be rehearsals 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.

Being a Welcoming Church. Fr Hudson’s Society is running four one-hour online workshops. These look at being a more welcoming church for homeless people, refugees, older people and people with disabilities. For tickets see: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/a-welcoming-church-older-people-tickets-537737235547.

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new Gift Aid envelopes are available to collect from the Don Bosco Centre. **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 contact Geraldine in the parish office by email or phone for further information or if you are already a gift-aider and your circumstances have changed. Thank you.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Tuesday 30th May at 6.00 pm. 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 starting after Easter.

Tailpiece: A Priest, an Imam and a Rabbit went into a pub. The Rabbit looked around and said, “I think I must be a typo.”



May God bless you and all your loved ones. Fr. Harry

P.S. Don’t forget to put your clocks forward an hour next Saturday night as British Summer Time begins!