



# Our Lady Help of Christians

## Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord and Holy Week

### 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 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](mailto: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](mailto:olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) Website: [www.olhocowley.co.uk](http://www.olhocowley.co.uk)

Sunday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> April <b>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</b> <i>Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	<b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b> <b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> <b>11.00 am Mass</b> <i>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i>	<i>Janet &amp; Donald (60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv.)</i>  <i>Sabas and Lourdes Balbag</i> <i>Mick Mullagh</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	<b>7.00 am Mass</b> <i>8.00 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</i>	<i>Sr. Helen Carey</i>
Tuesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> April	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</i> <b>9.15 am Mass</b> <i>(1.30 pm Requiem Mass at Sacred Heart)</i>	<i>Mary Bailey (Anniversary)</i> <i>Johanna Berg</i>
Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April	No Public Mass Today	<i>Mick Mullagh (Anniversary)</i>
Thursday, 6 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</i> <i>10.00 am-11.00 am Confessions</i> <i>1.00 pm Baptism</i>	<i>Saveliis Bogatirjovs</i>
<p><b>THE EASTER TRIDUUM</b></p> <p><b>7.00 pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</b> <i>Mabel (Birthday)</i></p> <p>After Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be taken in procession from the main altar in the church to the Altar of Repose where there will be watching until 10.00 pm.  <i>"Can you not watch with me one hour?"</i></p>		
Friday, 7 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Good Friday</b>  <b>Today is a day of fasting and abstinence.</b>	<i>10.00 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</i>  <b>3.00 pm SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION</b> This is not a Mass, but a solemn celebration held at the time of Our Lord's death on the Cross.  <i>6.00 pm Stations of the Cross</i>	
Saturday, 8 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Holy Saturday</b>	<i>10.00 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</i> <i>10.30 am-11.30 am Confessions</i> Today we join Jesus in His "Sabbath Rest" in the tomb, until ... <b>8.00 pm THE EASTER VIGIL</b> <i>Violet Frances Biggs (Anniversary)</i>	
Sunday, 9 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>7.45 am Morning Prayer</b> <i>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> <b>11.00 am Mass</b>	<i>Larry Gardner &amp; Richard Bolton</i> <i>Antonietta Aprea (Birthday)</i>
Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers	Saturday 5.30 pm Readers
Vitalija	Asha and Sandra	Michelle and Bernie D.
Josie and Mabel		Ella and Ellie
Maureen and Nora		<b>This weekend</b> <b>Maundy Thursday</b>
Vitalija and Zoja		Michelle, Bernie D., and Bernadette A.
Sandra		Ann, Naomi, Bernadette A., Bernie D., Sandra, and John
<b>Easter Vigil</b>		Fallon, Ann, Nalini, and Naomi
<b>Easter Sunday</b>		John, Michelle, and Bernie D.

**Prayers for the Sick.** Please pray for Aveen Kavanagh, Jean Carpenter, Julie Moran, Phil Bawden, Pat Mazonowicz, Thomas Gaughan, Doreen Cox and all those we know who are sick.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Michael Trowell (First Anniversary).**  
**Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Joseph Reed (Twenty-third Anniversary).**

## Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for our celebration of Mass. Today we begin Holy Week.

Holy Week is the greatest week in the Church's year, so please take part as much as you can. *By taking part in the celebrations of the Liturgy we can enter into the events that happened about two thousand years ago. But we enter in, not as bystanders or casual observers but as believers, recognising our own part in what is unfolding, and also recognising the great things that God has done for us.* We can share with Jesus His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, His special celebration of the Passover with His disciples at the Last Supper and then His agony and betrayal in the Garden on Maundy Thursday, all the horrible events of Good Friday, His "Sabbath Rest" on Holy Saturday, and thus we can truly share in His Resurrection on Easter Sunday.



### Today is Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week

**Wednesday: The Chrism Mass.** The Archbishop will celebrate the Chrism Mass at 11.30 on Wednesday morning in St. Chad's Cathedral. The Chrism Mass is the occasion when the Holy Oils are blessed which are used for all Baptisms, Confirmations, Ordinations, and Anointings of the Sick in the diocese during the coming year. It is also the occasion when the priests of the diocese renew their commitment of service to God and the Church. Chrism Mass, live streamed from St Chad's Cathedral | Birmingham Diocesan Trust ([birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://birminghamdiocese.org.uk))



**Maundy Thursday:** The Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00 pm on Maundy Thursday evening is the end of Lent and the start of the Easter Triduum. At this Mass we celebrate the institution of the Sacraments of the Eucharist and the Priesthood.



**Watching at the Altar of Repose.** When the Mass of the Last Supper ends we shall go to the Altar of Repose and keep watch with Jesus, remembering His Agony in the Garden and His acceptance of His Father's will.

**Good Friday:** On Good Friday there is no Mass, but at 3.00 pm in the afternoon, the hour at which our Lord died, there is a "Solemn Celebration" of the Passion of our Lord. There are four parts:



1. *The Introductory Rites*
2. *The Liturgy of the Word*
3. *The Veneration of the Cross*
4. *Holy Communion*

**Holy Saturday:** We do not celebrate Mass on Holy Saturday, the Lord's Day of Rest in the tomb, but in the evening at 8.00 pm we begin our Easter celebrations with the Easter Vigil, the greatest event in the Church's year. This year we celebrate with Raymond Clement as he is baptised and becomes a child of God. There are four parts to the service:

1. *The Service of Light*
2. *The Liturgy of the Word*
3. *The Liturgy of Baptism*
4. *The Liturgy of the Eucharist*



Please pray for those who have died recently: **Bishop David McGough, Nicholas Dawe, Johanna Berg, Dermot McMahan** and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop Anthony Emery, Mgr. Canon Daniel Leonard, Frs. Lawrence King, Michael Glynn, Timothy Burke and Kevin Preston, and also Mary Bailey, Mick Mullagh, Maureen Gannon, Martyn Spackman, Bob and Collette McNarry. R.I.P.

If you wish to join us for Mass from your home go to <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

Here is an **Act of Spiritual Communion**:

*"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 collection on Good Friday** is for the Holy Places – i.e. for the upkeep of the sites in the Holy Land associated with the life of Our Lord.

**Traditionally the collection at the Easter Masses** is your personal offering to your priest. There are envelopes at the back of church if you wish. Thank you.

**Welcome to Fr. Martin Flatman.** I am very grateful to Fr. Martin who will help me with the services in Holy Week. He will be at Sacred Heart on Thursday and Saturday, while I am here. On Good Friday I shall be at Sacred Heart and Fr. Martin will be here.

**Easter Triduum.** There is a list on the table at the back of church for people to sign up for various roles at the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Please don't be shy.

**Easter Flowers.** There will be a retiring collection today towards the cost of the flowers that will adorn our church for the coming celebration of Easter.

**Holy Week for Altar Servers.** There will be training for the servers on "Spy" Wednesday (5<sup>th</sup> April):

- For Maundy Thursday, the rehearsal is at 5.00 pm.
- For Good Friday, the rehearsal will be at 5.30 pm.
- For the Easter Vigil the rehearsal will be at 6.00 pm.

**The Sacrament of Confirmation.** Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> May, at 6.00 pm. Lessons will be starting after Easter. Apply at [www.olhoccowley.co.uk/sacraments/confirmation](http://www.olhoccowley.co.uk/sacraments/confirmation) or fill in an application form at the back of church.

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