



Our Lady Help of Christians

Easter Sunday

9th April, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest
(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 9 th April Easter Sunday	Saturday evening 8.00 pm Easter Vigil 7.45 am Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass	Violet Frances Biggs (Anniv.) Larry Gardner & Richard Bolton Antonietta Aprea (Birthday)
Monday, 10 th April Monday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass	Michael McDonagh (Birthday)
Tuesday, 11 th April Tuesday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Requiem Mass	Dermot Francis McMahon
Wednesday, 12 th April Wednesday within the Easter Octave	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 13 th April Thursday within the Easter Octave	No Public Mass Today	Jos & Priya (Wedding Anniv.)
Friday, 14 th April Friday within the Easter Octave	No Public Mass Today	Fr. Peter Dooley (Anniv.)
Saturday, 15 th April Saturday within the Easter Octave	(10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm	Fransisca Guterres Antonietta Aprea (Birthday)
Sunday, 16 th April Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday	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)	Mary Doyle (Intentions) Clare Watts (Special Intention) Antonio M da Silva & Rosa C Lobato Soriano

(Confessions at Sacred Heart: 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
Vitalija and Zoja		Easter Vigil	Fallon, Ann, Nalini, and Naomi
Sandra		Easter Sunday	John, Michelle, and Bernie D.
Nora	Mabel and Rachel	Next Weekend	Ann and Bernie D. Udeme, Nalini, and Sandra

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

The Easter Season

The Easter Season begins today, Easter Sunday, and ends after Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday. These fifty days are a very special time and, as St. Athanasius wrote, they “are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday.” The first eight days make up the Easter Octave and they are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord – that is, feast days of the most importance. The joyful sound of “Alleluia!” is heard many times in this season and we add two “Alleluias” at the dismissal of the Mass this week.



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

Please pray for those who have died recently: Bishop David McGough, Dermot McMahon, Cajetan Perera, Nicholas Dawe, Julia Moran, Johanna Berg, and also those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Peter Jones, Frs. Eamon Clarke, Kenneth William Collins, Joseph Barr, Michael McManus, Walter Edwards, Deacon Jack Foxall, and also Thomas (Tom) Gaughan and Joseph Kelly. May they rest in peace.

If you wish to join us for Mass or other services 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.”

Prayer at the end of Mass:

*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia;
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia:
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.*

**O Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia,
Has risen as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Sheila Jennings.
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week in thanksgiving for friendship.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Clare Watts (Special Intention).
Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Mabel (Birthday).
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Antonietta Aprea (Birthday).

Congratulations and welcome to Raymond Clement who was baptised, confirmed and received his First Holy Communion this weekend. May God bless him now and always.

A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our Holy Week celebrations so beautiful. Thank you to the altar servers, the sacristans, the stewards, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the musicians, the Eucharistic ministers, the readers and the booklet-folders. Thank you too to Fr. Martin Flatman who was here on Good Friday.

Choral Directors. The Archdiocese of Birmingham is seeking up to five enthusiastic Choral Directors to work with the Programme Director to implement, deliver and develop the National Schools Singing Programme within the Archdiocese. The positions are suitable for new graduates, offering a permanent contract, based in Coventry/Warwickshire and in Staffordshire. To start this September. To find out more please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/_jobs

Holidays. I am planning to take a few days off this week, so there will be no public Mass here on Friday as there would normally be. I shall still be celebrating Mass, however, and I shall offer Mass for the listed intentions.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Tuesday, 30th May, at 6.00 pm. Lessons will be at 4.00 on Tuesday afternoons in the Don Bosco Centre, starting on 18th April. Apply at www.olhoccowley.co.uk/sacraments/confirmation or fill in an application form at the back of church.

Being a Welcoming Church. “At Fr. Hudson’s we want to encourage the social mission of the Church by sharing our own experience and the experience of parishioners from around the Diocese, to foster the great work in parishes. You can join in one of our three remaining online, Zoom meetings, on Monday 17th April, 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. Our next session is on ‘supporting refugees’; there is no charge, simply email kevinhateley@fatherhudsons.org.uk to register.”

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

Tailpiece: Actual items from church Bulletins:

- Thursday night – potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

Have a very happy and blessed Easter. May God bless you and all those whom you love.

Fr. Harry

