



Our Lady Help of Christians

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th July, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

Parish Secretary (also Giving and Gift Aid): Geraldine Griffin

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Our Lady Help of Christians Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Elizabeth Moran who can be contacted at sg.olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Sunday, 16 th July Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass 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)	Martinho Lopes Soares Jim Maguire (Anniversary) Deacon Ste (Ordination) The Cuddy Family
Monday, 17 th July <i>Op. Mem. of Bl. John Sugar & Robert Grissold, Martyrs or of St. Kenelm, Prince of Mercia</i>	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Josie Dekkers RIP
Tuesday, 18 th July	No Public Mass Today	Special Intention
Wednesday, 19 th July	No Public Mass Today	Private Intention
Thursday, 20 th July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Apollinaris, Martyr</i>	No Public Mass Today	Private Intention
Friday, 21 st July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Doctor of the Church</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Dorothy Frances Pill
Saturday, 22 nd July <i>Feast of St. Mary Magdalene</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Camilo and Maria Pereira Danny Lyons (Anniv.)
Sunday, 23 rd July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day of Prayer for Europe World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly</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)	Special Intention The People of the Parish Special Intention

Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm

(Confessions at Sacred Heart: Saturday, 10.30 am – 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
Bernadette	Asha and Sandra	This Weekend	Fallon	Nalini
Josie	Mabel and Rachel	Next Weekend	Ann	John

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today.

Congratulations to Brother Steven Lloyd SDB (“Deacon Ste”) on his Ordination to the Priesthood. Many of you will remember him doing pastoral work here at Our Lady’s as he prepared for this. *Ad Multos Annos.*

The latest edition of *Don Bosco Today*, the Salesian Bulletin, is available at the back of church.

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.*

Annual Retreat. I shall be on Retreat from Monday to Friday this week. I am sorry that this means there will be no Mass here on Tuesday morning and no streaming of Morning Prayer after Monday until Saturday. Please pray for me and I shall pray for you.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Fr. Bernard Garratt, Angelique Moona, Olivia Ludbrook, Josie Dekkers, Thomas Ghee, Marion Nyambura, Isabel Da Costa Ferreira and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Peter Joseph Ryall, Canon Laurence Kelly, Frs. Geoffrey Wamsley, CO, Arthur Warburton, Philip Cleary, Liam Peter O'Connor, Thomas Rock and Albert Leo Kelly, and also Catherine (Angie) Aveyard, James McCormack, Danny Lyons, Margaret McHugh and Bridget Cherry. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. 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>

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Vocations to the Priesthood and Diaconate.
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Fr. Bernard Garratt RIP.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for our schools: children and staff.
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Josie Dekkers RIP.
St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Fr. Steven Lloyd SDB.**

Please pray for the sick, especially those we know:
Aveen Kavanagh, Phil Bawden, John Pill, Doreen Cox, Jean Carpenter, Pat Mazonowicz.

Our Lady's Flooring Appeal.

Target: We have launched an appeal to raise £15,000 to renovate the floor in the church.

Our "thermometer" has jumped again this week, but there is a long way to go and we can't relax.

Present level: fundraising - perhaps by holding a £4,130.98 coffee morning, for example - then please go for it!

BINGO!! A big THANK YOU to everyone who made our Bingo evening last week so much fun and such a successful event - the organisers, the caller, those who provided food and refreshments and cleared up afterwards. Thank you too to those who gave prizes for the raffle and/or the Bingo, and to all of you who came to support and to those who gave donations for the appeal. All told, the evening raised £424 for the flooring appeal - magnificent!

That, together with a further £340 for the sponsored walk and a £40 donation, takes our present collection over a quarter of the way to our target in just a few weeks. Thank you, and please keep it up!

CAFOD. At the end of Mass today there will be a short talk about supporting small-scale farmers around the world. All we are asked to do is to sign a letter to the World Bank, asking them to protect the rights of small farmers to use and share their own seeds. Please sign the letter on the way out of Mass. It is on the table in front of the "quiet room". Thank you.

Accommodation Required. A man has phoned asking if I can help him to find a room or flat with a Catholic family. If you can help please come and speak to me.

Parish Day-out to Bournemouth. On Tuesday, 25th July, leaving Our Lady's at 9.30 am and leaving Bournemouth at 6.00 pm. Adults £20, children £10, with free travel for those who received First Holy Communion or were Confirmed this year. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Please sign up at the back of church.

Next Sunday is the World Day for Grandparents and Elderly as this is the closest Sunday to the memorial of Jesus' grandparents, Ss Joachim and Ann (July 26th). It would be a good day to visit grandparents and older people who are alone. What wise words do you remember that your grandparents or elderly have passed onto you? I invite children, young adults, families to share these words of wisdom. Send them to me and I can put them together for everyone to appreciate.

School Holidays: As the schools close for the summer we wish children and staff an enjoyable and safe holiday.

University Students. If you are arriving in Oxford, either for a summer placement or in time to begin studies in the autumn, I should like to welcome you. It is important to feel at home, especially if you have come from abroad. Please come and introduce yourself to me, and I can tell you about the community at Our Lady's.

Pro-Life Pilgrimage To Walsingham. Saturday 5th August is the annual pilgrimage of reparation and prayer for the Sanctity of Life. Walsingham is a powerful and peaceful place to pray for the end of the hurt and pain of abortion. It is a wonderful experience to go with others and make friends in the process. For more details and to book a place on the Oxford trip (£30 - sponsorship available), visit <https://tinyurl.com/oxpp2023>.

Tailpiece: "Mummy," said a child, after carefully examining the stained glass window in a church, "None of the angels has a beard. Don't any men go to heaven?" "Yes, dear," replied her mother, "Some men do go to heaven. But for most it's only by a very close shave."

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