



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th August, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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

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

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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 the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

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| Sunday, 20 th August Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi | 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 3.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Mapeus Soares John Joe McGroarty Beatrice Upham (B'day) Naetochukwu Amaraegbulem The People of the Parish |
| Monday, 21 st August Memorial of St. Pius X, Pope Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass | Sr. Norma (Intentions) |
| Tuesday, 22 nd August Memorial of the Queenship of Our Lady Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass 4.00 pm Reception of Sheila Kelly | Ellen Gaughan (Get Well) |
| Wednesday, 23 rd August Feast of St. John Wall, Priest, Martyr Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi | 11.00 am Requiem Mass | Sheila Kelly RIP |
| Thursday, 24 th August Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi | (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Priya & Jos (Thanksgiving) |
| Friday, 25 th August Op. Mem. of St. Louis or St. Joseph Calasanz Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass | Patrick and Sara Davey |
| Saturday, 26 th August Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi, Priest Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday | Thomas Guterres & Family Anne-Marie Lyons (B'day) |
| Sunday, 27 th August Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time | 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass 2.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Cecilia Michael The People of the Parish Levi Alston Fraser Osvaldo Da Silva |
| Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (Confessions at Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 am – 11.30 am) | | |

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| Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers | Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers | | Saturday 5.30 pm Readers | Sunday 11.00 am Readers |
| Nora | Rachel and Anne-Marie | This Weekend | Michelle | Sandra |
| Zoja | Anne and Robin | Next Weekend | Anne C. | John C. |

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today.

If you wish to join us for Mass or other services from your home go to:

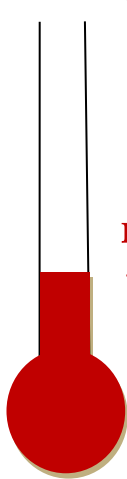
<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

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.*

Please pray for those who have died recently: Sheila Kelly, Bridie Jackson, Harry Slamon, Maureen McEneaney, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Cardinal Bernard William Griffin, Mgr. Richard J. Foster, Frs. Alan Smith, Patrick Branagan, Francis Rowe, and Deacon Peter Kilgallon, and also Annie Ryan, Gabrielle Crawforth, Ezra Moore, Elizabeth (Betty) Piercy, Adam Dennis Quelch, Peter King, Catherine Rita (Rita) Sheridan. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for the Parish of Our Lady Help of Christians.
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Robert Curtis (Birthday).
St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Sr. Norma (Intentions).

Our Lady's Flooring Appeal.



We have launched an appeal to raise £15,000 to renovate the floor in the church. I haven't had time to include donations that have come in recently, but our "thermometer" is still climbing - thank you. There is a long way to go and we can't relax. If you have an idea for fundraising - perhaps by holding a coffee morning, for example - then please go for it!

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

Prayer Wall. Thank you to everyone who has put a prayer on our "prayer wall" in the church. If you have prayers on the wall that you still wish us all to pray for, please move them to the section near to the doors into the Don Bosco Centre. I shall take down the rest this week. Then we can start again!

"International Day". We are planning to have a day when we celebrate the different nationalities and cultures in our parish family. Hopefully, there will be tables with national cuisine, national costumes, song (and perhaps even dance). It will be a joint celebration with Sacred Heart parish. There will be a planning meeting here next Saturday, 26th August, at 4.00 pm.

Harvington Pilgrimage 2023, Sunday, 3rd September. His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley, will be the principal celebrant of the Pilgrimage Mass. All are welcome. Mass: 3.00 pm, Confessions: 1.45 – 2.30 pm. Free parking. Bring your own picnic, (teas and coffees available to purchase).

March For Life UK, Saturday, 2nd September, London. Join thousands of others at this peaceful, prayerful and family-friendly event in London to speak up for the unborn who cannot speak for themselves. Full details of the event can be found at marchforlife.co.uk

Annual Novena of Prayer for the Cause of Blessed Dominic Barberi. We are in the annual Novena of Prayer in the Archdiocese. It goes on until the Feast of Blessed Dominic, 26th August. Please join the Archbishop and the family of the Diocese as we say the *Novena Prayer for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi*

O God, who so lovingly raised Blessed Dominic to the heights of holiness, learning and apostolic zeal and made him a powerful minister of your mercy, listen to our humble request. We pray that you will, in your goodness, grant a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Dominic, so that the Church may further honour him on earth and that many more people will come to know and invoke the help of this faithful servant of the Church.

Mary, Mother of Holy Hope, Pray for us.
St. John Henry Newman, Pray for us.
Blessed Dominic Barberi, Pray for us.

The Season of Creation runs from 1st September (the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4th October (the feast of St. Francis of Assisi). The theme this year is "Let Justice and Peace Flow".

Maryvale Institute Courses. Maryvale Institute has announced the continuation of the Bachelor of Divinity (B.Div.) and Licence Programmes. The Maryvale Higher Institute of Religious Sciences (HIRS) is the only ecclesial institute of this kind in the English-speaking world. The B.Div is a five-year part-time, collaborative-learning degree programme in Catholic theology providing a comprehensive exposition and analysis of Christian doctrine. The Licence in Divinity: Pathway in Catechetical Sciences is a three-year, part-time, programme aimed at those in leadership positions in catechetics and in other positions of responsibility. To enquire, please contact Deacon Harry Schnitker: researchcentre@maryvale.ac.uk.

Tailpiece: A priest was queueing for petrol just before a holiday weekend. He had to wait a long time but at last the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump. "Father," said the young man, "I'm sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip." The priest nodded, "I know what you mean," he said. "It's the same in my business."

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