



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

27th 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, 27 th August Twenty-first 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 2.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Anne-Marie Lyons (B'day) Cecilia Michael The People of the Parish Levi Alston Fraser Osvaldo Da Silva |
| Monday, 28 th August Memorial of St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass | Alan Pill (get well) |
| Tuesday, 29 th August Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist, Martyr | No Public Mass Today | Mr M. E. Connelly (JA) |
| Wednesday, 30 th August Op. Mem. of Ss. Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward, Martyrs | 7.00 pm Mass | Special Intention |
| Thursday, 31 st August Op. Memorial of St. Aidan, Bishop, & the Saints of Lindisfarne | (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Harry Slamon (also remembering Felix Saulong) |
| Friday, 1 st September World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation First Friday | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass | K. Mullagh's Intentions |
| Saturday, 2 nd September | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 12.00 noon Requiem Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday | Dircia Da Consecacao Pedro The People of the Parish |
| Sunday, 3 rd September Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time | 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) | Eileen McGroarty Antonio da Silva (B'day) Fernanda Amaral, Fernando, Luciano, Claudia |
| Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (Confessions at Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm) | | |

| Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers | Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers | | Saturday 5.30 pm Readers | Sunday 11.00 am Readers |
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| Zoja | Anne and Robin | This Weekend | Anne | Sandra |
| Agnes | Asha and Sandra | Next Weekend | Bernadette D. | Michelle |

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: Bridie Jackson, Ursula Teresa Lillis, Augustine (“Tina”) Cyprien, Henry Zieba (Fr Ziggy’s father), Dircia Da Consecacao Pedro, Sheila Kelly, Harry Slamon, Maureen McEneaney, Lyn Madelin, Fr Keith Enston, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Canon Laurence Emery, Mgr. James Dunlop Crichton, Canons Laurence Hogarty and Joseph Nightingale, Frs. James Downey, Isaac William Savin, Francis Toole, Brendan O’Malley, Deacon David McCarroll, and also Peter King, Catherine Rita (Rita) Sheridan, Michael McManus, Pietro Lindo and John Joseph Patrick O’Connor. May they rest in peace.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for John and Kathleen Pill (61st Wedding Anniversary).
St. Don Bosco’s Candle is burning this week for John and Alan Pill (get well).**

Our Lady’s Flooring Appeal.



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

Present level: £5,398,44
Thank you to everyone who has contributed. The work is due to begin in October and we still have some way to go. All donations, large and small, will be welcome. If you have an idea for fundraising – a coffee morning, for example – then please go for it! **There will be a second collection at Masses this weekend for the floor appeal.**

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 put a prayer on our “prayer wall” in the church. As you can see, the old prayers have now been taken down, which leaves plenty of room for new ones. If you have an intention, or a cause for thanksgiving, or any other thing that you would like to ask the rest of us to pray for, please write it down and put it on the wall. Don’t forget to read other people’s intentions and pray for them.

“International Day”. We are planning to have a day when we celebrate the different nationalities and cultures in our parish family. Hopefully, it will start with Mass and afterwards there will be tables with national cuisine, national costumes, song (and perhaps even dance). It will be a joint celebration with Sacred Heart parish.

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

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”.

First Friday. This Friday is the first of the month and we shall say the Novena Prayers to the Sacred Heart.

Pope’s Prayer Intention for September: For People living on the margins. We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

The 2023 March for Life in defence of the unborn will happen next Saturday, 2nd September, beginning with 10.30 am Mass at Westminster Cathedral; stalls, talks and activities at The Emmanuel Centre, SW1P 3DW; walking from 1.30 pm up to Parliament Square at 4.30 pm. For further information go to marchforlife.co.uk A group will catch the Oxford Tube at 8.30 am from Headington. You are welcome to join them. To make contact please go to <https://tinyurl.com/oxford-pro-life>

Our Lady’s Healing Group. Several parishioners have already taken part in the healing group. The next healing group is going to be offered online so that those who can’t stay after church on Sunday might have a chance to attend. It will start 2nd October.

Church Cleaners. We are looking for volunteers to help to keep the church nice and clean, please. There is a rota and each volunteer normally does about an hour each month. If you could help, please contact Vitalija vitalijamatvey@gmail.com

Tailpiece: One Sunday a priest decided that a visual demonstration would add emphasis to a sermon about the evils of drink, tobacco and over-indulgence. First he put four worms into four separate jars. The first worm was put into a jar of alcohol; the second was put into a jar of cigarette smoke; the third was put into a jar of chocolate syrup; the fourth was put into a jar of good clean soil. At the end he reported the results: The first worm in alcohol - Dead. The second worm in cigarette smoke - Dead. The third worm in chocolate syrup - Dead. The fourth worm in good clean soil – Alive. Then he asked the congregation, “What can you learn from this?” A woman at the back quickly raised her hand and said, “As long as you drink, smoke and eat chocolate, you won’t have worms.”

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