



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

3rd September, 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

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 Website: www.olhocowley.co.uk

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.

Sunday, 3 rd September Twenty-second 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)	Michael Iagoe Eileen McGroarty Antonio da Silva (B'day) Fernanda Amaral, Fernando, Luciano, Claudia
Monday, 4 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Cuthbert, Bishop</i>	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	The People of the Parish
Tuesday, 5 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass 10.00 am Prayer and Praise Group	Josie & Eddie Griffiths
Wednesday, 6 th September	No Public Mass Today	Angelika
Thursday, 7 th September	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Thomas & Maryamma
Friday, 8 th September <i>Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Winnie Gildea
Saturday, 9 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Osburg, Abbess, or of St. Peter Claver, Priest</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 3.00 pm Baptisms 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Harry Slamon Neil Murphy
Sunday, 10 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass 4.30 pm Syro-Malabar Community Mass (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Tony Donovan & Stacey Stretch Lucy Da Silva (Birthday) Special Intention
Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (Confessions at Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; 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
Agnes	Asha and Sandra	This Weekend	Bernadette D.	Michelle
Henry	Mabel & Rachel	Next Weekend		

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: Ursula Teresa Lillis, Augustine (“Tina”) Cyprien, Henryk Zieba (Fr Ziggy’s father), Dircia Da Consecacao Pedro, Lyn Madelin, Fr Keith Enston, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Thomas (Tom) Fallon, Frs. Bernard Salt, Thomas O’Doherty, James J Holland, Paul Devaney, Anthony (Tony) Taylor and Arthur McCrystal, Deacon Francis Andrews, Sr. Iolanda Marsella FMA. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Michael Iagoe (Birthday).

Our Lady’s Candle is burning this week for Pat Atherton (Birthday).

St. Don Bosco’s Candle is burning this week for our Schools at the start of the new year.

Our Lady’s Flooring Appeal.

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

Present level: £5,646.67
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!
Thank you for your contributions to the second collection last weekend. It raised £248.23.

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

“International Day”

On Sunday, 1st October, we shall have something special, shared with Sacred Heart Parish. Just for that day Mass will be at 10.00 am at Our Lady’s Primary School (cancel 9.00 at Sacred Heart and 11.00 at Our Lady’s), followed by events/shared food/games until about 2.00 pm. The object of the Day is to celebrate the many different cultures and traditions that are united within the two Catholic communities in Blackbird Leys and Cowley. Secondary objects would be to get to know one another and have some fun together. People are encouraged to wear national costume and to bring national dishes to share. Please sign the sheet at the back of the church if you can offer to bring and share some food.

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.

Our Lady’s Healing Group. The next healing group is going to be offered online via Zoom: Monday and Thursday each week from the 2nd to 19th October, 7.30 to 9.30 pm. There will be six sessions and you will need to commit to attending all of them. Ariel Dempsey will be here at Our Lady’s next Sunday morning to say a few words at the end of Mass about what it is about. To apply or for more information email traumahealinguk07@gmail.com.

Church Cleaners. We are looking for more volunteers to join our small but faithful group of cleaners who work hard to keep our church clean. There is a rota and each volunteer normally does about an hour each month. If you could help, please contact Vitalija vitalijamatvey@gmail.com

Father Hudson’s Care would like to invite you to a face-to-face Welcoming Church event to be held on Saturday 16th September at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Bristol Road, Birmingham, B5 7BE, at 10.00 am. The individual sessions will talk about how parishes can support older people, refugees, people with disabilities and those who are homeless, creating a plan to make real change. To learn more please call 01675 434000 or email kevinhateley@fatherhudsons.org.uk

Education Sunday. We pray for our schools – children, staff, families – as the new school year begins this week. May God bless them all with His love and joy. Next Sunday is Education Sunday when we are asked to pray for the work of Catholic education across the schools of the Archdiocese. There will be a second collection next week for the Catholic Education Service.

Foundation Governors. Our Lady’s School is urgently seeking active Catholics who would be willing to serve as Foundation Governors. If you can help, please contact Tara Davies (779176, office@ourladyscowley.co.uk).

Music at the 11.00 am Sunday Mass. Welcome back to our musicians this weekend after the summer break. If you would like to join the musicians they would love to welcome you. **The Children’s Liturgy of the Word** will re-start next weekend.

Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. On Sunday, 24th September, we shall give thanks to God for the food we receive. If you have fruit and/or veg that we could put before the altar on that day as symbols of His blessings then please bring them along. After Mass you can either re-claim them or they can be passed on to the Foodbank.

Tailpiece: A guest at a crowded party one Saturday evening accidentally spilt his glass of beer over the Parish Priest. The priest was worried because his only other suit was at the cleaners and it meant he would have to appear at Mass the next day smelling of beer. A helpful friend offered him some perfume. After a pause, the priest replied, “No, thanks. The beer I *am* allowed.”

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