



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

17th 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

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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.

Sunday, 17 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (Home Mission Sunday)</i>	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 at Sacred Heart) (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Special Intention Anne O'Neill Bridie & Martin (Tim) Keane Aria Karina McKoy The People of the Parish
Monday, 18 th September	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	John and Kathleen Pill
Tuesday, 19 th September Optional Memorial of St. Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop, or of St. Januarius, Bishop, Martyr	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Josephine & Dermot McMahon
Wednesday, 20 th September Mem. of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Comps.	No Public Mass Today	Peter John Rhodes
Thursday, 21 st September Feast of St. Matthew	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	John McVeigh (Anniversary)
Friday, 22 nd September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Maryanne Borthwick
Saturday, 23 rd September Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Ellen White Antonio da Silva & Rosa Soriano
Sunday, 24 th September Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Day of Prayer in Thanksgiving for the Harvest	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass 2.00 pm Baptisms 3.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Cecilia Michael Michelle (Intentions) Eilye & Emileo Flynn-Sefa Valentino Sotgiu Petrolina Miranda

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
Bernadette	Anne-Marie and Anne	This Weekend	Fallon	Nalini
Josie	Robin and Asha	Next Weekend	Bernie D.	Sandra

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today.

Today is **Evangelii Gaudium Sunday** (formerly known as Home Mission Sunday). There will be a second collection to support the work of evangelisation in our own country.

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: Frs. Keith Enston, Paul Chavasse (CongOrat) and Edwin Cownley, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop George Patrick Dwyer, Canons Peter McKenna, David Mellor, Albert JJ Adams, Frs. William Alfred Oddie, Alan Leslie Holtham, Peter Lees, John David Steward, John Roddy, Bernard McAllister and Peter Lloyd, and also Mary Manning. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for the people of Libya and Morocco.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Roberto and Ann.**

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!

Cake Sale. Next weekend the Salesian Cooperators will be holding a cake sale in the Don Bosco Centre after each Mass to raise funds for the work of the Salesian Sisters in Africa.

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, four nights starting on 16th October 2023. £699.00 per person sharing. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

Lessons for new altar servers start on Thursday, 2.00 pm, in the Don Bosco Centre. Anyone who has received his or her First Holy Communion is welcome to join.

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. To apply or for info email traumahealinguk07@gmail.com

Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. Next 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 then please bring them along. After Mass you can either reclaim them or they can be passed on to the Foodbank.

Best wishes and prayers for Roberto Costa and Ann McMahon who are to be married in Madeira on Saturday

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

40 Days for Life Campaign: The Campaign invites you to join other Christians in 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end of abortion.

- Come to the opening event, on Saturday, 23rd September at 7.30 pm at Cafe Neri, Oxford Oratory of St. Aloysius. Join us for a warm event with pizza and doughnuts and find out about 40 Days for Life!
- From Wednesday, 27th to Saturday, 4th November, you're invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside BPAS (Rectory Centre, 27-29 Rectory Road, OX4 1BU). For more info or to offer help, contact: Catherine at catherinermell2@gmail.com

"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, followed by events/shared food/games until about 2.00 pm. 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.

Tailpiece: A bride-to-be was nervous about the ceremony and went to see the priest for some reassurance. He told her that there were only three things she needed to remember: "First the aisle, because that is what you walk up to start the service; second the altar, because if you keep your eyes on that you will keep walking in a straight line; third the hymn that everyone will be singing. If you keep those three things in mind you will be fine." Much relieved she went home, but imagine the feelings of the groom as his future partner-in-life advanced towards him in the church with a steely, determined look on her face, muttering through clenched teeth, "Aisle. Altar. Hymn. Aisle. Altar. Hymn."

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