



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th October, 2023

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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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.

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, 8th October Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Prisons Week <i>(continues until Friday)</i></p>	<p>5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 11.00 am Mass <i>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Anne-Marie Lyons (Anniversary)</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Horacio Liu & Filomena Liu</i> <i>John Hudgell (Birthday)</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, 9th October <i>Feast of St. John Henry Newman</i></p>	<p>7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Nancy Surliss</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, 10th October <i>Op. Mem. of St. Paulinus of York, or Ss. Denis & Comps., Martyrs, or St. John Leonardi, Priest</i></p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass, followed by the Rosary</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Winnie Gildea</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, 11th October <i>Op. Mem. of Bl. William Howard, or of St. John XXIII, Pope</i></p>	<p>No Public Mass Today</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Martin McDonagh</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, 12th October <i>Op. Memorial of St. Wilfrid, Bishop</i></p>	<p><i>(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>John Flanagan</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, 13th October <i>Op. Mem. of St. Edward the Confessor</i></p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Margaret Stevens (Get Well)</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, 14th October <i>Op. Mem. of St. Callistus I, Pope, Martyr</i></p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Holy Souls</i> <i>Josephine & Dermot McMahon</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, 15th October Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</p>	<p>7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 11.00 am Mass <i>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>Tommy Gildea (Anniversary)</i></p>
<p>Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm <i>(Confessions at Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am)</i></p>		

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Maureen	Rachel and Anne-Marie	This Weekend	Michelle and Fallon	Nalini
Vitalija	Anne and Robin	Next Weekend	Naomi	Sandra

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today.

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 the sick, especially those we know: Claire French, John Pill, Aveen Kavanagh, Iris O'Brien, Doreen Cox, Betty Duff, Beatrice Upham, Mary Doyle, Thomas Gaughan, Jean Carpenter and Pat Mazonowicz.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Archie Allen, Jorge Garcia, Baby Tarcisio Jeronimo Andrade Babo, Luis Abel Da Silva, Frs. Paul Chavasse (Cong Orat) and Edwin Cownley, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Cyril L. Fay, Frs. Thomas Power, Terence James Brian Whatmore and Seamus Gilroy, Deacons Patrick Selwood and Louis Kelly, and also Mary Catherine Murphy, Giuseppe Bonassisa and Patrick O'Connell. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. 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 John Hudgell (Birthday).

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Sr. Pat (Intentions).

Our Lady's Flooring Appeal.

We have launched an appeal to raise £15,000 to renovate the floor in Our Lady's church. At present our level is a bit shy of £6,000, so we have some distance to go yet.

Work on the floor is due to start on Monday, 16th October, and it is going to take nearly two weeks to complete. That means that between Monday, 16th October and Friday, 27th October, the church will be out of use. If you can refrain from getting baptised, marrying or dying during this time it would be much appreciated! Weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Chapel. The Masses on the weekend of Saturday, 22nd/Sunday 23rd October will be at the regular times in Our Lady's School hall.

International Day. A big THANK YOU, first of all to God who answered our prayers for good weather and made our celebration last week a success. Then secondly, thank you to everyone who planned and did so much work to make sure things went well, especially musicians, servers, technicians, and also Tara, Carl and all at Our Lady's School. Thirdly, thank you to so many people for bringing so much delicious food and sharing it with generosity and openness. Finally, thank you to everyone who came along and took part. Some of the comments made to me afterwards summed up the atmosphere: "Can we do this again next week, please?", "I have never taken part in anything like this before", "So many people have come up to speak to me and introduce themselves. It has been wonderful."

October is the month dedicated to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. In March 2020, Catholics and other Christians across England took part in the re-dedication of the country to the Virgin Mary which originally took place in 1381 when the country was in a period of turmoil and the King turned to the Virgin Mary for protection. The best way to celebrate the month is, of course, to pray the Rosary. So let us all turn to Our Blessed Lady and seek her intercession and ask that she will always be 'our most gentle Queen and Mother.'

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day was last Friday and the second collection at Mass this weekend is for the money you saved by fasting. Your gift to CAFOD will mean families can get help from doctors and other local experts when they need it most.

40 Days for Life Campaign: Join us for our Mid-point rally, happening on Saturday 14th October at 7.30 pm at Cafe Neri, Oxford Oratory of St. Aloysius. If you'd like more information or to volunteer to help, contact: catherinermell2@gmail.com or sign up to the prayer vigil online via: 40daysforlife.com/Oxford

Survive-Miva. Next Sunday we welcome Sally Ward to speak to us about Survive-Miva and ask for our help.

Today is Prisoners' Sunday when we are asked to pray for prisoners, their families and all of those affected by imprisonment and those who support them. For more info go to: www.prisonadvice.org.uk/prisoners-sunday



Missio Red Boxes. If you have a Red Box, could you please bring it in to be emptied by Sunday 12th November. You can leave boxes in the Sacristy. Thank you. If you would like to know more please speak to Sandra Cromey.

The Synod in Rome began last Wednesday. The Holy Father has asked Catholics to join in prayer during this time of Synod for a spirit of discernment and wisdom for those attending, so that the whole Church may know the power of the Holy Spirit at work in these days. Central to this time of Synod is a desire to discern how the Lord wants us to follow him and be faithful to his call to bring His Good News to all peoples.

Newman Night Walk this Sunday, 8th October, from Oxford to Littlemore, commemorating the arrival of Bl. Dominic Barberi at Littlemore and the anniversary of St. John Henry Newman's Reception into the Catholic Church. It starts at 7.15 pm with prayers at the Oratory, Oxford, followed at 9.00 pm by Candlelight Procession from 7 Courtland Road to Bl. Dominic Barberi Church; 9.30 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; 9.50 pm Benediction and Procession to the College Library and Chapel. Light refreshments afterwards.

Tailpiece: Pope St. John XXIII (whose feast day is this week) had a cheeky sense of humour. He used to say what a hard life his parents had as small wine-growers. With a twinkle, he would remark, "There are only three ways a man can be ruined: women, gambling and farming. My father chose the most boring of the three."

May God bless you and all those whom you love.

Fr. Harry