



Our Lady Help of Christians

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

5th November, 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, 5 th November Thirty-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 (3.00 pm Blessing of Graves at Rose Hill) (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Gary Ainger Andre Pereira Mr. R. K. Joshi & Mrs. M. F. Joshi The People of the Parish |
| Monday, 6 th November | 7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer | Bernadette and John Edwards |
| Tuesday, 7 th November <i>Op. Mem. of St. Willibrord, Bishop</i> | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass | Lazaro Purificacion and Family |
| Wednesday, 8 th November <i>Memorial of Blessed George Napier</i> | No Public Mass Today | Robert Allsworth |
| Thursday, 9 th November <i>Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i> | (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Jeronimo Ribeiro Babo Martins and Ercia Andrade |
| Friday, 10 th November <i>Memorial of St. Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church</i> | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass | Coral Anne Pill (13 th Anniversary) |
| Saturday, 11 th November <i>Memorial of St. Martin of Tours, Bishop</i> | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Memorial Mass at Sacred Heart) (11.30 am Blessing of Graves at Headington) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday | Deceased Parishioners & Friends Sean Jennings (Anniversary) |
| Sunday, 12 th November Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> | 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) | Brendan McNally (Anniversary) Dermot & Josephine McMahon Anthony Pinto Sarmento |
| 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 |
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| Agnes | Anne-Marie and Anne | This Weekend | Bernie | Sandra |
| Henry | Robin and Asha | Next Weekend | Naomi | Nalini |

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 Noreen Duffy, Margaret Walsh and Margaret Dunne who died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Bertram Gould, Canons Patrick Smith, Eugene O'Sullivan and John Redford, Frs. John Francis Bromfield, John Brisland, Francis Dawson, Derek Edwards and Cyril Duck, and also Mary Winter, Francis (Frank) Cairns, Elizabeth (Betty) Magan and Ryszard Kaniszewski. 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 Bernadette Allsop (Birthday).
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Dermot McMahon (Birthday).

Our Lady's Flooring Renovation.

Target:
£15,000

I hope you like the floor now that the work on it has been finished. The workmen were brilliant and I think it has made a great difference.

Present level:
£8218.62

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the fund. We still have some way to go but the end is in sight. All donations, large and small, will be welcome.

Thank you for your wonderful contributions to the second collection last weekend. It raised £1,358.55.



Missio Red Boxes. If you have a Red Box, could you please bring it in to be emptied by next Sunday, 12th November. Thank you.


The second Collection at Masses today is for the Johnson Fund which provides support to sick and retired priests of the diocese. Many retired priests depend on grants from the Johnson Fund, and your generosity will help them greatly.

Cake Sale. The Salesian Cooperators will be selling cakes in the Don Bosco Centre after Masses this weekend to raise funds for the Church Floor Renovation Fund. A big Thank You to them, and please support them if you can.

Pro-life drinks. 7.30-9pm, Friday 10th November "Up in Arms", Marston, OX3 0EN. Whether you're new and would like to find out more or a seasoned pro-lifer, come along to relax with like-minded people and keep connected with the pro-life community in Oxford. All welcome. Just turn up. You can get in touch with Ed via <https://tinyurl.com/ox-pro-life>. And why not bring a friend?

Would you like to become a Catholic? If you are interested in becoming a Catholic – either by being baptised in the Catholic Church or by being received into the Catholic Church from another Christian community, please contact me at fr.harry.curtis@rcaob.org.uk

In November we pray for those who have died.

- **November Prayers for the Dead.** There are memorial slips available to write the names of those for whom you wish to pray during November. Place the slips in the basket in front of the altar and they will be remembered at Mass during the month.
- **Blessing of Graves.** Rose Hill Cemetery will be today, 5th November at 3.00 pm. (gather in the cemetery chapel); Headington Cemetery will be on Saturday, 11th November at 11.30 am.
- **Mass for the Deceased Clergy of the North Oxford Deanery,** Tuesday, 14th November, 12.00 noon, at Corpus Christi, Headington. Every year the clergy of the Deanery celebrate Mass for their deceased brothers. All welcome to join us.
- **Parish Memorial Mass for those in the parish who have died,** especially those whose funerals have been held here during the past year, on Saturday, 18th November, 11.00 am. If you would like anyone's name to be included, please let me know. There will be refreshments afterwards in the Don Bosco Centre.
- **Remembrance Sunday.** Next Sunday, 12th November. We shall have a short service after each Mass to lay a wreath and pray for those who have died in war and for peace. 

Wanted!! After Christmas we shall be starting the lessons to prepare children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. But we need people who are willing to help. If you would like to try this ministry, please talk to me. Support will be provided.

First Holy Communion Lessons. Parents, if your children are aged 8 or over and you wish them to receive their First Holy Communion next May, please register them with me, using the form enclosed with this newsletter, or on-line at [Application for First Holy Communion & Reconciliation | Our Lady Help of Christians | Cowley | Oxford \(olhccowley.co.uk\)](https://www.olhccowley.co.uk)

Tailpiece: Loyal housekeeper to callers who wanted to speak to the golf-loving parish priest: "I'm sorry, but Father's away on a course."

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