



Our Lady Help of Christians

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

14th January, 2024

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 Email: olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Website: www.olhoccowley.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, 14 th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Peace Sunday	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)	Anita Allen Lucas Da Silva Harry Thomson Oliver Philip Christopher Dell Philomina Daniel
Monday, 15 th January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	The People of the Parish
Tuesday, 16 th January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Michael Knibbs RIP
Wednesday, 17 th January <i>Memorial of St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	No Public Mass Today	Sean Jennings
Thursday, 18 th January <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Don Stephen (In Thanksgiving)
Friday, 19 th January <i>Feast of St. Wulstan, Bishop</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Sheila Jennings and Family
Saturday, 20 th January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Fabian, Pope, or St. Sebastian, Martyrs</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Sandra Carr (Get Well) Sean Jennings
Sunday, 21 st January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday of the Word of God <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</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)	Ena Maguire Newton & Clara (Wedding Anniv.) The People of the Parish
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
Henry	Sandra and Mabel	This Weekend Bernie D	Ellie and Ella
Bernadette	Rachel and Anne-Marie	Next Weekend Naomi	John

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, Inna, Rosa Fernandes and Pat Mazonowicz.

Please pray for Sean Jennings, Anita Allen, Shean Scanlon, Madeleine Watson and Michael Knibbs who died recently, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Matthias (Matt) Corrigan, Frs. Benedict O'Gorman, Gerard Peuleve, Cyril Bennett, Archibald (Archie) John Snell, Timothy Dinan, Cecil Keane, Bernard Robertson, and Edward Kirner, Deacons Brian Dockerty and Thomas Mark Carter, and also Peter Mullagh, Mary McNamee, Sean Dominic Smith, Sally Roberts, Margaret Hodson, Johnny Evans, and William (Bill) Barber. May they rest in peace.

If you wish to join us for Mass or other services from your home go to:

<https://www.mcn.live/Camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for the Gaughan Family.

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Bernadette Downes.

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Kitty Davies.

St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week in thanksgiving for prayers answered.

St. John Bosco's Candle is burning this week for the Jennings Family.

Today is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. It is also designated as **Peace Sunday**, a day to pray for world peace. The theme of World Peace Day this year is: 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace', that AI should be used in the service of humanity and not to further injustice and inequality.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from 18th–25th January. Resources are now available for the 2024 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso facilitated by the local Chemin Neuf Community (CCN). They have chosen the parable of the **Good Samaritan** as the theme for this Week.

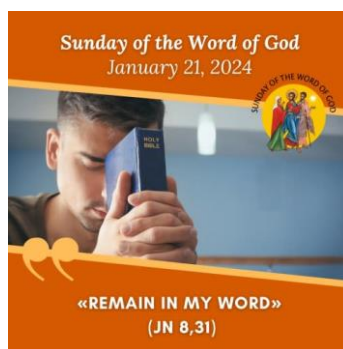
Year of prayer. The first Deanery event in the Year of Prayer (in preparation for the Jubilee Year in 2025) will be a talk and prayer, led by Canon Mervyn at Corpus Christi Church in Headington on Monday 22nd January, 7.00-8.00 pm. All welcome. (The second event will be here at Our Lady's on Monday, 5th Feb., 7.00-8.00 pm).

Baptisms. This weekend we welcome Freya Maria Venete and Oliver Philip Christopher Dell into the family of the Church. Please pray for them and their families.

First Holy Communion Preparation. Children aged 8 or older are invited to start preparing to receive Holy Communion on Saturday, 25th May.

- Preparation classes will be in the Don Bosco Centre (the parish hall) on Thursday afternoons, at 3.30 pm, starting on Thursday, 1st February.
- There will be a meeting for parents on Thursday, 25th January, at 3.30 pm, with the Mass of Enrolment on Saturday, 3rd February at 5.30 pm, or on Sunday, 4th February at 11.00 am.

Parents, if you haven't done so already, please register your children's names with me by this weekend, either with one of the application forms at the back of church 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)



Next Sunday (the 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time) is the "Sunday of the Word Of God". It is a day when we reflect on the importance of the Bible in our faith. Next weekend please bring your family Bible or the Bible that you use most to Mass to be blessed.

CAFOD School Volunteers needed. Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in your local Catholic schools by delivering an assembly or a workshop? You will be supported by CAFOD with training and all resources will be provided and expenses paid. Do consider the role of CAFOD school volunteer. For more information contact Debbie Purfield dpurfield@cafod.org.uk or call 07786 114 390

Pro-life social. 7.30-9.00 pm, Friday, 19th January. "Up in Arms", Marston, OX3 OEN. 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, and you can get in touch with Ed via <https://tinyurl.com/ox-pro-life>. And why not bring a friend?

Prayer for Christian Unity in St John Henry Newman's Chapel at Littlemore, next Thursday, 18th January, 12.00 noon – 9.00 pm

Tailpiece: A young curate was visiting a parishioner on her 99th birthday. As he was leaving, the curate said rather patronisingly, "Well, I hope I shall be able to visit you again next year when you celebrate your 100th Birthday." The parishioner looked him up and down and replied, "I don't see why not, Father. You look quite fit to me."

May God bless you and all those who are dear to you.
Fr. Harry