



Our Lady Help of Christians

Fourth Sunday of Lent

10th March, 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

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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, 10 th March Fourth Sunday of Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Ruth Joshi (Birthday) Private Intention Dominic Durkin The People of the Parish Ansel Netto
Monday, 11 th March	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Jose de Jesus Carvalho & family
Tuesday, 12 th March Dementia Prayer Week	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass, followed by the Rosary 6.00 pm Reception of Lisa O'Brien	Mattie Cooney
Wednesday, 13 th March Dementia Prayer Week	10.00 am Requiem Mass	Lisa O'Brien
Thursday, 14 th March Dementia Prayer Week	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Special Intention
Friday, 15 th March Dementia Prayer Week	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 12.00 noon Requiem Mass 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass 7.30 pm Stations of the Cross	Anne Marie McCarthy Nossa Senhora de Fatima
Saturday, 16 th March Parish Lent Day of Recollection Dementia Prayer Week	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer Mass at Boars Hill Convent 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Mary Doyle Carlota Maria da Costa
Sunday, 17 th March Fifth Sunday of Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments Dementia Prayer Week	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass 3.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Private Intention Methodear Method Kathleen Davey Beatrice Awe The People of the Parish
Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (Confessions during the Day of Recollection at Boars Hill on Saturday)		

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Agnes	Rachel and Anne-Marie	This Weekend	Naomi	Fletcher and Maria
Henry	Anne and Robin	Next Weekend	Fallon	Ellie and Ella

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today.

Happy Mothering Sunday to all Mums

Each of us has a mother, whether she is with us or has passed away. We thank God for them and pray for them especially today. We also pray for our holy Mother Church.

During Lent we do not say the Gloria during Mass on Sundays, nor the joyful word “Alleluia!” Just for today we have a few flowers decorating the altar because it is LAETARE SUNDAY, “Be joyful Sunday”. The statues in the church will be veiled from next Sunday, the fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday), until Holy Saturday.

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.

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>

Please pray for the sick, especially those we know: Keelin Trahearne, Claudino Serra Vaz, Claire French, John Pill, Aveen Kavanagh, Iris O'Brien, Doreen Cox, Betty Duff, Beatrice Upham, Thomas Gaughan, Jean Carpenter and Inna.

Please pray for Pat Mazonowicz, Lisa O'Brien, Anne Dewdney, Amelia Frances Roach, Anne McCarthy and Madeline Dandridge who died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop David Cashman, Canons Gerard J Hanlon and Raymond Walsh, Frs. Joseph Purcell, Ralph Sheppey-Greene, Christopher Thornton, Connell Harkin, Vaughan Lloyd, Anthony Sims and Michael Crumpton, Deacon Patrick Duffy, and also Rosie Moore, Mary Kate McTague, Antonio Iorio, Sissie McManus and Agustinha Dos Santos. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Sean Jennings Senior RIP (Birthday).

Dementia Prayer Week, 12-19th March. Please pray for those suffering with dementia, and those who care for them. Prayers, short videos, printable materials, and other resources can be found at [Dementia Prayer Week | RP Books](#)

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new Gift Aid envelopes are available to collect from the Don Bosco Centre. If you no longer need them or if your circumstances have changed (e.g. you no longer pay income tax or you have changed your address) please let Geraldine, the Parish Secretary, know (olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).

We do need more people to be involved in the Gift Aid scheme, please. If you don't already gift aid your donations to Our Lady's could we ask you to consider doing so, please?

- To gift aid your donation you will need to complete a gift aid declaration form. This is a simple form (name, address, and signature) that gives us permission to reclaim tax that you have paid from the Inland Revenue.
- There is no cost to you to gift aid your donations.
- To be eligible to gift aid you must be a UK tax payer.
- For every £1.00 you donate we can claim back 25p from the Government that you have paid in tax, (although of course you need to have paid enough tax to cover what we will claim back).
- You can donate using weekly envelopes or by standing order.
- This doesn't commit you to giving a regular amount every week. You can give a set amount on a regular basis or be flexible in what you give and when.
- You can leave the scheme at any time.

If you would like to sign up for gift aid, please see Fr. Harry, or contact Geraldine in the parish office by email or phone for further information.
Thank you.

Parish Lent Day of Recollection. Next Saturday, 16th March, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm at Boars Hill Carmelite Convent. £10 per person, and bring your own lunch. There will be Mass, talks, and a chance for quiet prayer. Please sign the sheet in the porch if you would like to take part. Those going should meet in our car park at 9.30 am next Saturday morning.

National Novena to St. Joseph, 10-18 March. Join St. Joseph's Missionary Society (Mill Hill Missionaries). Novena Masses will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, Maidenhead, at 10.00 am on weekdays and Saturday (16th), and 11.00 am on Sunday (10th & 17th). Evening Prayer will be at 6.00 pm daily during the Novena. These will be on Zoom, www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena



The Kenelm Youth Trust will be travelling to Lourdes on the annual Diocesan pilgrimage. Over 16's have the opportunity to travel to Lourdes with the trust to serve in the Accueil and take part in all aspects of the pilgrimage. Any young people who are interested can find all the information they need at: <https://www.kenelmyoutrust.org.uk/lourdes.html> or email Libby - libby.cox@kenelmyoutrust.org.uk

Tailpiece: A conversation that took place with children preparing for their First Confession:
Teacher: “When you tell Fr. Harry something in Confession he won't tell anyone else. In fact, he won't remember it afterwards.”
First child (sounding rather hurt): “Why won't Fr. Harry remember what I have said to him?”
Second child: “Well, old people do forget things, and Fr. Harry is very old”.
Ouch!

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