



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th September, 2024

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

Parish Secretary (also Giving and Gift Aid): Geraldine Griffin

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This church live streams Mass and other events. Please see notice in church porch for more details.

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

Sunday, 15 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Evangelii Gaudium Sunday</i> <i>(formerly Home Mission Sunday)</i>	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday 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)	Martin & Bridie Keane (Anniv.) Private Intention Tony Donovan Tess Cahill (100 th Birthday) Tarcisio Jeronimo Andrade Babo
Monday, 16 th September Mem. of St. Cornelius, Pope, & St. Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Baby Cillian Hennessy
Tuesday, 17 th September Op. Mem. of St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, or St. Hildegard of Bingen	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Christopher John Kirby
Wednesday, 18 th September	No Public Mass Today (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	The People of the Parish Michael R. J. Fernandes (Birthday)
Thursday, 19 th September Op. Mem. of St. Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop, or of St. Januarius, Bishop, Martyr	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 11.30 am Requiem Mass 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Eric Williams Dermot & Josephine McMahon
Friday, 20 th September Mem. of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Comps.	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Brian McCann Joshi Family (Thanksgiving)
Saturday, 21 st September Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist	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)	Private Intention Stacy Stretch The People of the Parish Alarico Do Rego

Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.

(Confessions at Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Agnes	Sandra and Mabel	This Weekend	Fallon	Nalini
Henry	Rachel and Anne-Marie	Next Weekend	Henry	Sandra

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today.

Today is *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday (Home Mission Sunday). The theme this year is 'Growing as missionary disciples'. *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday gives us the opportunity to reflect on the great mandate we have been given by the Risen Lord to evangelise the whole world. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations," as we hear in Matthew 28:19. There will be a second collection at Masses this weekend to support the work of the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate. Please hold this important work in your prayers.

*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: Josie Griffiths, Keelin Trahearne, Claudino Serra Vaz, Claire French, Aveen Kavanagh, Doreen Cox, Betty Duff, Beatrice Upham, Thomas Gaughan, Jean Carpenter, Nicky Clarke, Cheryl Jones, Mary Cross, Sheila Cuddy, and Inna.

Please pray for Fr. Peter Blundell, Fr. Gerry O'Collins, Rose Thomas, John Kenny and Eric Williams who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop George Patrick Dwyer, Canons Peter McKenna and David Mellor, Frs. Richard Dinnis, Patrick Meagher, William Alfred Oddie, Alan Leslie Holtham, Peter Lees, John David Steward and John Roddy, and also Danny Lyons, Archie McKenzie Allen, Brian Peter Harper, Andrew McGregor, Thomas Bolger and Mary Manning. May they rest in peace.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for World Peace.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for our Parish Community.**

This is the "Season of Creation" (1st September to 4th October). The Archbishop has sent this message:
"Hope and Act with Creation is the theme for this year, and I hope you'll be able to pray that we and others will value all that we have in creation as a way of praising God and also caring for those who are most in need."

The children at Our Lady's School have challenged you to match them in making a pledge to do something – some act – that will help to make our world a better place. You can write your pledge on a leaf and hang it on the tree at the altar rails.

Adoremus in my parish. The 2024 National Eucharistic Congress took place at St Mary's College, Oscott on Saturday, 14th September, to coincide with the 53rd International Eucharistic Congress in Quito, Ecuador. Today, Sunday 15th September, the Bishops of England and Wales invite all parishes across our countries to have a period of Adoration to unite us in focusing on the Eucharist in anticipation of the Jubilee Year with renewed and deepened devotion. This can be a Holy Hour or a period of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament. **Therefore, after the 11.00 am Mass I shall put out the Blessed Sacrament in the Chapel for 15 minutes to allow us all to pray quietly, ending with simple Benediction.**

Next Sunday is a Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. We shall give thanks to God for the food we receive. If you have any produce from your garden or allotment – fruit and/or veg – that we could put before the altar on that day as a focus for our thanksgiving to God then please bring them along. After Mass you can either re-claim them or they can be passed on to the Foodbank to help those in need.

A new Lectionary with a different translation of the Bible readings will come into use in England and Wales on the First Sunday of Advent, 1st December. If you are a reader in church, or if you would like to be, there will be an evening of prayer and preparation next Friday, 20th September, starting with the Holy Hour at 6.00 pm and Mass. After Mass we shall meet in the hall.

Parish Outing. Next Saturday, 21st September, we shall visit the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. The Arboretum is the UK's year-round centre of Remembrance and home to over 400 symbolic memorials. All the seats on the minibus have now been filled. If you have signed up, please be ready for a 9.30 am pick-up from Sacred Heart and 10.00 am from Our Lady's. Return approx. 6.00 pm. Cost: £20.00.

The Salesian Sisters arrived 100 years ago in Cowley, Oxford. There will be a Mass of "Thanksgiving" for their Centenary, on Saturday, 19th October, at 12.00 o'clock to which you are all invited. Other information will follow.

Pilgrimage for the Planet, today, Sunday 15th September. Set off from Blackfriars, St. Giles, after the 9.30 am Mass (approx. 11.30 am). Prayers will be said at each stop along the way. Ends at 2.00 pm at St Frideswide Church, Botley Road. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a picnic lunch. This event is organised by the *Laudato Si'* Circle which meets at Blackfriars, Oxford.

Rosary + Bible On-Line Prayer. The next meeting is on Sunday, 15th September, 6.00 pm. Anyone interested please contact Eva on evasmithson1112@gmail.com

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.

Tailpiece: A Letter to God from a child:

Dear God,

*It rained for our whole vacation and is my father mad! He said some things about You that people are not supposed to say, but I hope You will not hurt him anyway. Your friend -
- (But I am not going to tell you who I am).*

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