



Our Lady Help of Christians

Third Sunday of Lent

23rd March, 2025

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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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, 23 rd March Third Sunday of Lent	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)	Regina Mihailova (Anniversary) Private Intention Sarah McVeigh Winnie Gildea (Birthday) The People of the Parish
Monday, 24 th March	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Fr Graham (Intentions)
Tuesday, 25 th March Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Mick McCarthy
Wednesday, 26 th March	No Public Mass Today	Mary Doyle
Thursday, 27 th March	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart, followed by Stations of the Cross)	Ellen McGarry
Friday, 28 th March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass 7.30 pm Stations of the Cross	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 29 th March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (11.30 am Mass at Blessed Dominic Barberi) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	John Cullen Joaquim Miranda
Sunday, 30 th March Fourth Sunday of Lent	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 John Doherty May Devereux The People of the Parish
Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (and 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
Asha	Rachel and Sandra	This Weekend	Naomi	Doris
Agnes	Mabel and Jane	Next Weekend	Ann	Guisilla

Welcome to Mass at Our Lady's today, especially if you are visiting or new to our parish.

We are a parish with a clear identity and purpose: to be a Catholic community, formed by the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus, for the glory and praise of God the Father and the service of His Kingdom, and also for the mutual building up and support of its members. The core message that we feel called to live is contained in Jesus' words:

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

Gift Aid Envelopes. If you gift aid your weekly offerings in the collection (thank you), please collect your new box of envelopes from the back of church 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 people we know: Pope Francis, Josie Griffiths, Keelin Trahearne, Claudino Serra Vaz, Claire French, Betty Duff, Beatrice Upham, Thomas Gaughan, Jean Carpenter, Nicky Clarke, Terry Jackson, Cheryl Jones, Mary Cross, Sheila Cuddy, Rosa Fernandes, Maggie Durkin, Tony Davies, Inna.

Please pray for Sr. Mary Cecilia Treacy, Maria Salome Coelho Gomes, Paul Dolton, Frederick Reading who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishops Humphrey Bright and David McGough, Mgr. Canon John Joseph Welch, Mgr. Francis Davis, Frs. John Donnelly and John McManus, Deacons John Higgins and Louis Joseph Livesey, and also Regina Mihailova, Coleman (Colm) Keady, Catherine Regan, Josie Bates, John Steele, Sarah McVeigh and Paddy McLoughlin. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Kathleen Murphy RIP.
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Tony Davis (Get Well).
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Winnie Gildea (Birthday).
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Pat Murphy RIP.

Lent 2025 in Our Lady's:

1. **Stations of the Cross.** Each Friday, after Mass.
2. **Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament,** Fridays, 6.00–7.00 pm, with the opportunity for Confession.
3. **Walk With Me** booklets are available, with Lent calendars. They are an aid to prayer and reflection.
4. **Parish Penance Service.** Friday, 4th April, 6.00 pm.
5. **Early morning Mass** on Mondays (7.00 am), followed by breakfast in the parish hall.
6. **We Dare to Hope.** In the parish hall on Monday evenings, at 7.00 pm. We can explore the jubilee theme of Christian Hope. Everyone is welcome.

Holy Year Pilgrimage. This Saturday we shall make a pilgrimage to Blessed Dominic Barberi church in Littlemore, which is our nearest Jubilee church. We shall also visit the College where St. John Henry Newman was received into the Church by Blessed Dominic Barberi.

10.00 am Meet at the front of Our Lady's and walk to Sacred Heart

10.30 am Meet in the car park at Sacred Heart and walk to Blessed Dominic Barberi

11.30 am Mass at Blessed Dominic Barberi

12.30 pm Lunch at Blessed Dominic Barberi parish hall

1.15 pm Talk from Fr. Harry in the hall

2.00 pm Walk to the College for an intro and tour

2.45 pm Return to Blessed Dominic Barberi for Evening Prayer and Benediction at 3.00

3.30 pm Leave to walk back, either to Sacred Heart or direct to Our Lady's

If you would like to come with us, please email Geraldine (olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

Car Park Lighting Appeal. It has become clear that for safety and convenience we need to have better lighting in the car park, especially for the dark winter nights. So the Parish Finance Committee have agreed that this should be our next project for fundraising. We are still gathering ideas and estimates. There will be more information to come, but we can start collecting funds today. If you can contribute (and gift aid your donation if possible) then it would be very welcome.

Young Discerners' Group Event. The Diocesan Vocations Office is hosting an event on Saturday, 5th April, at Oscott seminary in Birmingham where priests are trained. It is for young men in school years 9 - 13 (ages 13 to 17) who wish to explore a Vocation to the Catholic priesthood. There will be a tour of Oscott and an opportunity to ask questions and to speak with seminarians, joining them for Mass and lunch. Booking is essential, so please email Deacon Owen at deacon.owen@vocations.org.uk

Flame 2025 last Saturday saw more than 10,000 young people from every part of England and Wales, including our parish, join chaplains, teachers, priests, bishops, and youth leaders, at the OVO Arena Wembley in a huge explosion of faith and hope. It was a wonderful occasion, with inspirational speakers including adventurer and television presenter Bear Grylls. Next time (in two years) perhaps we can fill a coach to go.

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan 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: There is a monastery in Europe perched high on a cliff. The only way to reach it is to get into a basket and be pulled to the top. One visitor got exceedingly nervous about half-way up as he noticed that the rope by which he was suspended was old and frayed. He asked the monk who was riding with him in the basket how often they changed the rope. The monk thought for a bit and then answered simply, "Whenever it breaks."

May God bless you and all your loved ones.

Fr. Harry



P.S. Don't forget to put your clocks forward an hour next Saturday night as British Summer Time begins!