



Our Lady Help of Christians

Fourth Sunday of Easter ("Good Shepherd Sunday")

11th May, 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

The Presbytery, 59 Hollow Way, Cowley, Oxford, OX4 2ND.

Telephone: 01865 770 910 Email: olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Website: www.olhoccowley.co.uk (a copy of this newsletter can be found on our website)

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>

Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 11 th May Fourth Sunday of Easter World Day of Prayer for Vocations	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 2.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Esperanca Alves Sarmento Private Intention Tommy Ray Nimmo (1 st Birthday) R. K. Joshi (Anniversary) Kacper Gryze The People of the Parish
Monday, 12 th May Op. Memorials of St. Nereus & St. Achilleus, or St. Pancras, Martyrs	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	R. K. Joshi
Tuesday, 13 th May Op. Mem. of Our Lady of Fatima	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Fr. Kieron Anderson (Intentions)
Wednesday, 14 th May Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle	No Public Mass Today	Dermot and Josephine McMahon
Thursday, 15 th May	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Peter RIP
Friday, 16 th May	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 11.00 am Baptism 3.00 pm Requiem Mass 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Gemayra Soares Maia Ann Marie Clark (nee Mulhern) Bridie Barry (Intentions)
Saturday, 17 th May	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Edward Carey Jose Manuel Alves Sarmento
Sunday, 18 th May Fifth Sunday of Easter	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 Cecilia Michael The People of the Parish Nossa Senhora de Penha
Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm. (Also at Sacred Heart on 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
Nora	Rachel and Sandra	This Weekend	Ann	Fletcher and Maria
Zoja	Mabel and Jane	Next Weekend	Shanthi	Sandra

Welcome to Mass at Our Lady's today, especially if you are 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)

*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: Josie Griffiths, 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, Sr. Maria Debono, Inna, Pat Walsh, Doreen Teagle, Dolores Steele.

Please pray for Pope Francis, Srs. Mary Louise Ballard and Teresa Frost FMA, Fr. Ron Cosslett, Ann Marie Clark, Keelin Trahearn, Denis O'Connor, Saulius Alminauskas, Mary Teresa Heavy, Maria Teotonia Fatima de Sa and Michael O'Donoghue who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canon Francis Woodward, Frs. Cathal Cassidy and Denis Hickling, Sr. Georgina McPake FMA, and also Ivor Bridgewater, Geijo Masih, Mary O'Hara, Monica Pope, Margaret Boyle, Jerzy Dybalski, Michael McLoughlin, John McAndrew, Tom Thompson. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Pope Leo XIV.

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Tony Davis.

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Jane.

St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Robert Curtis (Anniversary).

St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for students doing exams at this time.

Habemus Papam: We have a Pope!



Archbishop Bernard has issued the following statement about the election of Pope Leo XIV:

"I welcome the wonderful news of the election of Cardinal Robert Prevost as our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV. As he prepared to give us his first blessing as Pope in St Peter's Square he also gave us a message of joyful encouragement, calling us to be bridge-builders who are the light of Christ in the world.

"It will be a great joy to serve the Church's mission inspired by the guidance of Pope Leo. All the lay faithful, the Religious and clergy of our Archdiocese are praying for our new Holy Father that he may serve the Church for many years and be richly blessed in his apostolate."

Lord of life, love and hope, we thank you for the election of our new Pope. Watch over, protect and bless Pope Leo. We pray that, led by the Holy Spirit, his faithful witness will be a beacon of hope in our fragile and often divided world. May the joy of the Gospel inspire him with compassionate understanding so that, together, we can be peacemakers and life-givers.

May Pope Leo XIV be a good and courageous shepherd, concerned for "the least, the last and the lost" of "every tribe and tongue and people and nation". Guide him to be a leader after your own heart, which is more loving than we can imagine.

We ask you, Lord, to surround our new Pope with people of pastoral wisdom as he adjusts to his new role. Fill him with confidence in the power of prayer. Help us to help him.

Amen.

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.

Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Consecrated Life. The Church invites us not merely to pray for, but actually to provide priests and religious brothers and sisters. Can you imagine if we had no priest, what would happen to the Church? We shouldn't think that it must be a member of someone else's family who will be called to be a priest; we need to be open to the possibility that God's call will come to one of ours, even to ourselves. Let us pray for all priests and religious and those in formation, and ask God to provide wise and caring pastors for his Church. **There will be a second collection at Masses today for the Clergy Training Fund to help pay for the students training to be priests and deacons.**

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Lessons begin this Monday, 12th May, at 3.30 pm in the Don Bosco Centre. If you wish to be confirmed, please get your application in today. Go to the parish website (www.olhoccowley.co.uk) and click on Sacraments.

Missio Red Boxes. If you have a Missio Red Box at home could you bring it to the church for emptying and counting by Sunday, 25th May, please.

Car Park Lighting Appeal. We are still gathering ideas and estimates, but we can start collecting funds. If you can contribute (and gift aid your donation if possible) then it would be very welcome. Thank you.

Tailpiece: A priest was once out visiting in his country parish and after a long trek he eventually arrived at the door of a farmhouse. "It's a long lane to your farm," he complained to the farmer. "Aye, 'tis," was the reply. "But if it were any shorter it wouldn't reach."

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