



Our Lady Help of Christians

Fifth Sunday of Easter

18th May, 2025

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>

Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 18 th May <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	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)	Jose Manuel Alves Sarmiento Private Intention Cecilia Michael The People of the Parish Nossa Senhora de Penha
Monday, 19 th May <i>Op. Mem. of St. Dunstan, Bishop</i>	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Nossa Senhora de Penha
Tuesday, 20 th May <i>Op. Memorial of St. Bernadine of Siena, Priest & Missionary</i> <i>Day of Prayer for the Survivors of Sexual Abuse</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Konrad Mihailov (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 21 st May <i>Op. Mem. of St. Christopher Magallanes & Comps., Martyrs</i>	No Public Mass Today	Deacon John Higgins
Thursday, 22 nd May <i>Op. Memorial of St. Rita of Cascia</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Tom Hiceta
Friday, 23 rd May	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's School 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Teodorico de Souza (Anniversary) Sissie McManus RIP (100 th Birthday)
Saturday, 24 th May <i>Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 12.00 noon Mass at Elmhorne Convent 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Mary and Patrick McGroarty The Salesian Sisters Sissie McManus (Birthday)
Sunday, 25 th May <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>	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)	Private Intention Jacinta Soares Maria Auxiliadora do Rego Soriano Osose Otiobhi Fernanda, Fernando, Luciano, Fransisca, Amelia, and Manuel
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
Zoja	Mabel and Jane	This Weekend	Shanthi	Sandra
Asha	Anne-Marie and Anne	Next Weekend	Henry	Michelle

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity Number: 234216

To see the Diocesan Privacy Notice go to <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

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 Srs. Mary Louise Ballard and Teresa Frost FMA, Ann Marie Clark, Keelin Trahearn, Denis O'Connor, Mary Teresa Heavy, Maria Teotonia Fatima de Sa and Michael O'Donoghue who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgrs. Wilfrid Moore and John Humphreys, Canon Wilfrid Smith, Frs. Thomas Canning, Joseph Griffin, Ernest Cook, William Lyons, Anthony Davies, George Henry Boulton and Thomas Foynes, and also Dorothy Aveyard, Peter Cox, Patrick Joseph Hannon, Konrad Mihailov, Jane Hannah Boyce, Dircia Da Conceicao Pedro, Benjamin Curtis, Sarah Curtis, Rozan Pieris, the Moloney Family and Joseph Cleary. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Jerzy Dybalski (10th Anniversary).

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Fr. Seamus.

St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Fr. Desmond McMahon (unwell).

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.

Feast of Our Lady Help of Christians. This Saturday, 24th May, is our patronal feast day – so Happy Feast Day, everyone! There will be Mass in Our Lady's School at 9.15 on Friday morning, and there will also be Mass in Elmthorpe Convent at 12.00 noon on Saturday. All are welcome to both celebrations.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The First Holy Communion Mass at Our Lady's will be on Saturday, 21st June, at 11.00 am. The Confirmation Mass will be on Saturday, 28th June, at 10.00 am. Please pray for all the candidates and their families.

Day for Life, 15th June. A message from the Bishops' Conference: "Every year the Church in England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland marks the Day for Life, as a reminder of the need to respect and protect the inherent value and dignity of each life. This year it will be celebrated on 15th June, Trinity Sunday. Ahead of the Day for Life, we invite the faithful in all three conferences to join in prayer through the Novena for Life. This will run up to the Feast of the Visitation, between the 23rd and the 31st of May. Prayers for each day can be found on the Day for Life page of the [Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales' website](#). On the website you can also find a special message from the bishops and more prayers and resources.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord will be on Thursday, 29th May. This is a Holyday of Obligation.

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes starts this Saturday. Please remember them all in your prayers.

Missio Red Boxes. If you have a Missio Red Box could you bring it to the church by next Sunday, 25th May, please.

Young People. Rather like the early Christians in Jerusalem, a group of young people meet on Sunday mornings after Mass in the hall and their number keeps growing. If you join them you will be welcomed.

Car Park Lighting Appeal. We are collecting for new lighting. If you can contribute (and gift aid your donation if possible) then it would be very welcome. Thank you.

Inaugural Mass: This morning, Sunday 18th May, at 9.00 am BST, Pope Leo XIV will celebrate the beginning of his Petrine ministry in St Peter's Square. His coat of arms shows the Papal Crown and the crossed keys of St. Peter. On the left field the blue background recalls the heights of the heavens and the lily refers to Our Lady. In the other field, white in colour, there is the emblem of the Augustinian Order, a flaming heart pieced by an arrow. His motto, "*In Illo uno unum*" means "In the one Christ we are one".



Tailpiece: A priest who preached about the text 'It is good for me to be afflicted' (Psalm 11, v.71) explained in his sermon that although we may like the good life and usually thrive in it, there are times when a bit of adversity is good for us, and we may actually grow better as Christians. He continued, "Whereas we plant roses where they will be exposed to sunshine, if we want fuchsias to do well we plant them in the shade". After the service a lady thanked him profusely. His heart glowed until she added, "Now I know what is wrong with my fuchsias."

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