



# Our Lady Help of Christians

## Solemnity of Pentecost

8<sup>th</sup> June, 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](mailto:sg.olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

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Website: [www.olhoccowley.co.uk](http://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 and has sent us the Holy Spirit.**

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> June<br><b>Solemnity of Pentecost</b><br><br>(Eastertide ends this evening) | <b>5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass</b><br>7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br>9.00 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass<br>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)<br><b>11.00 am Mass</b><br>(1.00 pm Baptism at Sacred Heart)<br>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) | Tommy Gildea (Birthday)<br><br>Private Intention<br>Cecilia Michael<br>Josie O'Connor (Anniversary)<br>Josie Salter-Griffiths<br>Reuben Alexander Guimaraes |
| Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> June<br>Op. Mems. of St. Columba, Abbot<br>or St. Ephrem, Deacon            | <b>7.00 am Mass</b><br>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer                                                                                                                                                                                        | Private Intention                                                                                                                                           |
| Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                      | <b>7.00 am Mass</b><br>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer                                                                                                                                                                                        | Lisa & Ian Birch (30 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)                                                                                                     |
| Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June<br><b>Mem. of St. Barnabas, Apostle</b>                            | <b>No Public Mass Today</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Dermot and Josephine McMahon<br>and the People of the Parish                                                                                                |
| Thursday, 12 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                     | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br><b>11.00 am Requiem Mass</b><br>(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)                                                                                                                                             | Sr. Teresa Frost FMA<br>Bill Carrington                                                                                                                     |
| Friday, 13 <sup>th</sup> June<br><b>Mem. of St. Anthony of Padua</b>                                | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br><b>6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction</b><br><b>7.00 pm Mass</b>                                                                                                                                           | Paul Agapito Gama                                                                                                                                           |
| Saturday, 14 <sup>th</sup> June                                                                     | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br>(11.00 am First Holy Communion Mass at Sacred Heart)<br><b>1.30 pm Marriage Service, ...</b><br><b>... and Baptism</b><br><b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday</b>                                             | The First Holy Communicants<br><br>Natalia Stankiewicz & Nuno Ferrao<br>Julia Ferrao<br>Pat Murphy (8 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)                            |
| Sunday, 15 <sup>th</sup> June<br><b>Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity</b><br><br>Day for Life      | 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br>9.00 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass<br>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)<br><b>11.00 am Mass</b><br>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)                                                                            | Private Intention<br>Magdalena Hiceta<br>Nancy Lyons (Anniversary)<br>The People of the Parish                                                              |
| Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.<br>(Also at Sacred Heart on Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.)         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                             |

| Saturday 5.30 pm<br>Eucharistic Ministers | Sunday 11.00 am<br>Eucharistic Ministers |                     | Saturday 5.30 pm<br>Readers | Sunday 11.00 am<br>Readers |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Henry                                     | Mabel and Jane                           | <b>This Weekend</b> | Naomi                       | Doris                      |
| Josie                                     | Anne-Marie and Anne                      | <b>Next Weekend</b> | Naomi                       | Guisilla                   |

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

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>

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.

**Please pray for Srs. Mary Louise Ballard and Teresa Frost FMA, Michael O'Donoghue, Yvonne Alice Brennan, Dolores Steele, Reuben Alexander Guimaraes and Rosie Hart** who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop James Dey, Mgr. Bernard Robinson, Frs. John Arthur McIver, John Lane, Timothy Cronin, William Quinn, Gerard McArdle, Cyril Adams, Joseph Lanny, and Dcn Peter Phelan, Srs. Agnes Collett and Brigid Cahill FMA, and also Charles McHugh, Orlando Abrunho and Patrick Donaghy. May they rest in peace.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Jeane Simmonds (Anniversary).**

**The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Tommy Gildea (Birthday).**

**Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Mara Kalnins (Birthday).**

**St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Pupils at Greyfriars School who are taking examinations.**

*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.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.*

**Today is Pentecost Sunday.** At the 11.00 am Mass today we shall celebrate that our parish is an image of the whole Church: many peoples and languages brought into one by the Holy Spirit. We shall have Bidding Prayers in different languages, and after Mass we shall have a "Bring and Share" lunch when we can join and have foods from all parts of the world. Please stay and celebrate.

**The Easter Season, which began on Easter Sunday, ends this evening. It has been a wonderful time in the life of our parish. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make it so special.**

Tomorrow we return to Ordinary Time and the cycle of weekday readings resumes at the 10<sup>th</sup> Week in Cycle 1. Remember, if you have not yet made your Easter Duties you have only until next Sunday to do so.

**Urgent:** Please see the enclosed letter from Archbishop John Sherrington ahead of the debates and third reading vote on the *Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill* that are likely to be on 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June. Your Voice Matters. Your MP needs to hear from you.

**Day for Life, Trinity Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> June.** Every year, the Church in England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, jointly marks the Day for Life, as a reminder of the need to respect and protect the inherent value and dignity of each life. We will also hold a second collection for the Day for Life Fund.

**First Holy Communion.** The First Holy Communion Mass at Our Lady's will be on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> June, at 11.00 am. There will also be a First Holy Communion Mass at Sacred Heart this Saturday at 11.00 am for the children of that parish. Please pray for the children and their families.

**Cake Sale.** To raise funds for our parish, the Salesian Coordinators will hold a cake sale in the hall after Masses this weekend. Please support it if you can. Thank you.

**The Oxford Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order (OFS)** will be holding an Open Quiet Day of Recollection on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> June at the Mornese Centre, Elmthorpe Convent. There will be Mass, talks, devotions and time for prayer. All welcome. 9.30 am - 4.00 pm. Bring a packed lunch; refreshments available. Offerings gratefully received.

**Pentecost On-Line Prayer Meeting,** today, 7.15 pm. There will be the Novena to the Holy Spirit to pray for the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit. All welcome. To register, contact Eva on [evasmithson1112@gmail.com](mailto:evasmithson1112@gmail.com).

**The Friends of The College** invite you to a Garden Party at Newman's College, Littlemore, this Saturday, 3.00-5.00. All proceeds will go towards Newman's College.

**Altar Servers' Day.** On 21<sup>st</sup> June, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Brook Lane, Thame, OX9 2AB. Gather from 9.30 am-3.00 pm for a day of fun, prayer, and serving. For more, ask Paddie [patrick.denton@kenelmouthtrust.org.uk](mailto:patrick.denton@kenelmouthtrust.org.uk)

**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.

**Tailpiece:** A man went to see his Parish Priest. "Father, something terrible is happening. My wife is poisoning me." The priest, very surprised, answered, "I'm sure you must be mistaken." The man insisted, "No, I'm certain she's poisoning me. What should I do?" The priest then said, "Well, let me have a quiet word with her. I'll see what I can find out and I'll let you know." A day later the priest called the man and said, "Well, I spoke to your wife. I spoke to her on the phone for over three hours. Do you want my advice?" The man replied, "Yes, please, Father." The priest said earnestly, "Take the poison!"

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