Our Lady Help of Christians

Solemnity of Saint Peter and Saint Paul

29th 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
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

Sunday, 29th June ***Solemnity of St. Peter and St. Paul, Apostles***	**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)*	*Epifania Auxiliadora Da Costa Soares* *Private Intention* *Frank Benson Kamugisha* *Luis Genoveva Aleixo Maria da Silva (Anniv.) and Maria da Costa Freitas* *Joao Bosco Maria Do Rego Soriano*
Monday, 30th June *Optional Memorial of the First Martyrs of Rome*	**7.00 am Mass** *8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer*	*Souls in Purgatory*
Tuesday, 1st July *Op. Memorial of St. Oliver Plunkett*	*8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer* **9.15 am Mass**	*Special Intention*
Wednesday, 2nd July	*(12.00 noon Requiem Mass at Corpus Christi)*	*Fr. John Baggley*
Thursday, 3rd July ***Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle***	*(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)*	*Rosa Fernandes (Birthday)*
Friday, 4th July *Optional Memorial of St. Elizabeth of Portugal*	*8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer* **6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction** **7.00 pm Mass**	*Noi-Ria E. Silva Guterres*
Saturday, 5th July *Memorial of Bl. George Nichols, Richard Yaxley, Thomas Belson & Humphrey Pritchard, Martyrs*	*8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer* *(10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)* **2.00 pm Baptisms** **5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday**	*Horacio Liu and Filomena Liu* *Jude and Daisy McGlynn* *Dolores Steele*
Sunday, 6th July ***Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time***	*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* *Agata Imaculada Alves de Souza* *The People of the Parish* *Helen Cullen (Get Well)*
Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm. *(Also at Sacred Heart on Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm, and 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**
Vitalija	Mabel and Jane	**This Weekend**	Shanthi	Nalini
Nora	Anne-Marie and Anne	**Next Weekend**	Maureen	Andreas

Welcome to Mass at Our Lady's today.

Today we are celebrating the Solemnity of Saint Peter and Saint Paul – two of the great saints of the Church, who were very different characters, but who were united in their love and faith, and who both gave witness to Jesus by the shedding of their blood in Rome.

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 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

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, Mary Barry.

Please pray for Fr. John Baggley, Yvonne Alice Brennen and Rosie Hart who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Patrick Corrigan, Canon Francis Dudley, Frs. John Darley, William O'Malley and Michael Cullinan, and also Ron Jones and Kathleen Candlish. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for a Special Intention.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Ethna.

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.

Fr. John Baggley's Requiem will be at Corpus Christi, Headington, on Wednesday, 2nd July at 12.00 noon. The Archbishop will preside. Fr. John's body will be received into Corpus Christi church on Tuesday, 1st July at 7.00 pm with Mass. Fr. John was Parish Priest at Sacred Heart in Blackbird Leys from 1998-2000 and then at Corpus Christi from 2000-2015.

Peter's Pence. There will be a Second Collection at Masses today for Peter's Pence, our national gift as Catholics to the Pope to assist his apostolic work.

Cake Sale. Next weekend the Salesian Cooperators will be selling cakes in the hall after Mass to raise funds for the missionary work of the Salesian Sisters.

Confirmation. Congratulations to all the members of our parish who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. May God bless them and their families.

Parish Accounts. There has been so much going on that there has not been time for this earlier, but members of the Parish Finance Committee will give a short presentation of the annual parish accounts for 2024 at the end of the Masses next weekend.

Mass for Red Box Missionaries of Hope. You are invited to a special mission Mass in the Jubilee Year of Hope at St. Teresa's Church, Warwick Road, Beaconsfield, HP9 2PL, on Saturday, 12th July. Bishop David Oakley will celebrate, and there will be refreshments after Mass.

Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is seeking a volunteer to help with Sea Sunday (12/13 July this year) in this parish. We shall have a second collection to support the work of Stella Maris. The volunteer will read out the appeal (which Stella Maris will provide) at the end of Masses. If you can do this, please contact roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org or 07887 893 763.

Car Park Lighting Appeal. We are collecting for new lighting. Donations would be very welcome. So far we have received £1,215.00 Thank you.

First Friday. This Friday is the First Friday of the month. Novena Prayers to the Sacred Heart will be said at Mass.

Fundraising events. The fundraising Committee have put together an exciting diary of events for the next half of the year. These include a Summer Fete, a Barn Dance, a chance for young people to meet Santa, a Christmas Market and a Carol Concert. These are fundraising events and also fun, social events. We need more people to be involved, to plan and help, please. More details will follow, but the first of these events will be a simple one: …..
Tea and Cake after the 11.00 am Mass on Sunday, 13th July. Get a cuppa and cake for £5 (children £2), and buy a raffle ticket for the chance to win a prize. If you have any prizes to donate, please bring them in.

WeBelieve is a celebration of Catholic life, to be held in the grounds of Oscott College, Sutton Coldfield, from Friday 25th to Monday 28th July. This event is for everyone and you can book as a family, group of friends or individuals. Visit the diocesan website for more details and to book tickets. www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Kenelm Youth Trust Youth Jubilee Day: All younger parishioners (ages 11 – 25) are invited to the Jubilee Day for Young People this Saturday, 5th July, at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham. The day will have an inspirational talk from comedian and priest Fr. Frankie Mulgrew, moments of hope listening to the voices of young people, workshops and activities exploring what it means to be Pilgrims of Hope. Young adults (16+) will also be joined by Caritas for a Tour of Hope in the city of Birmingham. There will be a tuck shop, games and social time. Bishop Timothy will celebrate Mass in the Cathedral at 4.30 pm. Come along and share in this celebration of hope. Register your interest at https://www.tfaforms.com/5161353

Tailpiece: A mother took her small boy to the beach, but no sooner had they arrived than a big wave came and swept the poor lad away. In great distress the mother lifted her eyes and voice to heaven and prayed, "Dear Lord, I beg you to help. My boy is so young. I'll do anything; please restore him to me safely." Just as she finished her prayer another big wave swept into the bay and landed the boy, none the worse for his adventure, right into her arms. For a long time she could do nothing but hold him tight, hugging and kissing him. Then with tears in her eyes, she raised her face again to heaven and cried out, "He had a hat …"

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