



Our Lady Help of Christians

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th July, 2025

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

Parish Secretary (also Giving and Gift Aid): Geraldine Griffin

Safeguarding Officer: Nav Nalini Joshi, sg.olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

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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, 20 th July Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	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)	Mary Jo Davey Private Intention Cecilia Michael Danny Lyons (Anniversary) Luizinha Dolores Fernandes (2 nd Anniversary)
Monday, 21 st July Optional Memorial of St. Lawrence of Brindisi	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.30 am Mass at St. John Fisher School)	The People of the Parish The Leavers
Tuesday, 22 nd July Feast of St. Mary Magdalene	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Camilo and Maria (Wedding Anniv.)
Wednesday, 23 rd July Feast of St. Bridget, Religious, Patron of Europe	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish (JA)
Thursday, 24 th July Optional Memorial of St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Dai-Watu Luis Silva Amaral (B'day)
Friday, 25 th July Feast of St. James, Apostle	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 26 th July Memorial of St. Joachim & St. Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) (12.00 noon Baptisms at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Edward Carey Christopher-Jack and Bridiema Eve Kelly (Anniversary)
Sunday, 27 th July Seventeenth 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 Nenna Obasi (Exams) The People of the Parish Antonio Esprito Santos
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
Asha	Michelle and Mabel	This Weekend	Michelle	Fletcher and Maria
Agnes	Jane and Anne-Marie	Next Weekend	Naomi	Michelle

Welcome to Mass at Our Lady's today.

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 people we know: Kathleen Mullagh, Alejandro Estuita, Josie Griffiths, Claire French, Beatrice Upham, Jean Carpenter, Nicky Clarke, Terry Jackson, Mary Cross, Sheila Cuddy, Rosa Fernandes, Maggie Durkin, Tony Davis, Sr. Maria Debono, Inna, Pat Walsh, Doreen Teagle, Mary Barry.

Please pray for Gabriel Ignatius Drumm, Hugh Allan and Betty Duff who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Peter Joseph Ryall, Canon Laurence Kelly, Frs. Albert Leo Kelly, Anthony Owen, Euan Henderson and Joseph Tynan, Deacon Frank Lockett, and also Danny Lyons, Margaret McHugh, Noreen Griffin, Valerie (Val) Griffiths, Maureen Ann McEneaney, Sheila Anne Kelly, Joseph Costa, George Hiran, Padma Don, Patrick Craig, Richard Bolton and Jenny Doherty. May they rest in peace.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for the school holidays.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for peace in the world.**

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 Nav Nalini Joshi 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.

New Parish Safeguarding Representative. I am delighted to announce that Nav Nalini Joshi has been appointed as the new volunteer Parish Safeguarding Representative for Our Lady Help of Christians Parish. A big thank you to Nalini for offering to take on this role, and also to Liz Moran who has done it so well for so long. Nalini, you have big shoes to fill! May God bless you both.

Young Adult Group (Ages 18-35+). The Young Adult Group continues to meet every Sunday after the 11.00 am Mass for games and weekly reflection. All are welcome.

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. Pitch your tent and embrace the festival experience and catch the early-risers' and after-hours' content by camping on the general or family campsites. With an accessible site, a family-friendly timetable, and dedicated spaces like the Quiet Room and Mothers' Room, there's a space for you! Visit the diocesan website for more details and to book tickets. www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Car Park Lighting Appeal. We are collecting for new lighting. Donations would be very welcome. So far we have received £1,305.00. Thank you.

Called and Gifted – a journey of discovering your spiritual gifts – is coming to Corpus Christi, Headington, starting on Saturday, 13th September 2025. It is a process which helps you discern more clearly the particular spiritual gifts (known as *charisms*) the Holy Spirit has given you. Contact John Kirwan, johnkirwan1a@gmail.com or 07985098544 for more information and/or to register.

Summer holidays. If you are planning to get away somewhere in the next couple of months you will want to know where the nearest Catholic Church is and what time the Masses are. These days you can always go on line and find out, but if you need a bit of help, please ask me.

Prayers for Vocations. Each Deanery in the Diocese is asked to dedicate one month in the year to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious Life. This month of July is our Month. Before Mass on Friday evenings we shall have a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament to pray for Vocations. Please join us if you can.

First Aiders. In the (hopefully unlikely) event of someone becoming ill during one of the services in church, it would be useful to know if there are members of the congregation whom we could call upon to give initial assistance. Please let me know if you are able and willing to be on a list and which Mass you usually attend.

Next Sunday is the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, with the theme: *"Blessed are those who have not lost hope"*. These words, taken from the Book of Sirach, express the blessedness of the elderly and indicate hope placed in the Lord as the way to a Christian and reconciled old age.

In the Jubilee year, the Day, established by Pope Francis in 2021, is intended to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly can become a sign of hope in every family and church community.

The Don Bosco Centre. Over time, a collection of plates/dishes/cake holders have gathered in the kitchen. Would owners collect them from the kitchen if you want them, please. If they are not collected we shall recycle or dispose of them.

Tailpiece: As a Parish Priest you know you are having a bad day when ...

- The parish council votes to send you on an extended sabbatical to Rome ... or Jerusalem ... or anywhere.
- You preach the same homily two Sundays running, and nobody notices.
- The parish treasurer sends you a postcard ... from the Bahamas.
- You find that the "good deal" you had negotiated for new carpeting throughout the presbytery is actually for secondhand carpet in a delightful shade of chartreuse.

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