



Our Lady Help of Christians

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

27th 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

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

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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>

<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, 27th July</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly</i></p>	<p>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)</p>	<p>Eve Kelly (Anniversary)</p> <p>Private Intention Nenna Obasi (Exams) The People of the Parish Antonio Esprito Santos</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday, 28th July</p>	<p>7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</p>	<p>Noe Sarmento and Precilla Vaz (1st Wedding Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday, 29th July</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Memorial of Ss. Martha, Mary and Lazarus</i></p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass</p>	<p>Patrick Bailey (Anniversary)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday, 30th July</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Optional Memorial of St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop</i></p>	<p>No Public Mass Today</p>	<p>Benefactors of the Johnson Association</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday, 31st July</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola</i></p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 12.00 noon First Holy Communion Mass (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</p>	<p>Thomas Joe Stephen Elizabeth Jane (Betty) Duff</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Friday, 1st August</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Memorial of St. Alphonsus Mary de Ligouri</i></p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass</p>	<p>Robin MacDonald (Intentions)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Saturday, 2nd August</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Optional Memorials of St. Eusebius of Vercelli, Bishop, or St. Peter Julian Eymard, Priest</i></p>	<p>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 12.00 noon Baptism 2.00 pm Nuptial Mass 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday</p>	<p>In Thanksgiving (Blossom's Birthday) Leander Fatima Pereira Freitas Charlie McDonagh & Mary Maughan The People of the Parish</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday, 3rd August</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</p>	<p>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)</p>	<p>Private Intention Brian Nolan Hugh Allan Teresa Dorego Soriano, Manuel Lobato Soriano, Tiborcio Soriano</p>

Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.

(Also at Sacred Heart on Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm, and Saturday, 10.30 – 11.00 am.)

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Agnes	Jane and Anne-Marie	This Weekend	Naomi	Michelle
Henry	Anne and Rachel	Next Weekend	Shanthi	Sandra

Welcome to Mass at Our Lady's today, especially if you are visiting during the holidays.

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 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 Fr. Tony Rohan, Deacons Brian Cox and Adrian Davies, Gabriel Ignatius Drumm, Hugh Allan and Betty Duff who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frs. Denis O'Shea, Basil Wrighton and Thomas Michael Duffy, Dcn. Ernie Titchmarsh, and also Maria Mirto, Abie Doherty, Douglas Rothery, Patrick Bailey and Bernadette Nolan. May they rest in peace.

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.

As the schools finish for the summer, I wish everyone happy holidays and hope that you can get away for some rest and recreation. Hopefully, we have not seen the last of the good weather and families will be able to enjoy the summer break. Thanks to all those who make our schools such a success. To those moving on to new schools, colleges, universities and employment I wish every blessing.

Children's Liturgy. The service for children on Sunday mornings during the 11.00 am Mass will be having a break during the summer holidays and will restart at the end of August. A big "Thank You" to Mary Ann and Nneke who have been running the Sunday sessions. I wish to thank Nneke especially and to wish her every blessing as she moves from our parish. That does leave a vacancy. If you would like to help on Sunday mornings after the holidays, please contact Mary Ann on 07999460769 or email on charmane0820@gmail.com. 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.

First Friday. This Friday is the First Friday of the month. The Novena Prayers to the Sacred Heart will be said during the Holy Hour before Mass.

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.

This 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 community.

Please pray for Thomas Joe Stephen who will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time this Thursday, and also for Charlie McDonagh and Mary Maughan who are getting married here on Saturday.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith: I am planning a series of meetings, starting in the Autumn, for anyone who wants to find out more about our Faith, either with a view to becoming a Catholic or returning to the practice of the Faith. You can play a vital part in this by telling people about it. If you know someone who has drifted away but who might return if invited, please pass on an invitation.

Walsingham Pilgrimage for the Sanctity of Life. Saturday, 2nd August. More information and travel details via <https://prolifepilgrimage.org/>

Altar Servers: Assisting at Mass in an important service to God and his Church which adds to the outward dignity of our worship at Mass. It would be great to have more children (or adults) involved in altar serving, so parents, please encourage your children in this. A child can start serving after they have made their First Holy Communion. In the autumn there will be some training sessions.

Commemorative Candles. You can still purchase a Candle (£5) that will burn in the sanctuary for a week of your choice during the year, or if you wish you can have one by the Sacred Heart, Our Lady, St. John Bosco or St. Joseph. It can be to remember a loved one, as a present, or for any reason you choose.

Tailpiece: A Peer of the Realm, whose own estimate of his importance tended to exceed that of others, once went to visit Archbishop Temple. The Archbishop was sitting at a desk writing and, without looking up, invited his guest to take a chair. "I don't think you realise whom you are addressing," the Peer said, loftily. Temple stopped writing and looked up. "Very well," he said. "Take two chairs."

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