



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

31st August, 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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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, 31 st August Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.45 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Mick Mullagh Private Intention Jim McCann Fr. Charlie Timoney The People of the Parish
Monday, 1 st September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass (11.45 am Mass at Greyfriars School)	Antonio De Souza (Birthday) Special Intention
Tuesday, 2 nd September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Anthony Newton Rodrigues (B'day)
Wednesday, 3 rd September Feast of St. Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church	No Public Mass Today	Michael Iago (Birthday)
Thursday, 4 th September <i>Op. Mem. of St. Cuthbert, Bishop</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Louise Murphy (Get Well)
Friday, 5 th September First Friday of the Month	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	Special Intention Private Intention
Saturday, 6 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Aires Maria Da Silva, Rosa Maria De Silva, Luciano Viviana Soriano Da Silva Maria Socorro Agostimho, Carlos Agostimho, Julia Santos, Alfredo Santos and Family
Sunday, 7 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.45 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 Chidinma Vivian Ihuoma (Intentions) Julia Faria Dos Santos Chimbusomma Zaneta Ndidi The People of the Parish

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
Nora	Rachel and Michelle	Ann	Daniella and Ellie
Zoja	Sandra and Mabel	Henry	Nalini

*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.*

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

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)

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 and Mary Barry.

Please pray for Fr. Paul Johnson, Barbara Joyce Holland and Mary Harrigan who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. James Dunlop Crichton, Canons Joseph Nightingale and Arthur Diamond, Frs. Thomas O'Doherty, James J Holland, Paul Devaney and Edwin Cowlny, Dcn. Francis Andrews, Sr. Iolande Marsella FMA, and also John Joseph Patrick O'Connor, Trevor Dean, James Moore and Pamela Kathleen Campbell. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Kirsty Birch (Intentions).

The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Kiana Grace Godinho.

St. Don Bosco's Candle is burning this week for blessings in the new school year.

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.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith: There will be a series of meetings here on Friday afternoons, at 4.30, starting on 13th September, for anyone who wants to find out more about our Faith. Copies of the programme of meetings are available at the back of church. If you know someone who may be interested, please let them know.

Advance Notice. There will be a special Mass for the sick (provisional date: Saturday, 11th October, in Sacred Heart Church, Blackbird Leys, at 11.00 am). It will include the Sacrament of the Sick. We need musicians and servers, and we shall also need to be able to offer lifts and refreshments, so if you would like to help, please let me know.

Banns of Marriage. Nosa Osawaru and Debbie Sota are getting married in Nigeria in January. If anyone knows of any just reason why this may not happen, please see me.

'40 Days for Life' (24th September-2nd November) is an international campaign to end abortion and to offer an alternative to women seeking it. You are invited to attend the opening event, at the Cafe Neri of the Oxford Oratory, on the 20th September at 7.30 pm, featuring the personal testimony of Amrita and the input of Robert Calquhoun.

The Season of Creation starts this week. Pope Francis established 1st September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, encouraging the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home. In the Season of Creation (1st September to 4th October) we recognise our role in Creation. This year's theme is "Peace with Justice".

Ecumenical Prayer Service for the Earth. Wednesday, 17th September, 6.00 pm at Blackfriars Priory Church, St. Giles, Oxford. And **Pilgrimage for the Planet,** Sunday, 28th September. Starts 11.15 am from Blackfriars Priory, and ends at 2.00 pm at St. Frideswide Church, Botley Road. Bring a picnic lunch.

Facebook and Instagram. We have a new Facebook account and Instagram account. The name of each account is "Our Lady's church, Oxford" (Don't go to the one that mentions Cowley – it hasn't been updated since 2017!). If you scan the QR code it will take you to the Instagram account, which is also linked to Facebook.



@OURLADYSCHURCH_OXFORD

My Day By Day booklets for September are on sale at the back of church (£1, please leave the money in the basket). They have daily Mass readings for the month.

Congratulations and blessings to Anne-Marie and Severain who celebrated their 20th Wedding Anniversary last week.

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Harvington Hall, led by the Archbishop, will take place next Sunday, 7th September, Confessions 1.45-3.00 pm, Mass 3.00 pm. Tours of the diocesan shrine to the English martyrs. Free parking on site.

Junior Church. Children aged between 5 and 9 years old leave the church at the start of Mass and gather with catechists for prayers. Together they explore the Sunday Gospel according to their own age and understanding, and return to join their families for Mass at the Offertory. We can't re-start until we have more catechists, so if you would like to help, please come and see me.

Tailpiece: A woman died and went up to the Pearly Gates. St. Peter met her and said, "You can only come in here if you know something about love. For instance, can you spell it?" The woman managed this simple task and St. Peter happily allowed her to step inside. Then he said, "Will you do me a favour? I need to take a quick break. You've seen how I do this. Would you mind the gate for me for a moment, please?" She agreed, and while she was there, who should arrive but her husband. "Hello, dear," said she. "It's nice to see you again, but I'm afraid you can only come in here if you can pass a test. Spell ... onomatopoeia."

May God bless you and all those whom you love.

Fr. Harry