



Our Lady Help of Christians

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ,

King of the Universe

23rd November, 2025

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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

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, 23 rd November Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe <i>National Youth Sunday</i>	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday 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)	Helen Towey (Birthday) Private Intention Aida Soares Jeronimo (Anniv.) Ellen Gaughan (Birthday) Michael Cullen
Monday, 24 th November <i>Mem. of St. Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, & Companions, Martyrs</i>	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	The People of the Parish
Tuesday, 25 th November <i>Optional Memorial of St. Catherine of Alexandria</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Mary Clarke (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 26 th November	No Public Mass Today	In Thanksgiving
Thursday, 27 th November	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Mary and Edward Murphy
Friday, 28 th November	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	The Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 29 th November	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Melly Balbag RIP, and Deon Peter (Birthday) Kathleen Murphy (3 rd Anniv.)
Sunday, 30 th November First Sunday of Advent	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 4.30 pm Mass for the Goan Community (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Private Intention Thomas Duff Sheila Jennings (Intentions) Private Intention The People of the Parish
<i>Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm. Also at Sacred Heart: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm and Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am.</i>		

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Henry	Sandra and Michelle	This Weekend	Shanthi	Andreas
Josie	Sr. Giovanna and Mabel	Next Weekend	Henry	Cecilia

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)

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, Josie Griffiths, Claire French, Beatrice Upham, Jean Carpenter, Nicky Clarke, Terry Jackson, Mary Cross, Sheila Cuddy, Rosa Fernandes, Maggie Durkin, Tony Davis, Inna, John Hudgell, Pat Walsh, Doreen Teagle, Mary Barry, Mary Cairns, Lisa Birch, Julio Madeira Cabral Soares and Fatima Jong.

Please pray for Fr. Simon Hall, James Thompson, Keith (Fredek) Reading and all who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canon Augustine Emery, Frs. Michael Connolly and Edward Neary, and also Denis Fitzgibbon, Valerie Mostopher, Francis Piggott, Josephine McMahon, Anne Josephine Mullagh, Clare Curtis, Wendy Burns, Kathleen Boyle, Joan Taylor, Simeon Onyehilan, Mary Murphy, Genosta Purcell and John McWilliams. 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 In Thanksgiving.

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Keith (Fredek) Reading RIP.

St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Clare Curtis and Kathleen Boyle RIP (Anniversary).

The flowers in church are sponsored this week in memory of Robyn RIP.

*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.***

Solemnity of Christ the King. Today is the last Sunday of the Church's year and it brings to a climax the whole of the message of our salvation in Jesus by acknowledging Him as our Lord and King in every aspect of our life. It is especially a Day of Prayer for Young People. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Youth Services.



Missio Red Boxes. If you have a Red Box at home, please bring it in by next Sunday, 30th November, (and not after!) so that it can be emptied and returned to you. Thank you.

Parish Pilgrimage to Rome. Last week a group from this parish came with me, together with Canon Mervyn and a group of parishioners from Corpus Christi, on a pilgrimage to Rome for the Holy Year. There were 48 of us – Pilgrims of Hope. It was a large group, but it all went very well and we received many blessings. We have returned safely to share those blessings with you. Thank you to everyone who prayed for us while we were away and be sure that we prayed for you.

Advent Walk With Me Booklets. Advent begins next Sunday, and to help us to enter into this time of grace there are *Walk With Me* booklets on the church benches. There are also Advent calendars available at the back of church.

My Day By Day Booklets for Advent are also available at the back of the church, price £1. These give us the readings at Mass every day during Advent. Please leave your money in the basket where you find the booklets.

Christmas Market

**Saturday, 29th November, 1.00 – 7.30, and
Sunday, 30th November, 9.00 am – 1.00 pm.**

We shall be holding a Christmas Market NEXT WEEKEND in the Don Bosco Centre on the last weekend of November. It will include a nearly-new stall, a tombola, a Christmas crafts stall, a piety stall and other attractions. We still need a lot of items - bottles (lots of them!) for the tombola stall, and any items you wish to donate for the nearly-new stall, please. Donations can be left in the sacristy. Thank you.

The Salesian Cooperators are holding a Remembrance Service for deceased Cooperators and Salesian Sisters this Thursday, 2.30 pm, in Elmthorpe Convent. All welcome.

November Prayers for the Dead. You can still add names of your deceased family and friends in the basket in front of the altar and they will be remembered at Mass until the end of this month.

Christmas Fundraising Events Calendar for November and December

We still have an exciting array of fundraising events coming up in the approach to Christmas:

Saturday, 29th November:

1.00-7.30 pm. Christmas Market

Sunday, 30th November:

9.00-1.00 pm. Christmas Market

Sunday, 14th December:

3.30-5.30 pm. Disco with Santa (for children 3-12 years old)

Saturday, 20th December:

7.00-8.30 pm. Christmas Concert

Christmas Concert



This is a real treat in the lead-up to Christmas. On the evening of Saturday, 20th December (7.00-8.30 pm) the boys' choir from Worcester College will sing carols and Christmas songs in the church here at Our Lady's. Tickets, £15 per person, available at the back of church after Mass.

Tailpiece: Late one night, a priest was driving too fast along a country road and inevitably he drove his car into a ditch. A farmer happened to be travelling by and he stopped and asked, "Father, are you alright?" The priest, shaken but unhurt, replied, "Yes, I had the Lord riding with me." "Well," said the farmer, "You'd better let Him ride with me, because you're gonna kill Him!"

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