



# Our Lady Help of Christians

## *Second Sunday of Advent*

7<sup>th</sup> December, 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.

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Website: [www.olhoccowley.co.uk](http://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, 7 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Second Sunday of Advent</b>	<b>5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday</b> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.45 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) <b>11.00 am Mass</b> <b>1.00 pm Baptisms</b> (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Sean Og Jennings (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniv.)  Private Intention Joseph McGarry Thomas White (Birthday) John and Michelle Julia McCann
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.15 am Mass in Our Lady's School</b> (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Alberta Daniel The People of the Parish
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> December Optional Memorial of St. John Diego Cuahtlatotzin	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.15 am Mass, followed by the Rosary</b>	Eric Edwards (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> December Optional Memorial of St. Edmund Gennings, Martyr, or of Our Lady of Loreto	<b>No Public Mass Today</b>	Marjorie Chungtuyco (Anniv.)
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> December Optional Memorial of St. Damasus I, Pope	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Eva Smithson (Birthday)
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Guadalupe	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction</b> <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Karen Charles (Get Well)
Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December Memorial of St. Lucy, Martyr	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) <b>3.00 pm Baptism</b> <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday</b>	Julia, Alfredo, Suzie Dos Santos Larosa-Mae Doris White (Anniversary)
Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.45 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) <b>11.00 am Mass</b> (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Private Intention The People of the Parish Marian Boggis (Intentions) Mr. M.E. Connolly (JA)

Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm. Also at Sacred Heart: 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
Maureen	Jane and Anne-Marie	<b>This Weekend</b>	Naomi	Fletcher and Maria
Vitalija	Anne and Rachel	<b>Next Weekend</b>	Ann	Michelle

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

**Please pray for Mgr. Vaughan Morgan, James Thompson, Keith (Fredek) Reading, Kathleen Mullagh, Justin Parker, Becky Finnerty** who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Canon Francis Drinkwater, Frs. Horace Relph, Michael Knight, Anthony Kane, George Rafferty, Thomas McMorro, Jerome O'Flynn, Hugh Molloy, Vincent Lucas, George Gallacher, William Henry Browne, John Ellis and Cyril Barlow, Sr. Eileen McGarry FMA, and also Elizabeth McGavigan, Sean Michael Jennings, Joseph Patrick Cahill, Joan Kelly, Lucy Lynch, Mary Batten and E.F. Brunnius. 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 the homeless.

Our Lady Help of Christians Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan 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](mailto:sg.olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.**



**The Parish Christmas Trees.** As you can see, we have two Christmas trees on the sanctuary area of the church. I invite you to decorate the trees with angels, and for every angel you hang you can also write a prayer for someone who you think needs some help this Christmas.

**Christmas Cards.** Please take one of our parish Christmas cards, for your family, and if you could also act as postman, please take a few extra and drop them off to your neighbours. Thank you.

**Places are limited. Book now.**

**Disco with Santa**

This year Santa will come to dance with children 3 - 12 years old.

**£15**

PROFESSIONAL DJ  
DISCO LIGHTS  
SNOW MACHINE  
LOTS OF FUN GUARANTEED

**14th December**  
From 15.30 - 17.30

**At the Don Bosco centre**  
Next to Our Lady's church OX42ND

For more information please email [Olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:Olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

**Poor Parishes Fund.** There will be a second collection at Masses this weekend to support the Poor Parishes of the Diocese. The Poor Parishes Fund is to help parishes where they have difficulty in paying their day-to-day bills.

**Christmas Concert**

Christmas concert  
At Our Lady's church

20th December 2025 at 7pm

£15

A professional Worcester college, Oxford University boys choir will sing for us

This is a real treat in the lead-up to Christmas. On the evening of Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> 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, on sale at the back of church.

**Christmas Flowers.** There will be a retiring collection after Masses next Sunday to help pay for Christmas flowers for the Church. If you would like to sponsor the flowers any Sunday of the year in memory of someone or for a special occasion please speak to me.

**My Day By Day Booklets for Advent** are available at the back of the church, price £1.

**Cake and Christmas Crafts/Gifts Sale.** After Mass this weekend in the Hall, the Salesian Cooperators will be raising money to support the work of the Salesian Sisters.

**"Missio" Red Boxes.** Thank you to everyone who brought in their box, and for your generosity. Please collect your emptied box from the table at the back of the church.

**Eucharistic Ministers.** There will be a meeting of Eucharistic Ministers for an Advent reflection and practice this Friday, at 4.30 pm in the Don Bosco Centre. It will run into prayer before the Blessed Sacrament at 6.00 pm.

**Tailpiece:** A couple were walking in Moscow and they met a Communist Party official. "Excuse me, Comrade Rudi," said one, "but could you settle an argument. Is this rain that is falling, or is it snow?" The Official screwed up his eyes, looked into the sky, then considered the pavement, and eventually gave his verdict: "It is rain, Comrades!" and he walked on. The couple stood in silence for a moment and then one said, "He could be wrong, you know." "Oh, no," said the other, gently. "You see, (... wait for it ... all together now) Rudolf the Red knows rain, dear".

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