



Our Lady Help of Christians

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

and Holy Week

29th March, 2026

Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest

(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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

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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 Andres Guerrero 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.

<p>Sunday, 29th March Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i></p>	<p>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)</p>	<p>Winnie Gildea (Birthday) Private Intention John Cullen John Kelly (30th Anniversary) Teresa do Rego Soriano and Manuel Lobato Soriano</p>
Monday, 30 th March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Filomena Da Cruz Martins (Anniv.)
Tuesday, 31 st March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Trudy (Birthday)
Wednesday, 1 st April	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 2 nd April Maundy Thursday	7.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am-11.00 am Confessions	
<p>THE EASTER TRIDUUM</p> <p>7.00 pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER <i>Thanksgiving for exams success</i> After Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be taken in procession from the main altar in the church to the Altar of Repose where there will be watching until 10.00 pm. <i>"Can you not watch with me one hour?"</i></p>		
Friday, 3 rd April Good Friday Today is a day of fasting and abstinence.	10.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 3.00 pm SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION This is not a Mass, but a solemn celebration held at the time of Our Lord's death on the Cross. 6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	
Saturday, 4 th April Holy Saturday	10.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.30 am-11.30 am Confessions Today we join Jesus in His "Sabbath Rest" in the tomb, until ... 7.30 pm THE EASTER VIGIL	Mick Mullagh
Sunday, 5 th April Easter Sunday	7.45 am Morning Prayer 9.00 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass	Private Intention Sabas Balbag and Lourdes Balbag The People of the Parish

If you wish to join us from your home go to: <https://www.mcn.live/Camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Nora	Sandra and Michelle	This Weekend	Naomi	Andreas
Agnes, Nora and Sr. Giovanna		Maundy Thursday, 7.00 pm	Ann and Henry	
Zoja and Vitalija		Good Friday, 3.00 pm	Fallon, Nalini, John, Sandra, Ellie	
Mabel, Maureen and Josie		Easter Vigil, 7.30 pm	Andreas, Daniella, Fletcher, Maria, Guisilla	
Asha and Sandra		Easter Sunday, 11.00 am	Doris and Michelle	

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for our celebration of Mass. Today we begin Holy Week.

Holy Week is the greatest week in the Church's year, so please take part as much as you can. *By taking part in the celebrations of the Liturgy we can enter into the events that happened about two thousand years ago. But we enter in, not as bystanders or casual observers but as believers, recognising our own part in what is unfolding, and also recognising the great things that God has done for us.* We can share with Jesus His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, His special celebration of the Passover with His disciples at the Last Supper and then His agony and betrayal in the Garden on Maundy Thursday, all the horrible events of Good Friday, His "Sabbath Rest" on Holy Saturday, and thus we can truly share in His Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

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, 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 and Julio Madeira Cabral Soares.

Please pray for Sheila Jennings, Anne Rhodes, Julia Scully, John Lillis, Gladys ("Bonnie") Trowell who died recently, and all whose anniversaries fall around this time: Archbishop Thomas Leighton Williams, Mgr. Canon Daniel Leonard, Frs. Thomas Cockburn, Matthew Sheridan, John Callaghan, Philip O'Reilly and Lawrence King, Dcn. Raymond Zacaroli, and also Breda Keenan, Patricia Conway, Elizabeth Conry, Collette McNarry, Mary Teresa Heavey, Mick Mullagh, Charlie O'Connor, Betty Kellett, James Craig, Julia Moran and Mary Batten. May they rest in peace.

**Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Trudy (Birthday).
St. John Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Jasmine (Birthday).**

Today is Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week

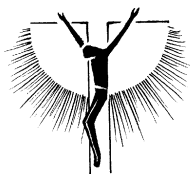
Wednesday: The Chrism Mass. The Archbishop will celebrate the Chrism Mass at 11.30 am on Wednesday morning in St. Chad's Cathedral. The Chrism Mass is the occasion when the Holy Oils are blessed. It is also the occasion when the priests of the diocese renew their commitment of service to God and the Church. [Chrism Mass, live streamed from St Chad's Cathedral | Birmingham Diocesan Trust \(birminghamdiocese.org.uk\)](#)



Maundy Thursday: The Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00 pm on Maundy Thursday evening is the end of Lent and the start of the Easter Triduum. At this Mass we celebrate the institution of the Sacraments of the Eucharist and the Priesthood.



Watching at the Altar of Repose. When the Mass of the Last Supper ends we shall go to the Altar of Repose and keep watch with Jesus, remembering His Agony in the Garden and His acceptance of His Father's will.



Good Friday: On Good Friday there is no Mass, but at 3.00 pm in the afternoon, the hour at which our Lord died, there is a "Solemn Celebration" of the Passion of our Lord.

Holy Saturday: We do not celebrate Mass on Holy Saturday, the Lord's Day of Rest in the tomb, but in the evening at 7.30 pm we begin our Easter celebrations with the Easter Vigil, the greatest event in the Church's year.



My Day By Day booklets for Easter are available (£1) at the back of church.

Easter Flowers. There will be a retiring collection this weekend towards the cost of the flowers for Easter.

Eucharistic Ministers will be re-commissioned during the Mass of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday.

The collection on Good Friday is for the Holy Places – i.e. for the upkeep of the sites in the Holy Land associated with the life of Our Lord.

Traditionally the collection at the Easter Masses is your personal offering to your priest. There are envelopes at the back of church if you wish. Thank you.

Welcome to Bishop Richard Walker. I am very grateful to Bishop Richard who will be at Sacred Heart on Maundy Thursday and Holy Saturday, while I am here. On Good Friday I shall be at Sacred Heart, and Bishop Richard will be here. He will also be here today for the 11.00 am Mass.

Church Cleaning. If you would like to help to make sure our church is looking its best for Easter, please come on Holy Saturday, 4th April, at 12.00 noon. Thank you.

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new Gift Aid envelopes are available to collect from the back of the church. **We do need more people to be involved in the Gift Aid scheme, please.** If you don't already gift aid your donations to Our Lady's could we ask you to consider doing so? Please contact Geraldine in the parish office by email or phone for further information or if you are already a gift-aider and your circumstances have changed.

Easter Triduum. There is a list on the table at the back of church for you to sign up for roles on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Please don't be shy.

**May God bless you and all who are dear to you.
Fr. Harry**