



Our Lady Help of Christians

Easter Sunday

5th April, 2026

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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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>

Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 5 th April Easter Sunday	7.30 pm Saturday Easter Vigil 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 NO EVENING MASS	Mick Mullagh Private Intention Sabas Balbag and Lourdes Balbag The People of the Parish
Monday, 6 th April Monday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass	Sr. Maureen Grigg (intentions)
Tuesday, 7 th April Tuesday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Sally McVeigh (90 th Birthday)
Wednesday, 8 th April Wednesday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass	In Thanksgiving
Thursday, 9 th April Thursday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 2.30 pm Requiem Mass 5.30 pm Reception of Julia Scully	John Lillis
Friday, 10 th April Friday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 12.00 noon Requiem Mass	Julia Scully
Saturday, 11 th April Saturday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Janet Buchanan (Intentions) Sheila Jennings RIP
Sunday, 12 th April Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday	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)	Private Intention Doreen McInerney Tom Gaughan (Anniversary) Feliciano, Augusta, Zetiti, Paya and Elisa

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
-	Asha and Sandra	This Weekend	-	Doris and Michelle
Zoja	Sr. Giovanna and Mabel	Next Weekend	Shanthi	Nalini

**Welcome to Mass at Our Lady's today,
especially if you are new to our parish or visiting for the Easter holidays.**

The Easter Season begins today, Easter Sunday, and ends after Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday. These fifty days are a very special time and, as St. Athanasius wrote, they "are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday."

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: 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, Theresa Cahill, who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishop Anthony Emery, Canon Peter Edward Jones, Frs. Michael Clive Glynn, Timothy Burke, Kevin Preston, Eamon Patrick Clarke, Kenneth William Collins, Joseph Barr and Michael McManus, Deacon Jack Foxall, and also Maureen Gannon, Martyn John Spackman, Mary Bailey, Bob McNarry, Gillian Margaret Phipps, Thomas (Tom) Gaughan, Denis O'Connor and Roland Allsworth Snr. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for the end of all wars.

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.

Divine Mercy Sunday. This week we are encouraged to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet (leaflets at the back of church), and next Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday.

Regina Coeli: One of the most joyous anthems of the Church is the Regina Coeli, the Easter hymn to Our Lady. During a plague in Rome, so the legend goes, Our Lady's portrait (reputedly painted by St. Luke) was carried in a procession which included Pope St. Gregory the Great. As they approached St. Peter's Basilica, the air became pure and free of pestilence. At the bridge which joins Rome to the Vatican, angels were heard singing the first three verses from the Regina Coeli and St. Gregory was inspired to add the fourth line 'pray for to us to God, alleluia.' This prayer reminds us, of how much we have to be thankful for, even in the midst of our daily trials. When our Lord conquered death in His resurrection, he opened the gates of Heaven for us to be able to share Eternal Life with Him.



**O Queen of Heaven,
rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you did
merit to bear, alleluia.
Has risen, as he said,
alleluia.
Pray for us to God,
alleluia.**

**Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.**

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our Easter celebrations so beautiful. I am most grateful to Bishop Richard for his help with the services. Thank you to the altar servers, the sacristans, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the musicians, the Eucharistic Ministers, the readers, and most of all to those brave souls (soles?) who volunteered to have their feet washed.

Cake Sale. After Masses next weekend the Salesian Cooperators will be selling cakes, jam, etc. in the Don Bosco Centre to raise funds to support the missionary work of the Salesian Sisters in Vietnam.

Then the following weekend



Tailpiece: Darlene was sitting on her grandfather's lap as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would reach up to touch his wrinkled cheek. She was alternately stroking her own cheek, then his again. Finally, she spoke, "Grandpa, did God make you?" "Yes, darling," he answered, "God made me a long time ago." "Oh," Darlene paused, "Grandpa, did God make me too?" "Yes, indeed, poppet," he said, "God made you just a little while ago." Feeling their respective faces again, Darlene observed happily, "He's getting better at it, isn't He?"

**Have a very happy and blessed Easter.
May God bless you and all those whom you love.
Fr. Harry**