



# Our Lady Help of Christians

Third Sunday of Easter

19<sup>th</sup> 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.

Telephone: 01865 770 910 Email: [olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

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>

Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 19 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass</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)	Patricia Cuddy  Private Intention Cecilia Michael Ann Marie Clark (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary) Maria Auxiliadora do Rego Soriano and Tioborcio Do Rego Soriano
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> April Feria of Easter	<b>7.00 am Mass</b> 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Mrs Maria Debono
Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> April Op. Mem. of St. Anselm, Bishop	<b>No Public Mass Today</b>	Alan French (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> April Feria of Easter	<b>No Public Mass Today</b>	Antonio D'Souza (Anniversary)
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> April <b>Solemnity of St. George, Martyr, Patron of England</b>	<b>No Public Mass Today</b>	The People of the Parish
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> April Op. Memorial of St. Adalbert or of St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen	<b>No Public Mass Today</b>	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist</b>	No Public Mass This Morning <b>5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday</b>	Annie Kennedy
Sunday, 26 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>  World Day of Prayer for Vocations	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 Sheila Jennings Josie Coughlan (Intentions) Eva and Maurice Smithson (Wedding Anniversary)

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Henry	Robin and Asha	This Weekend	Ann	Michelle
Agnes	Jane and Anne	Next Weekend	Henry	Udeme and John

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

The Easter Season began on 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 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, 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 Gladys (“Bonnie”) Trowell, Theresa Cahill and Judith Champ** who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop Leo McCartie, Frs. Reginald Slade, Patrick Downey, Antony Conlon, Hugh Griffith, Andrew Kenny, Oswald Joyce, Liam Bouchier, Benjamin Cox, Wilfrid Davenport, Desmond Donnelly and Peter Dennison, Deacon Peter Seeney, and also Bryan Frederick Styles, Esther Masterson, Thomas William White, Alfonso Pereira, Sheila Dempsey, Anne Teresa Delaney, Ellen Bolger, Edward Murphy, Saulius Alminauskas and Eddie Parker. May they rest in peace.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Patrick Murphy (Anniversary).**

*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.olhbc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.olhbc.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.*

**Confirmations.** Bishop Richard will be with us on Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> June for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you wish to apply for this Sacrament go to the parish website ([www.olhccowley.co.uk](http://www.olhccowley.co.uk)), click on Sacraments, and fill in an online application form. Alternatively, there are forms at the back of church. Lessons will be on Mondays, 4.00 pm, in the Don Bosco Centre, starting on 11<sup>th</sup> May.

**The St. Carlo Acutis Youth Group.**

- Craft Class (flower arranging) this Wednesday at 4.30 pm in the Don Bosco Centre. Open to all parishioners. There is a poster with a list of craft classes for April and May in the church porch.
- **There is a meeting today, Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April, after the 11.00 am Mass, in the chapel, for parents of children who wish to travel to Assisi in October.**
- **Don't miss the “Art Contest”** next weekend, 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> April. You are invited to submit drawings based on the theme “Love”. The drawings will be displayed in the hall and Parishioners will be invited to choose their favourites. There are three age categories: 3-8 y.o., 9- 14 y.o and 14+. Please bring your drawings before 12.00 noon on Saturday.

For further details, please refer to the poster in the porch, or contact Vitalija on 07557532717.

**Cowley Salesian Cooperators** warmly invite you to celebrate Holy Mass with them on 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 12.00 noon in Our Lady's church for the 150<sup>th</sup> Salesian Cooperators anniversary. Please join us with an open heart to commemorate the dream and work that continues today because of St. John Bosco. There will be light refreshments after Mass in the Mornese Centre at Elmthorpe Convent. All are welcome. There is limited parking at the Convent but you can leave cars in the church car park and walk down.



**Please note** that there will be no public Mass at Our Lady's this week from Tuesday-Friday inclusive.

**Tea and Cake.** Today there will be a parish fundraising event after the 11.00 am Mass. There will be tea and cake, plus a raffle. £5 per person. Come and join the fun and help raise funds for the parish.

**Car Parking.** When you come to Our Lady's, **please do not park in Salegate Lane.** As you know, since the LTNs were introduced, there is no exit for cars at the bottom of the Lane. This means that residents cannot get out if the Lane is blocked by people attending Mass. They are getting justly annoyed.

**Salesian Cooperators' Meeting,** this Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2.30 pm at Elmthorpe Convent. Sr. Mary FMA is giving a talk. All are welcome. Contact Chris Baker 01865 770102.

**Vocations Sunday.** Next Sunday is “Good Shepherd Sunday”, also known as Vocations Sunday. We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life in our Archdiocese. There will be the annual collection for the Clergy Training Fund at Masses next weekend. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

**Young Discerners' Group.** Are you a young man in School Years 9-13 who wants to explore a Vocation to the Catholic priesthood? Come to St. Mary's College, Oscott, in Birmingham on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 10.30-4.00. To find out more, or to book, contact Deacon Owen Gresty, 0121 3215135 or [deacon.owen@vocations.org.uk](mailto:deacon.owen@vocations.org.uk). The day is free, but booking is essential.

**Tailpiece:** A Parish Priest was driving one day when he crashed into another car, driven by the young curate from the neighbouring parish. The Parish Priest, with all his experience, took in the situation with one glance and said, “You look badly shaken up, Father. You should have a drink to calm you down.” So he produced a flask and the curate drank some. The Parish Priest said, “You still look a little rattled, have another sip.” The curate, after taking a drink, said, “But Father, you're probably shaken up too. Why don't you have some?” “I will,” the priest replied, “but I think I'll wait until after the police have come.”

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

