



Our Lady Help of Christians

Seventh Sunday of Easter

17th May, 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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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>

Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 17 th May Seventh Sunday of Easter World Communications Day	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 2.00 pm Baptism 3.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Paulo Agapitode Gama (Anniversary) Private Intention Cecilia Michael Special Int. (the Grace of Detachment) Isabelle Kim Dicks Olaedo Alina Ezieke The People of the Parish
Monday, 18 th May Op. Mem. of St. John I, Pope	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Eric Edwards (Birthday)
Tuesday, 19 th May Optional Memorial of St. Dunstan, Bishop	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Nossa Senhora de Penha
Wednesday, 20 th May Optional Memorial of St. Bernadine of Siena	No Public Mass Today	Konrad Mihailov
Thursday, 21 st May Optional Memorial of St. Christopher Magallanes & Companions, Martyrs	(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Tom Hiceta
Friday, 22 nd May Optional Memorial of St. Rita of Cascia, Religious	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Antonio Pereira (Anniversary)
Saturday, 23 rd May Feria of Easter	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 12.00 noon Mass for 150th Anniversary of the Salesian Cooperators 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Tony Davis (Get Well) Private Intention Theodorico De Souza
Sunday, 24 th May Solemnity of Pentecost	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, with Baptism of Arabella 2.00 pm Baptism (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Private Intention Mary Winifred and George Newbold Ramona Yazbeck (6-month anniv.) Hugo de Gouveia The People of the Parish
Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (and at Sacred Heart on Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.)		

Saturday 5.30 pm Eucharistic Ministers	Sunday 11.00 am Eucharistic Ministers		Saturday 5.30 pm Readers	Sunday 11.00 am Readers
Vitalija	Mabel and Robin	This Weekend	Fallon	Andreas
Nora	Asha and Jane	Next Weekend	Shanthi	Daniella and Ellie

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

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

Please pray for Theresa Cahill and Beatrice Upham who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canon Wilfrid Smith, Mgr. John Humphreys, Frs. Joseph Griffin, Ernest Cook, William Lyons, Anthony Davies and Thomas Foynes, and also Jerzy Dybalski, Michael Joseph (Joe) McLoughlin, Dorothy Aveyard, Peter Cox, Patrick Hannon, Konrad Mihailov, Jane Hannah Boyce, Dircia Da Conceicao Pedro, Benjamin Curtis and Rozan Peiris. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Cissie McManus (Birthday).
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Jerzy Dybalski (11th Anniversary).
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for a Private Intention (CH).

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.

Pentecost. Next Sunday, 24th May, is the great Feast of Pentecost when the Coming of the Holy Spirit enabled all peoples able to understand the message of the Gospel. In our 11.00 am Mass we shall show this by praying together in different languages. We shall also have a "Bring and Share" lunch after Mass in the Don Bosco Centre. Please bring some food to share from your native land and we can enjoy the unity that God creates from our diversity.

St. Carlo Acutis Youth Group Hot Dog Sale and Table Tennis. Today after the 11.00 am Mass there will be a hot dog sale in the Don Bosco Centre, organised by the Youth Group, and there will also be table tennis tournaments (participation fee, £2). Come and join the fun. There will be no craft class this Wednesday. The next will be 27th May at 4.30 pm in the Don Bosco Centre. Please let Vitalia know if you will be attending – 07557 532 717.

Cowley Salesian Cooperators

warmly invite you to celebrate Holy Mass with them this Saturday, 23rd May, at 12.00 noon in Our Lady's church for the 150th 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. (Leave cars in the church car park). All welcome.



Red Boxes. If you have a red Missio box at home, please bring it in by Sunday, 24th May so that Sandra can empty it.

Second Collections. Today there is a second collection for Catholic Communications.

Confirmations. Lessons start this Monday, 4.00 pm, in the Don Bosco Centre. Enrolments will take place during the Masses next weekend.



Planned Giving Campaign at Our Lady Help of Christians

Last week, when the parish accounts were presented, it was clear that we are struggling. One idea is to make it our target to reduce or eliminate our bank overdraft in time for Christmas. In the picture, our overdraft bathtub is filled to the top. Will you help to empty it, please? Please consider doing one or more of these things:

- Put more money in the weekly collection;
- Gift aid your donations if you do not already do so;
- Make one-off donations to the church funds;
- Make donations for the weekly flowers, or commemorative candles, or weekly livestreaming costs;
- Do some fundraising projects.

If we each do a little we can empty the bath. Thank you.

Trip to Birmingham. I shall be "installed" as a Canon at St. Chad's Cathedral during the 12.15 pm Mass on Tuesday, 2nd June. If you would like to come with me for the service at St. Chad's, there will be a coach going on the day. It will leave here at 9.00 am and return at about 6.00 pm. £10 per person. Please sign the list at the back of the church.

Tailpiece: A mother was with her daughter as she said her prayers before going to bed. The daughter prayed and prayed, and her voice got quieter and quieter. Finally, she said "Amen". Her mother said, "Darling, I couldn't hear a word you said." "That's alright, Mummy," came the reply. "I wasn't talking to you."

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