



Our Lady Help of Christians

Solemnity of Pentecost

24th 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, 24 th May Solemnity of Pentecost <i>(Eastertide ends this evening)</i>	5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass for Sunday 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.45 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass <i>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 11.00 am Mass, with Baptism of Arabella 2.00 pm Baptism <i>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i>	<i>Theodorico De Souza</i> <i>Private Intention</i> <i>Filomena Camelo</i> <i>Ramona Yazbeck (6-month anniv.)</i> <i>Hugo de Gouveia</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 25 th May Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass	<i>Kitty Davies (Intentions)</i>
Tuesday, 26 th May <i>Memorial of St. Philip Neri</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>Camillo De Souza (Birthday)</i>
Wednesday, 27 th May Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop	No Public Mass Today	<i>Thomas Martin</i>
Thursday, 28 th May Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest	<i>(7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i>	<i>Mary Jane and Patrick McGroaty</i>
Friday, 29 th May The Solemnity of the Dedication of the Church	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass, with Baptisms of Brendon and Letisha	<i>The Souls in Purgatory</i>
Saturday, 30 th May	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	<i>Julia Valente</i> <i>Deacon Bill Parker (25th Anniversary)</i>
Sunday, 31 st May Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.45 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass <i>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 11.00 am Mass <i>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i>	<i>Private Intention</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i> <i>In Thanksgiving to Our Lady (East Timor)</i> <i>Private Intention</i>

Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (and at Sacred Heart on 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
Nora	Asha and Jane	This Weekend	Shanthi	Daniella and Ellie
Zoja	Anne and Rachel	Next Weekend	Henry	Nalini

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

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.

Today is Pentecost Sunday. The Easter Season, which began on Easter Sunday, ends this evening. It has been a wonderful time in the life of our parish. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make it so special.

Tomorrow we return to Ordinary Time and the cycle of weekday readings resumes at the 8th Week in Year 2.

Remember, if you have not yet made your Easter Duties you have only until next Sunday to do so.

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 Beatrice Upham, Michael Murphy and Patricia Casey who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Wilfrid Doran, Frs. Michael McKenna, Patrick Taylor, John Kearns, James Francis Ward, Dermot Corcoran, John Baggley, Joseph Lacy, Cornelius Healy, Deacons William Parker and Anthony Hewitt, Sr. Bruna Livieri, and also Ann Mary Newell, Sarah Curtis, Lucia Bianchini, Mary O'Mahoney, Margaret Griffin, Delia Conroy, Maloney Family, Joseph Cleary and Pauline Josephine Ryan. May they rest in peace.

**Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Margaret Griffin (Anniversary).
St John Bosco's Candle is burning this week for the Salesian Sisters.**

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 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. In our 11.00 am Mass we shall celebrate the unity that God creates from our diversity by praying together in different languages. We shall also have a "Bring and Share" lunch after Mass in the Don Bosco Centre. Come and celebrate together. Candidates for the Sacrament of **Confirmation** this year will be enrolled during the Masses this weekend.

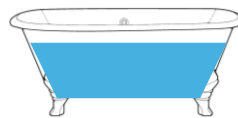
Baptisms. During 11.00 am Mass today we shall welcome Arabella into the family of the Church. This afternoon we shall also welcome Hugo, and next Friday evening we shall welcome Brendon and Letisha. May God bless them all.

Solemnity of Our Lady Help of Christians. Our patronal feast day in this church is on 24th May. Unfortunately, this year that coincides with the Feast of Pentecost, which of course takes precedence. So, this year we shall celebrate our big day this Monday. Happy Feast Day everyone.

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. The coach will leave here at 9.00 am and return at approximately 6.00 pm.

Legion of Mary. A new "Praesidium" has now been established at Our Lady Help of Christians, meeting on Friday evenings, after the 7.00 pm Mass. It is still a small group and they would welcome new members. Just come along and try it.

Red Boxes. If you have a red Missio box at home, please bring it in today and Sandra will empty it and return it to you.



Please help to empty our bath!

We got off to a great start last week in pursuit of our target to reduce or eliminate our bank overdraft in time for Christmas. I received donations that totalled nearly £400. Thank you very much. But we have to keep going.

Our overdraft bathtub is still very full. Will you help to empty it, please? Please consider these ideas:

- 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.
- Do some fundraising projects

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

St. Carlo Acutis Youth Group. There will be a craft class this Wednesday at 4.30 pm in the Don Bosco Centre. Please let Vitalia know if you will be there – 07557 532 717.

Tailpiece: A Parish Priest, with a flair for the dramatic, had the idea one Pentecost Sunday of having a pigeon released from the belfry during his sermon, just at the moment when he said, "Come, Holy Spirit!" Pentecost came, and the sacristan put a pigeon in a bag, went upstairs to the belfry and waited. Unfortunately, the priest went on a bit long in his sermon and then, when he eventually gave the cue, nothing happened. A few seconds later, a voice came from the belfry, "It's just lying here, gasping for air!"

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