



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

6th September, 2026

Rev. Canon 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>

Sunday, 6 th September Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	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 (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Antonio D'Souza Private Intention Adrian Gaughan John Hudgell (Get Well) The People of the Parish
Monday, 7 th September	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer	Michael Iagoe
Tuesday, 8 th September <i>Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	No Public Mass Today	Mgr. Vaughan Morgan (JA)
Wednesday, 9 th September <i>Op. Memorial of St. Osburg, or of St. Peter Claver</i>	No Public Mass Today	Agnes Cooper (JA)
Thursday, 10 th September <i>Memorial of Bl. Agnellus of Pisa</i>	11.30 am Requiem Mass (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Florence McCormack Jerry Rooney (Intentions)
Friday, 11 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Mary O'Sullivan (JA)
Saturday, 12 th September <i>Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Mary</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Mrs. Maria Liu and Family Lucy D'Souza
Sunday, 13 th September Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	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)	Private Intention Tony Donovan Pat Atherton (Intentions) The People of the Parish
Confessions: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm (and at Sacred Heart, 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
Zoja	Michelle and Sr. Giovanna	This Weekend	Shanthi	Aziel
Agnes	Mabel and Asha	Next Weekend	Henry	Sandra

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

Education Sunday. Next Sunday is a day of special prayer for our schools and colleges. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Education Service.

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.*

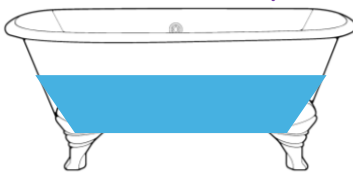
Please pray for the sick, especially: Bridie Barry, Claire French, Jean Carpenter, Mary Cross, Sheila Cuddy, Maggie Durkin, Inna, Tony Davis, John Hudgell, Pat Walsh, Doreen Teagle, Mary Barry, Mary Cairns, Lisa Birch, Dantas Luis Galucho Rosa, Julio Madeira Cabral Soares, Thomas Durkin and Bogumila (Gina) Dybalski.

Please pray for Andrew Scully, Florence McCormack, Joseph White, Terence Jackson, Jo Barnacle and all those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Mgr. Thomas Fallon, Frs. Edwin Cownley, Anthony Taylor, Arthur McCrystal, David Walter Hutt and Dominic Round, Deacon Michael McGrail, and also John McCallum, Mary Malone, James Ross, Hilda Ross, Anne Mary O'Neill and Billy Durkin. May they rest in peace.

**The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Pat Atherton.
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Nalini's Intentions.
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Chrissie Hughes (Intentions).
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Joseph White.
St. John Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Michael Iagoe (Birthday).**

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.

Please help to empty our bath!



Thanks to your generosity, the level in our overdraft bath is going down, despite some nasty "ups" as we go along. Will you help it on its way, please?

Assisted Suicide Bill. On Friday, 11th September the House of Commons will debate and vote on a Bill to legalise assisted suicide. We believe this is wrong for many reasons. Please contact your MP, urging him/her to attend the debate and vote against the Bill.

The Season of Creation 2026: "Make Living Water Flow". Each year from 1st September to 4th October, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home.

Early notice: a Mass for the Sick, with the Sacrament of Anointing, will be celebrated here on Saturday, 24th October, at 1.00 pm. If you know of anyone who is sick and/or housebound who might like to attend if they are aided, please tell them, and let me know about them.

"The Eucharistic Miracles of the World." An International Exhibition Designed and Created by St. Carlo Acutis. From Tuesday, 6th October – Sunday, 11th October, 10.00 am – 5.00 pm, in the Don Bosco Centre, we shall have an exhibition, assembled by St. Carlo, to encourage devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. Entry free. All welcome to come. We shall need some volunteer welcomers. There will also be periods of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for private prayer in the church.

Fire Drill. In two weeks' time we shall have a practice so that you may know what to do if there is a fire. There will be a meeting of the fire wardens next Saturday at 6.30 pm.

Thank you to the party of fence painters last Monday. We had fun and hopefully it will help to preserve the fence.

Cleaner required. Here at Our Lady's we are looking for someone to clean the hall and its kitchen, the chapel, and the toilets. Starting at 4 hours/week. Please see me for more details or email olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Harvest Thanksgiving. Sunday, 27th September, is a day of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. If you have any fruit and/or veg that you can bring to decorate the altar it would be welcome. Then after Sunday Mass we shall have a shared lunch in the Don Bosco Centre. Please bring something to share and enjoy.

Young Adult Community in Oxford. Are you aged 18-35 and looking for community in Oxford. ACTS29 is a vibrant young adult community who meet monthly to share friendship, pray and grow in faith together. Come along at 4.00 pm every 1st Sunday to Corpus Christi, Headington. Email: Christian.fitzgerald@kenlemyouthtrust.org.uk

Tailpiece: A man wanted to visit churches around the world and he started by flying to New York. He went into a very large church where he saw a golden telephone on a wall with a sign which read "\$10,000 a minute." Seeking out the parish priest, he asked about the 'phone and the sign. The priest explained that the golden 'phone was, in fact, a direct line to Heaven, and if he paid the price he could talk directly to God. He thanked the priest and continued on his way. He went to churches all around the world, and in other countries he found more golden 'phones with the same sign. Finally, he arrived in Dublin. Upon entering a church, lo and behold, he saw the usual golden telephone. But THIS time the sign read "Calls: ½ Euro per minute." Fascinated, he asked the priest. "Father, I have been in cities all around the world and in each church I found a golden telephone, and I have been told it is a direct line to Heaven, but in the other churches the cost was \$10,000 a minute. Your sign reads ½ Euro a minute. Why?" The priest, smiling, replied, "Son, you're in Ireland now. It's a local call."

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