



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

13th 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, 13 th September Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Education Day</i>	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)	Lucy D'Souza Private Intention Tony Donovan Pat Atherton (Intentions) Adelaide Saldanha Bareto
Monday, 14 th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Reception of Andrew Scully	Lulo Vilanova Andrade
Tuesday, 15 th September <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass 12.00 noon Requiem Mass	The People of the Parish Andrew Scully
Wednesday, 16 th September <i>Memorial of St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian</i>	No Public Mass Today	Gerry Doyle
Thursday, 17 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Robert Bellarmine, or of St. Hildegard of Bingen</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 10.30 am Requiem Mass (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Joseph White Stephen Dawson (Intentions)
Friday, 18 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Josie Griffiths
Saturday, 19 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Theodore of Canterbury, or of St. Januarius</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Cecilia Michael Neil Murphy
Sunday, 20 th September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Evangelii Gaudium Day</i>	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 Annie O'Neil The People of the Parish Carlos Salsinha
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
Agnes	Mabel and Asha	This Weekend	Henry	Sandra
Henry	Jane and Anne	Next Weekend	Naomi	Andreas

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

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.

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)

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: Archbishop George Patrick Dwyer, Canon Peter McKenna, Frs. Guy Colman, Richard Dinnis, Patrick Meagher, William Alfred Oddie, Alan Leslie Holtham and Peter Lees, and also Baby Oliver Michael Knott, Antonio Abreu, Daniel Lyons, Archie McKenzie Allen, Brian Peter Harper, Mary Manning and Andrew McGregor. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Mary Manning (Anniversary).
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Claire Davis (1st Anniversary).
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Nalini's Intentions.
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Ellen's Intentions.
St. John Bosco's Candle is burning this week for Irene Hudgell (Anniversary).

Education Sunday: An Invitation from Archbishop Bernard Longley

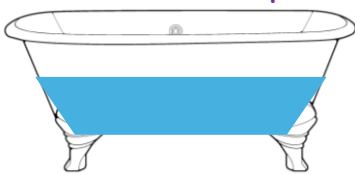
Today we give thanks for the gift of Catholic education. Our schools have a mission to form Christ-centred pilgrims of hope, with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.

There is a real need for more foundation directors and governors to help guide our schools and keep Christ at the heart of their mission. This is not simply an administrative role; it is a true vocation and a practical way to serve Christ and His Church.

If you are a practising Catholic, committed to our mission, and willing to share your time, skills and faith, you can make a lasting difference for thousands of children and young people. No prior experience is required, as full training and support are provided. God's unconditional love and readiness to forgive our sins remind us that service is not always easy, but it is always fruitful when rooted in love. Please speak to your parish priest or visit the Diocesan Education Service website for further details and to complete an online application form.: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/could-you-be-a-foundation-governor-or-director-at-your-local-catholic-school> and <https://www.bdes.org.uk/governor-online-application-forms.html>.

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.

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?

A Mass for the Sick, with the Sacrament of Anointing, here on Saturday, 24th October, at 1.00 pm. If you know of anyone who might like to attend if they are aided, please tell them, and let me know about them.

Newman Night Walk, from Oxford to Littlemore, on Thursday, 8th October, commemorating the arrival of Bl. Dominic Barberi at the College in Littlemore on 8th October, 1845, and the anniversary of the reception of St. John Henry Newman into the Catholic Church. Starts at the Oratory, 25 Woodstock Road at 7.15 pm, with a candle light procession at 9.00 pm from 7 Courtland Road, Rose Hill. For those who don't want to walk, there is Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 9.00 pm at Bl. Dominic's.

Assisted Suicide Bill. Thank you to everyone who contacted their MP asking them to vote against this Bill.

"The Eucharistic Miracles of the World." 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 Acutis, 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. Next weekend after Mass we shall sound the fire alarm so that you may know what to do if there is a fire.

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. Please bring any offerings to church before Mass on Saturday evening. After Sunday Mass we shall have a shared lunch in the Don Bosco Centre. Please bring something to share and enjoy.

Tailpiece: One Sunday morning, a mother went in to wake her son and tell him it was time to get ready for Mass, to which he replied, "I'm not going today." "Why not?" she asked. "I'll give you three good reasons," he said. "One, no one there likes me. Two, they never pay any attention to me. Three, I'm nice and warm in bed and the church is always cold." His mother replied, "And I'll give you three good reasons why you SHOULD go. One, it's Sunday and we should all give glory and thanks to God. Two, you're 54 years old. And three, you're the parish priest!"

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