



Our Lady Help of Christians

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

27th 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.

Telephone: 01865 770 910 Email: olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

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, 27 th September Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest</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)	Antonietta Aprea Private Intention Rolando Balbag John Batey Ermias Hill (5 th Birthday)
Monday, 28 th September <i>Op. Mem. of St. Wenceslaus or Ss. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions</i>	7.00 am Mass 8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer	Asha Gill
Tuesday, 29 th September Feast of Ss. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael	No Public Mass Today	Mrs. Nan Mooney (15 th Anniversary)
Wednesday, 30 th September <i>Memorial of St. Jerome</i>	No Public Mass Today	Sydney White (Anniversary)
Thursday, 1 st October <i>Memorial of St. Therese of the Child Jesus</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (1.30 pm Mass at Sacred Heart) (7.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	The People of the Parish Eileen White (Intentions)
Friday, 2 nd October <i>Mem. of the Guardian Angels First Friday of the Month CAFOD Harvest Fast Day</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Sandra Cromey (Intentions)
Saturday, 3 rd October <i>Memorial of St. Thomas Cantilupe, Bishop</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	Eileen McGroarty Nelia Madeira and Filomeno Martis
Sunday, 4 th October Twenty-Seventh 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 Fernando Jose Pires and Filomeno Da Silva Maria and Rhea 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
Josie	Rachel and Sandra	This Weekend	Shanthi	Daniella and Ellie
Maureen	Michelle and Sr. Giovanna	Next Weekend	Fallon	Nalini

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

Harvest Thanksgiving. Today is a day of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. After Sunday Mass we shall have a shared lunch in the Don Bosco Centre. Please bring something to share and enjoy.

Fr. Hudson's Caritas. At Masses today there will be a second collection for Fr. Hudson's. Please give as generously as you can to support their work. It is the social care agency of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham and relies on donations from parishes and schools. Today, the Church marks the 112th World Day of Migrants and Refugees and invites us to reflect on the dignity, needs, and hopes of migrant and refugee children and young people. Thank you.

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.*

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 Margaret Dalton, Baby Miracle, Joan Williams and all those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries fall around this time: Mgr. Henry Farrelly, Frs. Edward Cotter, Laurence Daly, Denis Egan, William McGann, John Nightingale, John Danaher, Deacons Tony Colby, John Burrows, and also Robert Gharthey, Julia McCann, Maureen Connolly, Mary (Maureen) Heap, Bridget (Delia) Simmons, Nelly McLoughlin, John Doherty. May they rest in peace.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Sandra Cromey's Intentions.

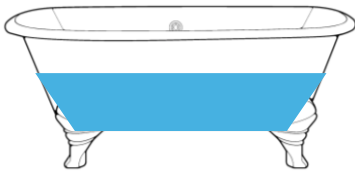
The Sacred Heart Candle is burning this week for Nalini's Intentions.

Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Bridie Barry's Intentions.

St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for Mrs. Nan Mooney (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.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!



At the start of the summer we owed the bank £25,000 - the limit of our agreed overdraft. That means our bath was full. Quite apart from owing money and being

restricted in what we can do, we are paying a lot of interest to the bank each year. So the Parish Finance Committee set a target to reduce this debt by Christmas. Thanks to your generosity, we have to date received over £6,500 and the level in our overdraft bath is going down. But there have also been some nasty "ups", and we still have a long way to go.

Will you help to get the level in our overdraft bath down, please? Donations can be given to me or made on either of the contactless machines - there is one near the piety shop at the back of the church, or there is a second one in the hall - using the "Parish Overdraft Fund" option (and please Gift Aid if you are eligible). Thank you.

Salesian Cooperators. The first Cake and Marmalade sale will be next weekend, 3rd/4th October. Thank You to the parish for supporting these sales which last year raised £1,600 for the Salesian Sisters' mission in Vietnam.

This Friday is CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens. By fasting this Friday you can save some money, then you can bring that money to church next Sunday and put it in the second collection. Thank you.

Forthcoming Attractions for the Autumn Season!

- St. Carlo Acutis Youth Group (our Parish Youth) pilgrimage to Assisi, 3rd - 4th October, to be there for the 800th birthday of St. Francis of Assisi.
- Deanery Visitation Feedback, Tuesday, 6th October, 7.00 pm at Blessed Dominic Barberi Church.
- Exhibition of "Eucharistic Miracles of the World". Tuesday, 6th October - Sunday, 11th October.
- Newman Night Walk, from the Oratory, 25 Woodstock Road, at 7.15 pm, to reach Blessed Dominic Barberi, Littlemore, by 9.00 pm. Thursday, 8th October.
- Mission appeal at all Masses by Sr. Mary Sebastian for the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary to support their missionary work, 10th/11th October.
- Bingo, with soup and a roll, after Mass on Saturday, 17th October.
- Mass for the Sick, with the Anointing of the Sick, 1.00 pm, Saturday, 24th October.
- November Mass for the Dead - for our relations and friends who have died, especially those who have died during the last twelve months, 11.00 am, Saturday, 14th November.
- Christmas Market, 28th/29th November.
- Carol Service, 6.00 pm, 11th December.

Tailpiece: "Father," said Joe one day, "There's something I don't understand in the Bible." "What's that, Joe?" asked the priest. "Well, according to the Bible, the Children of Israel were slaves in Egypt, right?" "Yes, that's right." "Then it says that the Children of Israel escaped and crossed the Red Sea, right?" "Right again." "And the Children of Israel built the Temple, right?" "Again, you're right." "And the Children of Israel were always doing things wrong, right?" "Exactly," agreed the priest. "So what is your question?" "Well, Father," said Joe. "What I want to know is, what were all the grown-ups doing?"

May God bless you and all those whom you love.

Fr. Harry