



# *Our Lady Help of Christians*

## *Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)*

### *11<sup>th</sup> April, 2021*

*Fr. Harry Curtis, Parish Priest*  
(Also serving Sacred Heart, Blackbird Leys)

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**Happy Eastertide, everyone.**  
**Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!**

Sunday, 11 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Second Sunday of Easter</b> <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	<b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b> <b>Sunday Morning: 11.00 am</b>	<i>Tom Gaughan (3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary)</i> <i>Jimmy Pender</i>
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Mass Today	
Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Feria</i> <i>Op. Memorial of St Martin I, Pope, Martyr</i>	9.15 am Mass	<i>Fr. Peter Dooley (Anniversary)</i>
Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Mass Today	
Thursday, 15 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Mass Today	
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Feria</i>	<i>6.00 pm Exposition &amp; Benediction</i> <i>7.00 pm Mass</i>	<i>Josie &amp; Eddie Griffiths (Golden Wedding)</i>
Saturday, 17 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Feria</i>	<b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b>	<i>Fr. Graham (Intentions)</i>
Sunday, 18 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>Sunday Morning: 11.00 am</b>	<i>Family and Friends of John Flanagan (Intentions)</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Our Lady Help of Christians for Mass today. If you have recently moved into Our Lady's parish, or if you are returning after lockdown, please say hello to me. Thank you.

If you wish to join us for Mass from your home, we are now live and can be viewed at

<https://www.mcmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

Collection on Good Friday for the Holy Places: £234.80. Thank you.

The Sanctuary Candle is burning this week for Fr. Peter Dooley SDB.  
Our Lady's Candle is burning this week for Philo Baptist (Anniversary).  
St. Joseph's Candle is burning this week for the sick and the dying.



#### **The Easter Season**

**The Easter Season began on Easter Sunday, and ends after Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday. These fifty days are a very special time and, as St. Athanasius wrote, they "are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday."**

**The joyful sound of "Alleluia!" is heard many times throughout this season.**

## Prayer at the end of Mass:

*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia;  
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,  
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia:  
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.*

**O Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia,  
Has risen as he said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

**Please pray for those we know who are sick, including Domenico Mirto and Regina Soares.** If you or any family members are ill and you would like to ask for prayers on this newsletter, let me know (in writing, please). Thank you.

Here is a prayer, **an Act of Spiritual Communion**, which you can say as you watch a Livestream Mass:

*“My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You.”*

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of James Kinyanjui, Kathleen Mullan** and for the souls of all who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Bernard Gerald Hodgson, Frs. Joseph Barr, Michael McManus, Wilfrid Sheeran, Walter Edwards, Anthony Browne, Peter Moore and also Fr. Peter Dooley, Thomas Gaughan, Mary Bailey, Philo Baptist and Joseph Kelly. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

**Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions.** Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. According to the diary of St. Faustina, Jesus said: *“...tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy.”* (Diary 699).

**Bookings.** Thank you to everyone who booked to attend the services at Our Lady’s for Holy Week and Easter. It was not something that I liked asking people to do, but it was necessary in the time of pandemic and I appreciate the way everyone cooperated. Bookings were only needed for that week, and you don’t need to book again. In line with the Covid-safe guidelines, your contact details will be kept for three weeks and then destroyed. The terms of use relating to the official NHS QR code poster displayed in the porch have changed. You can view this at <https://create-qr-code-poster.service.gov.uk/help/termsfuse>

**Gift Aid Envelopes.** The new Gift Aid envelopes are available to collect from the sacristy. If you no longer need them or if your circumstances have changed (e.g. you no longer pay income tax) let Geraldine, the Parish Secretary, know, or if you have changed your address.

**Readers’ Rota.** We must continue to be very careful, of course, but it may be possible to reinstate a short-term (so you are not excluded if you wish to stay away for a bit longer) rota for readers. If you would like to be on it, please contact Bernadette Downes ([bernadette.a.downes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bernadette.a.downes@hotmail.co.uk) or 07774 680455).

**Tailpiece:** A priest, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message. The man returned just before the end of the Mass. Afterwards the priest asked the man where he had gone. “I went to get a haircut,” was the reply. “But why didn’t you do that before Mass?” asked the priest. “Because,” came the reply, “I didn’t need one then.”

Finally, what do you get if you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?  
Hot Cross Bunnies!



Thank you for your generosity to me in the collection last Sunday and also for your gifts, cards, good wishes and prayers. I appreciate them very much.

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