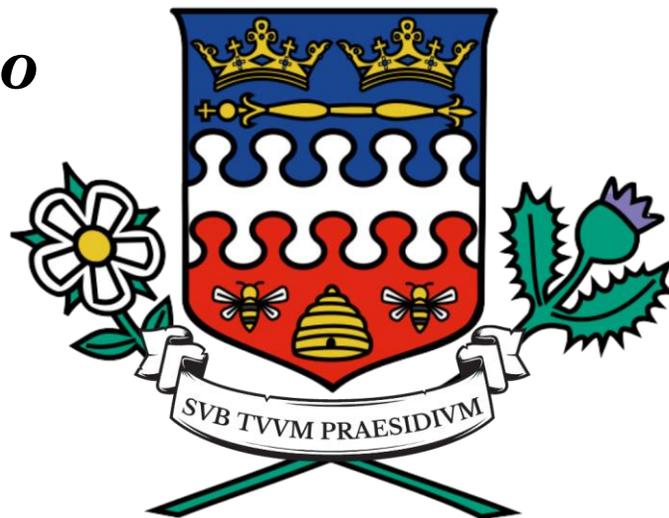


Our New Parish Logo

Combining heraldic elements from the Luton town arms and the historic devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians, our new parish logo reflects the venerable history of our parish community and its devotion to Our Lord and Our Lady.

Beginning with the ribbon at the bottom, one sees the Latin phrase *Sub Tuum Praesidium*, meaning “under your protection.” This is the opening line the oldest known Marian prayer, dating from the 3rd-century. It is associated with devotion to Our Lady Help of Christians, with *praesidium* typically being used in reference to fresh reinforcements in time of war. This assistance has been invoked across the centuries, from Pius V in the face of Ottoman invasions to Pius VII during the threats of the Napoleonic Wars. It was this seventh Pius that established the feast in Rome to be observed on May 24th, the day he returned from captivity under Napoleon.

Along with the red and blue commonly associated with Our Lord and Our Lady, the white area in the center is reminiscent of clouds. This attribute is derived from a canonically crowned image of Our Lady Help of Christians that can be found in Turin, Italy. It is in the basilica there bearing the same name, having been promoted under the 19th-century Turin saint, Saint John Bosco. She can be seen standing on the clouds,



Credit for logo design goes to Mr. John Clark, Seminarian for the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston, U.S.A

crowned and holding a scepter, both of which are also depicted here. The Queenship of Mary goes always with the Kingship of Christ; thus, the second crown is featured.

Our parish is the oldest in Luton, whose history is also depicted here, derived from the Luton town arms. First one notices the beehive and bees in the red field, representing industriousness and the straw-plaiting industry brought to Luton by a group of Scots under the protection of Sir John Napier of Luton Hoo. It is for this reason that the rose and thistle are also included, with the rose being derived from the Napier family arms and the thistle representing Scotland.

Our Lady Help of Christians, pray for us!



Our Facebook launches today! Follow us using the QR Code here to stay connected with the parish.