



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

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## 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Times, Intentions and Services		
<b>Sunday</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> May	09:30 18:00	For the people of the parish Mass in Private for all lonely or isolated
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	09:00	Mass in private for all Heath Workers
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	19:30	Mass in private for the elderly and vulnerable
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	09:00	Mass in private for All died from COVID 19
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	19:00	Margaret Crowe – RIP
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	19:00	Mass in private for the wellbeing of our parish
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	10:00	Mass in private for Government and policy makers
<b>Sunday</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> May	09:30 18:00	For the people of the parish Mass in Private for all lonely or isolated

## Sunday Reflection from Fr. Pius Duke

In today's 1<sup>st</sup> Reading we read about the history of the office of deacons. The diaconate is the first stage of the ministerial priesthood. The diaconate is made up of Permanent and Transitory Deacons. Transitory deacons are those who later are ordained into the priesthood while permanent deacons do not proceed further. They are permitted to marry. Both are called to a mission of service in the Church. In the early Church, they served as helpers to the apostles. Today, they form the first rung of the clerical state and continue to function as helpers to the priests and the bishops. We can learn the following lessons from this reading. First, we must not neglect or take the social or material needs of our communities for granted. If left unattended, they could undermine the work of God.

Second, we must balance both our spiritual and material needs because both are important. Third, we must not forget who we are or neglect our primary calling. The mundane should not distract us from our mission and vocation as Peter rightly noted: "It would not be right for us to neglect the word of God so as to give out food...we will hand over this duty and devote ourselves to prayer and to the service of the word of God."

If we pay too much attention to material needs, the spiritual will certainly suffer. We cannot do everything by ourselves. We must let others play their role by helping us. Finally, we must be wise and prayerful in selecting ministers for God's mission. They must be "men of good reputation, [filled with the Holy Spirit](#) and with wisdom."

Finally, Jesus' words bring great comfort to the disciples who are saddened by the revelation that he is going back to his Father. They dread at the thought of losing him. He tells them of their ultimate reward in the Father's house. He is the way, the truth and the life for the people. He is one with God and will never leave them abandoned but will do whatever they ask in his name. Jesus urges the disciples to believe in him and to do the work that he does. For this they must turn away from sinful ways and live in love and service. The disciples of the early Church carried out this work and fulfilled his mission. We also by our baptismal calling must trust and follow Christ by collaborating in his mission.

**Masses will be celebrated each day privately by the parish clergy for your intentions. New Mass intention should be sent to [sacredheartchurchoxford@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartchurchoxford@gmail.com).**

**Offertory (collections):** Normal weekend collections cannot be taken under current circumstances. While recognising that this is a very difficult time financially for many people, others may still wish to continue their regular Sunday donations, if they are not already using the envelopes or standing order facilities. Donations may be sent to the Parish even through standing order. We do not receive any financial support from the Diocese, and other important activities like letting out the hall for community use have ceased, while our expenditure remains effectively the same.

### Mass Suspension Information

**COVID 19:** If you or someone you know in the parish is self-isolating and is in need of any support, such as help with shopping or a chat on the phone, please get in touch with the Parish Office: Email: [sacredheartchurch.oxford@gmail.com](mailto:sacredheartchurch.oxford@gmail.com) Phone: 01865 776903 or 01865 762964. **Corpus Christi Parish in Headington will continue to be live streaming weekday and Sunday Mass, and more details can be found at <https://corpuschristiheadington.co.uk> <https://greyfriarsoxford.weebly.com>**

Also, you can visit the parish website: <https://sacredheartoxford.com>.

## Let us pray together ....

**Leader:** Lord God, Jesus told us not to let our hearts be troubled, to trust in you and to trust in him. We bring you our prayers, knowing that you love us more than we can possibly imagine.

We pray that Pope Francis and all religious leaders might inspire hope and courage during this global pandemic. **Lord, in Your Mercy...**

We pray that all governments will come together in peace and genuine dialogue so that, emerging from the sadness and anxiety of the pandemic, the way ahead might help and support the people who are most in need. **Lord, in Your Mercy...**

We pray for all those whose lives have been turned upside-down by the pandemic, that those who have been bereaved might be comforted, that those in isolation might not feel lonely, and that there might be a secure future for those whose employment is insecure. **Lord, in Your Mercy...**

We pray in gratitude for the generous self-sacrifice of so many people during the past few weeks, that God will bless and reward their compassionate goodness during a time of crisis. Lord, in Your Mercy... We pray that children and young people will confidently return to full-time education and will face the future with hope and happiness. **Lord, in Your Mercy...**

We pray that the experience of the coronavirus will leave a lasting legacy of kindness, compassion, solidarity, hope and the priceless values which make life worth living. **Lord, in Your Mercy...**

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day, we thank you for the courage of the countless millions of people who dreamed of world peace. We pray that their example will inspire their descendants to continue their work for peace. **Lord, in Your Mercy...**

**Hail Mary, full of grace....**

**Leader:** Lord our God, we believe in you. We hope in you. We trust you and we love you, who reign within our world, our lives and our hearts for ever and ever. Amen.

### PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS (Pope Francis)

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Our Refuge and our Hope, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen