



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

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Acting Parish Priest: Fr. Pius Duke

Email: fr.pius.duke@rcaob.org.uk

Acting Priest: Fr. Vincent Omokpakpo

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass Times, Intentions and Services		
	09:30	Mass in private for Brenden Whelan (RIP)
Sunday 17 th May	18:00	Mass in private for all lonely or isolated
Monday 18 th May	09:00	Mass in private for all Heath Workers
Tuesday 19 th May	19:30	Mass in private for the elderly and vulnerable
Wednesday 20 th May	09:00	Mass in private for All died from COVID 19
Thursday 21 st May	19:00	Mass in private for Tom Hiceta (RIP)
Friday 22 nd May	09:00	Mass in private for the wellbeing of our parish
Saturday 23 rd May	10:00	Mass in private for May Elward (RIP)
Sunday 24 th May	09:30	Mass in private for Cecilia Michael (RIP)
	18:00	Mass in Private for all lonely or isolated

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

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 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>.

Sunday Reflection from Fr. Pius Duke

In today's Gospel, Jesus promises the Holy Spirit to his disciples. After completing his mission, the time has come for him to leave the world. But Jesus' love for his people is so intense that he will not leave them orphaned. He promises them the advocate – the gift of the Holy Spirit. He will infuse them with his own Spirit. The Holy Spirit will continue to live in them, teaching, guiding, healing, strengthening and comforting. This was evident and witnessed in the early Church and even today especially through the administration of the Sacraments (baptism and confirmation). The apostles laid hands on the people and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Being strengthened by the Holy Spirit they endured persecutions and trials with joy and courage. They healed the sick and raised the dead in the power of the Holy Spirit. The Acts of the Apostles provide many accounts of such miracles and works performed through the power of the Holy Spirit thereby testifying to God's presence in the early Church.

We receive the Holy Spirit, particularly during the reception of the Sacraments of the Church. He continues to live and work amidst us today. Every human being is endowed with the Holy Spirit. It is only when we become aware of his presence and open to his guidance that our lives become meaningful and joyful. Are you aware of the working of the Holy Spirit at liturgical celebrations? Am I open to the Holy Spirit's promptings and guidance in my life?

The world is extremely sick. The devil has worked so hard to distort facts, to sow the seed of discord and hatred, leaving humanity with lots of lies. Most of these lies have been embellished to look like truths. More than in any other age, we need the counsellor, The Holy Spirit, the sanctifier and wisdom of God to come and expose very clearly the errors, the lies and the craftiness of Satan.

Online Parish Tea Party: We had a successful online tea party on last Sunday, drawing together over 20 members of our parish. Thanks to all participants. We will be having the next meeting on Sunday 24th May at 3.00 pm using Zoom. Please let Chris Breward (breward@maths.ox.ac.uk) know if you like to join in and Chris will send you a link that can be used from your computer or smart phone.

Masses will be celebrated each day privately by the parish clergy for your intentions. New Mass intention should be sent to sacredheartchurchoxford@gmail.com.

Let us pray together

The prayers below can be used to aid our spiritual reflection over the coming week.

We turn humbly to the Lord Jesus in hope and, once more, place the needs of the Church and the World into his loving care:

1. We pray for all who are seriously ill, in mind or body, including those suffering with COVID-19, whether in care homes, hospitals or at home. That they will respond to the care and treatment they receive and be restored to health. **Lord in your mercy...**
2. We pray for all who continue to put themselves at personal risk to provide direct care to others; and for all in support services helping to keep our society running. Keep them, and their families, safe Lord and guide them to do your work. **Lord in your mercy...**
3. We pray for our families, the young and the old and all who live on their own. May these times bring us all closer together as a community, strengthening our bonds of love and faith. **Lord in your mercy...**
4. We pray for Fr Pius and Fr Vincent, and for all the priests, deacons and religious in our Oxford Deanery as they witness to the Faith and bring hope and consolation to those in need. May they get the support they need. **Lord in your mercy...**
5. We pray for the Pope and for leaders everywhere. May those with political and statutory authority act to uphold the Common Good, protecting the rights of all, as our society slowly opens up once more. **Lord in your mercy...**
6. We pray for all who are being adversely affected economically. That they will soon find channels to fully utilise their gifts and experience once more. **Lord in your mercy...**
7. We pray for teachers, lecturers and students, that they will soon be able to fully resume the important task of giving and receiving education, without further disruption. **Lord in your mercy...**
8. We pray for all affected by war, natural disaster, or political division, who struggle for the basic essentials of life. We remember especially the people of the Holy Land, who remain in grave need at this time. May the Lord inspire us to give generously to those less fortunate than ourselves. **Lord in your mercy...**
9. We pray for all who have died, that God will bring them into his Kingdom of eternal peace and bring comfort to all who grieve. **Lord in your mercy...**
10. We pray for our own intentions for the week ahead. We turn to Our Lady Queen of Heaven and ask her intercession and say **Hail Mary ...**

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