



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

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass Times, Intentions and Services		
Sunday 16 th August	09:30	Public Mass for Roselyne Nyambutu Mburu
Monday 17 th August	10:00	Mass in private for the sick and the housebound
Tuesday 18 th August	19.00	Rosary & Mass (via Zoom) for John Joe McGroarty
Wednesday 19 th August	10:00	Mass in private for those suffering economic hardships
Thursday 20 th August	19.00	Adoration & Mass (via Zoom) for persecuted Christians in the world
Friday 21 st August	10.00	Mass in private for the wellbeing of our parish
Saturday 22 nd August	10:00	Mass in private for all who died from COVID 19
Sunday 23 rd August	09:30	Public Mass for people of the Parish

Offertory (collections):

- People are encouraged to consider moving to online offertory giving, to minimise the amount of cash we need to handle as we reopen.
- We will give out the gift aid envelopes in future weeks.

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. **Live streaming of Mass from St Anthony of Padua church at 10.00 am every day.** Please visit: <http://www.stanthonyofpadua.org.uk/> or

https://www.facebook.com/Saop_Oxford-974143142974717/

Live streaming of the Mass also available at:

<https://corpuschristiheadington.co.uk>

<https://greyfriarsoxford.weebly.com>

Sunday Reflection from Fr. Pius Duke

Mary's assumption is viewed to have been a divine gift to her as the 'Mother of God'. According to Fulton Sheen, "given further an immunity from original sin, there would not be in the Body of Our Lady the dichotomy, tension, and opposition that exists in us between body and soul... if the distant moon moves all the surging tides of earth, then the love of Mary for Jesus and the love of Jesus for Mary should result in such an ecstasy as to lift her out of this world." This statement puts to rest the doubt about Mary's assumption. Mary was chosen by God, was conceived immaculate, bore Jesus the son of God and yet remained a virgin. It is logical that her body would experience no corruption. She was, and still remains, the ark of the New Covenant, and God preserved her body from corruption from her conception to death. Just as Mary completed her life as a shining example to the human race, the perspective of the gift of Assumption is offered to the whole human race. Her assumption into heaven also helps us to know that heaven is the final destination of those who do the will of God. Mary is therefore, offered to us as a model of deep faith, and as disciples of her son Jesus, we are called to learn from her example so that our lives, too, can be offered to God in gratitude just as Mary did, for Him to do great things in the world through us. No doubt, it is a big challenge but our complete surrender to God's will, like Mary, will pave the way for God's goodness in the world. Are you willing to be a 'Sacred vessel' like Mary that carries Jesus within and reflects Him to the world?

Reception and confirmation: We welcome Roselyne Nyambutu Mburu whose reception and confirmation takes place today at the 9:30 Mass.

Red Mission Boxes: Please leave your Red Mission Boxes in the Sacristy. Thank you.

Sacred Heart Church had reopened for public worship since 02nd August, with Masses celebrated on Sundays at 9.30 am. If you are planning to come please remember that a mask or face covering is necessary. Please DO NOT visit the church if you have a fever, new cough or have noticed recent changes in your ability to taste or smell. Please be aware that the numbers are limited by government guidelines on social distancing, and please respect the decision of the stewards if you are informed that the church is full. **For more details please visit:** <https://sacredheartoxford.com/>.

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

As the Body of Christ, let us pray...

Let us pray together....

We pray for Pope Francis, his bishops and priests, especially Fr Pius and Fr Vincent. May they guide us in our faith in these unsettled times. **Lord hear us...**

We pray for our parish community. We remember those who are housebound or sick, that they may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit. **Lord hear us...**

We pray for those who are suffering as a result of the pandemic - whether from illness, financial constraint or job insecurity. **Lord hear us...**

We pray for our young people as they await the results of their academic assessments. May their futures be blessed with your love and guidance. **Lord hear us...**

We pray for those who have died recently and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May those who continue to mourn be comforted in the knowledge that those who they have loved are enjoying the everlasting presence of God. **Lord hear us...**

Let us pray together to our blessed mother Mary: Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy, hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope. To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve: to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus, O merciful, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary! **Amen.**