



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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Times, Intentions and Services		
Sunday 23rd August	09:30	Public Mass for Maryamma (RIP)
Monday 24th August	10:00	Mass in private for the sick and the housebound
Tuesday 25th August	19.00	Rosary & Mass (via Zoom) for all Health Workers
Wednesday 26th August	10:00	Mass in private for those suffering economic hardships
Thursday 27th August	19.00	Adoration & Mass (via Zoom) for persecuted Christians in the world
Friday 28th August	10.00	Mass in private for the wellbeing of our parish
Saturday 29th August	10:00	Mass in private for all who died from COVID 19
Sunday 30th 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

In today's Gospel passage we read how Peter's confession about the person of Jesus as his Lord and Saviour made Jesus to approve Peter's words and to give him the teaching and ruling authority to govern his Church. According to Jesus, Peter's confession was not ordinary but came through divine revelation. Peter was therefore handed over the keys to the kingdom of God. Peter became the first among his brethren because he manifested a great faith which for Jesus is the foundation of the Church. Thus, by this singular act, Jesus established a "Magisterium" in his Church to serve the spiritual and physical needs of the Church members. Second, with Jesus' statement, "I will give you the Keys to the Kingdom of Heaven," the Lord confers on Peter and his successors the power to bind and to loose (make laws; exercise authority) in the Church, and the assurance that their decisions will be ratified in Heaven. Those who manifest the same faith as Peter are called to form a formidable family of God under the authority of Peter-sustained by faith. The winds and waves of the world may bear down on this the Church, but the gates of the underworld would never prevail against it. But without faith we become like the man who builds upon sand.

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....

Priest: Loving Father, we come before You placing you above all else. Hear our prayers that we bring to You, always trusting in Your guidance Reader:

We pray for Pope Francis as he asks each of us to bring our own life story to the Lord. As we journey through life, experiencing both pain and joy, let us remember to 'bring our story to the Lord' through prayer. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray for the people of Belarus. As the country is gripped by mass protests, violent clashes, allegations of police brutality and walkouts at major state enterprises, may Political leaders inspire peace for all their people. As the US election campaign gets underway, we pray that those running seek to have a positive influence on how the world responds to international crises, global pandemics and climate change. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray for those working in retail as many worries about the uncertainty of the high street and fear the news of further job losses. May they place their confidence in God's plan, may the Holy Spirit surround them and ease their troubled minds. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray for pupils that have collected their GCSE results this week. May they now be guided on a successful path to future learning whereby they can realise their true potential. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We pray also for all those caught up in the recent fiasco around A-level grades. As many families enjoy the summer holidays, we pray that they may be renewed and enlivened through quality time together, creating bountiful happy memories to cherish. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer**

We ask Mary our Mother to join her prayers with ours as we say, **Hail Mary** Let us pray for a moment for our own personal petitions, remembering those who have asked us to pray for them.

Priest: God, our Father, You take away the sins of the world. Guide us with Your loving light as we walk each day with You in our heart. **Amen.**