



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

(01865) 776903 • sacredheartchurchoxford@gmail.com • www.sacredheartoxford.com

Acting Parish Priest: Fr. Pius Duke

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

Acting Priest: Fr. Vincent Omokpakpo

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass Times, Intentions and Services		
Sunday 09 th August	09:30	Public Mass for Neria Eteivine Guterres Andrade
Monday 10 th August	10:00	Mass in private for the sick and the housebound
Tuesday 11 th August	19.00	Rosary & Mass (via Zoom) for all Heath Workers
Wednesday 12 th August	10:00	Mass in private for those suffering economic hardships
Thursday 13 th August	19.00	Adoration & Mass (via Zoom) for Michael Cullen – RIP
Friday 14 th August	10.00	Mass in private for the wellbeing of our parish
Saturday 15 th August	10:00	Mass in private for all who died from COVID 19
Sunday 16 th 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

Our lives are full of challenges and many a time we tend to despair. In the words of the gospel today we hear Jesus telling the apostles “Courage, it is I. Do not be afraid” Jesus is real in all generations for he is eternal. After Elijah dealt mercilessly with the prophets of Baal he ran from Israel for fear of Jezebel. He ran for his dear life. Unsure of what awaits him. He found himself in a cave. And God sent him a sign that he is not abandoned through the passing of a gentle breeze. God found him in a cave and asked him to go back to Israel and “... stand before me” to act again as Yahweh’s servant. (cf 1kg. 17: 1; 18:15). Such is God’s intervention in our lives especially when we think that all hope is lost. There are many Christians today who have lost bearing and forgotten where they began the journey of faith and join the path that leads to doom. They follow all sorts of strange doctrines, thereby endangering their faith due to seeking short-cuts and an easy way out of their problems. Yet Jesus refuses to abandon them high and dry. In the gospel we saw how he fed the people and manifested his glory before his disciples when he walked on the sea. We must be aware of the presence of Jesus which brings us peace even in the wildest storms of life: the storms of anxiety and worries about the future we are suffering now in the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic, storms of sorrow, storms of doubt, tension and uncertainty, storms of anger and despair, storms of temptations, and storms in family relationships. Jesus assures us of the special peace that comes from a personal relationship with God, enhanced through prayer, meditative reading of Scripture, and active participation in the Holy Mass and reception of the Sacraments.

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...

Priest: Heavenly Father, we come before you to seek your counsel and guidance. We place all our trust and hope in You, hear our prayers.

We pray for Pope Francis and follow his lead to encourage young Catholics to allow Jesus to transform their lives. Let us help our youth discover a new way to live beyond material possessions and provide the opportunity to encounter Jesus Christ in their daily lives. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...**

We pray that all world leaders will remain vigilant to a second wave of the Coronavirus. May they be steadfast in protecting the health of their people first and foremost whilst safeguarding livelihoods and the economy. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...**

We pray for all those affected by the explosion in Beirut. Bring comfort to those who mourn, healing to the injured, shelter to the homeless, and sustenance to the hungry. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...**

We pray for those recently deceased as they now meet God face to face. As we mark The Feast of the Transfiguration let us remember the glory of the Lord as God, and His Ascension into heaven. Through grace we share in the divine promise of eternal life. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...**

We pray for people living in poverty. Let us think of those that are struggling to cope day after day, night after night. Let us share what we have with others and always do our best to help those in need. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...**

We pray for pupils as they wait patiently for exam results. Although this academic year has been like no other, we pray that the results will reflect their hard work and provide encouragement as they continue their lifelong journey of learning. **Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer...**

We ask Mary our Mother to join her prayers with ours as we say **Hail Mary**

Priest: God our Father, we place our lives in your hands. We make these prayers through Jesus, our Saviour. **Amen.**