



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

### *13<sup>th</sup> September, 2020*

**Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD**

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

Email: fr.harry.curtis@rcaob.org.uk

Sunday, 13 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <i>Education Day</i>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<i>Eileen Anne O'Neill (RIP)</i>
Monday, 14 <sup>th</sup> September <i>Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	9.15 am Mass	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday, 15 <sup>th</sup> September <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	No Mass Today	
Wednesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> September <i>Memorial of Ss. Cornelius and Cyprian</i>	No Mass Today	
Thursday, 17 <sup>th</sup> September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</i>	6.30 pm Exposition with Confessions 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Private Intention</i>
Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup> September	No Mass Today	
Saturday, 19 <sup>th</sup> September <i>Op. Mem. of St. Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop, or of St. Januarius, Bishop, Martyr</i>	No Mass Today	
Sunday, 20 <sup>th</sup> September <b>Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	<b>9.00 am</b> <b>6.00 pm</b>	<i>Tony Donovan</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>

### **Welcome to Sacred Heart Church.**

**Education Sunday.** Today is Education Sunday when we are asked to pray for the work of Catholic education across the schools of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

**Please pray for those we know who are sick. At this stage I am afraid I don't know the names of those in this parish who need prayers.** If you would like prayers for yourself or for a family member, let me know (in writing, please).

**Please pray for John O'Connor, Margaret Gleeson,** and all those who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur about this time. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. There will be a funeral Service for Margaret Gleeson at Our Lady's on Monday morning. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic, no more than 30 may attend.

**Change of Mass Time:** Please note that the time of Mass on Sunday morning has been changed. It is now at 9.00 am. This is because I am also the parish Priest at Our Lady Help of Christians in Cowley and the times of Mass were clashing. I am asking each parish to change slightly. I hope and pray this will not be an inconvenience to you. **NEXT SUNDAY WE SHALL RESTART MASS AT 6.00 pm AS WELL AS 9.00 am.**

**If you cannot get to Mass** – and the Sunday obligation to attend Mass has been lifted for the time being – you can still join in by watching a live Mass via the wonders of modern technology. Here is a prayer, an Act of Spiritual Communion, which you can say as you watch a Livestream Mass:

*"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You."*

### **Prayer in time of pandemic:**

*Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray: look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

To see the Diocesan Privacy Notice go to <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

**In this time of pandemic we have to be very careful, so please note the following precautions:**

**People attending Mass are asked to...**

- + Wear a face covering (please bring one)
- + Remain 1 metre+ apart
- + Sanitise hands on entering and leaving
- + Complete a slip for Track and Trace

**During Mass there will be no...**

- + Holy water in the stoups
- + Hymnbooks
- + Children's liturgy
- + Serving team
- + Collection bags
- + Offertory procession
- + Physical Sign of Peace

**At Holy Communion**

- + Wait for stewards' directions
- + Process in single file
- + Maintain social distancing
- + Face coverings to be worn
- + Receive in silence on the hand only

**Please stay at home if...**

- + You have a pre-existing condition or are immuno-compromised
- + You are feeling ill
- + You suspect you may be ill or have been exposed to COVID-19
- + You have a sick family member at home

**PLEASE REMAIN VIGILANT.** Please sit where a steward directs you. This helps us to get as many people in church as is safely possible and prevents people squeezing past others to get to their seat of choice. It also makes the task of disinfecting surfaces after Mass much more manageable. Please maintain a safe distance from other people, even while wearing a face covering. The one is not a substitute for the other. Thank you for your co-operation with these measures to help stem the spread of Covid-19 and keep those attending our church safe.

**NHS Track and Trace System.** Government guidance states that churches should assist NHS Track & Trace by keeping a record of those who come to church. So, I ask you to give your name and 'phone number. Thank you.

- ❖ Only a name and 'phone number is needed.
- ❖ If a family come together, only one contact number is needed.
- ❖ Anyone is free to decline to provide details and still attend Mass.
- ❖ Details collected will be stored securely for 21 days. After that details collected will be securely disposed of.
- ❖ The legal basis on which the parish will hold this information is your consent.
- ❖ If NHS Track and Trace contacts the parish, details of those who attended the relevant Mass will be made available to them.

**Census.** Please return your census form if you have not done so yet; if you have lost the form, email Chris Breward at [sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).

**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.

Live streaming of the Mass each day is available at:  
<http://www.stanthonyofpadua.org.uk/>  
<https://corpuschristiheadington.co.uk>  
<https://greyfriarsoxford.weebly.com>

**Mass Intentions.** I apologise if, in the confusion of moving, I have overlooked any intentions that you have requested. If you have asked for a Mass to be said and I have not done so, please let me know.

**The Sacraments.** As I get more settled I shall try to make the Sacraments more easily available for you, especially Confession. If you would like to arrange a Baptism or a Marriage, please call me.

**Cleaners and Stewards Required.** I am very grateful to the team of cleaners and stewards who make it possible for us to have public Masses, but a few more people would make it easier for them. If you could help, either at the 9.00 am Mass or at the 6.00 pm Mass, please contact me or Marion McCarthy.

**Hall bookings.** I am afraid that for the present, on-site activities are limited to parish ones authorised by me.

**Gift Aid envelopes** for the financial year 2020/21 are now available in the hall. They are laid out alphabetically by surname, with 'A' closest to the door between the hall and the church. Please take your box, avoiding touching any of the others.

We encourage anyone who is paying tax in the UK and not currently gift aiding their offertory gifts to contact Sally McVeigh or Chris Breward ([sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)) to complete gift aid forms. The gift aid scheme allows the parish to claim back the tax you have already paid on the donations that you make to the parish, at no extra cost to you. You do not need to give a regular amount.

During the Covid pandemic, we encourage people to make their regular offertory gifts by direct transfer into the parish bank account so that we minimise the amount of cash that the counting team have to deal with. Please email Chris Breward ([sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)) to request the bank account details.

**Tailpiece.** As the parishioners were leaving the church after Mass one Sunday, a thoughtful person greeted the priest. "Father, today your sermon reminded me of the peace and the love of God!" The priest was thrilled. "No-one has ever said anything like that about my preaching before. Please tell me why." "Well," the parishioner explained, "it reminded me of the Peace of God because it passed all understanding, and the Love of God because it endured forever!"

**May God bless you and all those whom you love, and keep you safe. Fr. Harry.**