



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11th October, 2020

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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Sunday, 11 th October Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Prisons Week	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>The People of the Parish</i> <i>Joy Thomas (RIP)</i>
Monday, 12 th October <i>Optional Memorial of St. Wilfrid, Bishop</i>	9.00 am Mass	<i>Alvin Jomy</i>
Tuesday, 13 th October <i>Optional Memorial of St. Edward the Confessor</i>	1.00 pm Requiem Mass	<i>Delia Simmons</i>
Wednesday, 14 th October <i>Op. Memorial of St. Callistus I, Pope, Martyr</i>	No Mass Today	
Thursday, 15 th October <i>Mem. of St. Teresa of Jesus, Doctor of the Church</i>	<i>6.00 pm Exposition with Confessions</i> 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Noble & Family</i>
Friday, 16 th October <i>Optional Memorials of St. Hedwig, or of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>	No Mass Today	
Saturday, 17 th October <i>Memorial of St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</i>	No Mass Today	
Sunday, 18 th October Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>World Mission Day</i>	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>The People of the Parish</i> <i>Jomon & Family</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00-6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church, especially if you are here for the first time for a long time.

Please pray for those we know who are sick. If you are ill and you would like your name to be mentioned on this newsletter, let me know (in writing, please). Similarly, if a family member is ill, please let me know in writing.

Please pray for Antonio Abreu, Margaret Jones, Mary Murphy, Delia Simmons, and all those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur about this time, including: Bishop Michael Glancey, Mgr. Cyril L. Fay, Mgr. Paul Watson, Canon William Withers, Frs. Terence Whatmore, Seamus Gilroy, Edmund Cullen, Thomas L. Rohan, Charles Friel, Gerald J. Adams, and Deacon Louis Kelly. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace. There will be a Requiem Mass for Antonio Abreu at 10.30am on Monday at Our Lady's, and a Requiem Mass for Delia Simmons here on Tuesday at 1.00 pm. Unfortunately, numbers are limited for each, and only family members may attend.

The Sacraments. I am available for Confessions on Thursday evenings, 6.00-6.45. If you would like to arrange a Baptism or a Marriage, please call me.

“Fratelli Tutti”. St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day should have been last Sunday, used to address his followers as “Fratelli tutti” – “Brothers and sisters all” – when he wanted to impress on them the importance of living according to the message of the Gospel. Last week Pope Francis used the same address to begin his latest Encyclical Letter. An Encyclical Letter is one of the highest levels of teaching in the Church, and this is Pope Francis’ third Encyclical Letter. His second was *Laudato Si*, which was a plea to care for the world, our common home. This Letter is a plea from Pope Francis to care for our brothers and sisters. It is quite long (287 paragraphs) but not too difficult to read. It is basically a call for more human fraternity and solidarity. He says that he offers this social Encyclical “as a modest contribution to continued reflection, in the hope that in the face of present-day attempts to eliminate or ignore others, we may prove capable of responding with a new vision of fraternity and social friendship that will not remain at the level of words.” He also says, “As I was writing this letter, the Covid-19 pandemic unexpectedly erupted, exposing our false securities. Aside from the different ways that various countries responded to the crisis, their inability to work together became quite evident. For all our hyper-connectivity, we witnessed a fragmentation that made it more difficult to resolve problems that affect us all. Anyone who thinks that the only lesson to be learned was the need to improve what we were already doing, or to refine existing systems and regulations, is denying reality.”

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

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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 at the end of Mass:

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! *Pray for us, O holy Mother of God*, that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ. Amen.

Updated Restrictions For Places Of Worship. Since Monday, 28th September, the following changes to government restrictions have come into effect:

- Weddings: attendance is now limited to 15 people.
- Baptisms: For baptisms outside of the context of a parish Mass, attendance is limited to 6 people. For baptisms in the context of a parish Mass, the capacity limit of the church applies.
- Funerals: no change i.e. attendance limited to 30 people.
- Mass: If you are attending Mass with others, then the group should not exceed 6 people. A group of six can be made up of people from outside your household, but social distancing must be maintained between members of different households. The only exception to this new rule is where a single household (or support bubble) contains more than six people, but the same rules on social interaction with others outside of the group apply.
- Confirmation & First Holy Communion: In the context of a parish Mass, the normal capacity limit of the church applies. If it is not within a Mass then only six may attend.

PLEASE REMAIN VIGILANT. Wear a face covering in the church and keep a safe distance from other people. If you or anyone with whom you have been in contact has symptoms of Covid-19 please do not come to church. Thank you for your co-operation with these measures to help stem the spread of Covid-19 and keep those attending our church safe. 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. Live streaming of the Mass each day is available at: <http://www.stanthonyofpadua.org.uk/>; <https://corpuschristiheadington.co.uk> <https://greyfriarsoxford.weebly.com>

Please note: Monday Mass will be at 9.00 am (not 9.15) because I have a funeral at Our Lady’s at 10.30.

NHS Track and Trace System. Each time you come to Mass please provide your contact details. EITHER scan the QR code for our church with your phone, OR give your name and phone number to the stewards as you come into the church. Thank you.

World Mission Sunday, Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, a special day that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, celebration and care for the mission of the Church. Your prayers and donations will support the work of missionaries as they share God’s mercy and love.

Gift Aid. Gift Aid envelopes for the financial year 2020/21 are now available in the hall. If you haven’t already done so, please take your box, avoiding touching the others. If you are paying income tax in the UK and you are not currently Gift Aiding your offertory gifts, please consider doing so. Contact Sally McVeigh or Chris Breward) to complete gift aid forms.

In November especially we pray for those who have died. There will be a Parish Memorial Mass for those in the parish and our family/friends who have died, especially those during the past year, on Saturday, 28th November, at 11.00 am. All welcome.

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.

Rosary: October is the month of the Rosary, and you are welcome to join me to pray five Decades on Monday and Thursday after Mass during the month.

Congratulations to Canon David Evans and Canon Stephen Wright who were ordained Bishops by Archbishop Bernard Longley at St Chad’s Cathedral in Birmingham last Friday. They will serve as Auxiliary Bishops in the Archdiocese. Bishop Evans will have pastoral responsibility for the four Deaneries of Birmingham and the two Deaneries of Worcestershire. Bishop Wright will have pastoral responsibility for the Deaneries of Staffordshire and the Black Country. Please pray for them. *Ad Multos Annos* – to many years!

Tailpiece:

Teacher: “When Mary and Joseph found that Jesus was not with them on their way back from Jerusalem, what do you think they did?”

Child: “Please, Miss, they knelt down and said a prayer to St. Anthony.”

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