



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Solemnity of All Saints

1st November, 2020

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

(01865) 776903 • sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk • www.sacredheartoxford.com

Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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

Sunday, 1 st November Solemnity of All Saints	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>The People of the Parish Martinho L Soares, Fernando Neves Liu & others</i>
Monday, 2 nd November <i>Commemoration of All Souls</i>	9.15 am Mass	<i>Gaspen Trendcefile & Francesc Zefi</i>
Tuesday, 3 rd November <i>Optional Memorial of St. Martin de Porres, or of St. Winefride</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Wednesday, 4 th November <i>Memorial of St. Charles Borromeo</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Thursday, 5 th November	6.00 pm <i>Exposition with Confessions</i> 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Rolly Esteban - Thanksgiving</i>
Friday, 6 th November	No Public Mass Today	
Saturday, 7 th November <i>Optional Memorial of St. Willibrord</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 8 th November Thirty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>Cecile - Thanksgiving The People of the Parish</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.

Today is the Solemnity of All Saints, and tomorrow is All Souls Day.

All Souls is not a Holyday of Obligation, but many people like to go to Mass to pray for their deceased family and friends.

Welcome to Fr. Robert Gay OP, Prior at Blackfriars in the City. I must be in Birmingham this afternoon and I am very grateful to Fr Robert for coming to Sacred Heart to celebrate the 6.00 pm Mass this evening.

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 Kathleen Hill, Mary Murphy, Maria Barresi, Noleen (Bernie) Keenan, Fr. Thomas Williams who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time, including Archbishop Maurice Couve de Murville, Bishop John Barrett, Mgr. Bertram Gould, Mgr. Canon Eugene O'Sullivan, Canons Denis Toplass, Patrick Smith and John Redford, Frs. Henry Taylor, Louis Moore, James Curtin, Aengus Donlon, James Francis Broomfield, John Brisland, and Deacon Paul Grosvenor, and also Kevin Hosey and Cora Proctor. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

Praying for the Dead in November. A question that sometimes comes up is, "What do we mean in the Creed when we say that we believe in the communion of saints?" I think it can best be summed up in the phrase, "We are all in this together". Within the Church we are united, held together by the one Spirit in the one Lord, and that unity extends, not only throughout the world, but throughout time and into eternity. We are in the same community as the saints, the holy men and women who have gone before us and now enjoy the fulness of life in heaven. They are the "Church Triumphant" and we ask them to pray for us, the "Church Militant", who are still engaged in the daily spiritual battles. But what about the people who have died in union with Jesus but who are marked with the stain of sin? We believe that only the perfect may enter heaven. St John Henry Newman once wrote, "Heaven would be hell to an irreligious man"; when we behold the perfection of God we realise how bad we are. Purgatory is for the purifying of those souls so that they may be fit to enter heaven. The community there is called the "Church Suffering" and we can help them with our prayers and most of all by offering the sacrifice of the Mass for them. We do this at all times, but especially during November we remember our brothers and sisters, one with us in the communion of saints, and we ask Almighty God to have mercy on them and bring them to the joys of heaven.

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.*

COVID-19 At the time of writing, we don't know whether we are going to be locked down again, but.....

- **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.
- **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.
- At the end of Mass please wait for the stewards to direct you and leave the church through the hall.

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>

November is approaching, and it is the month when traditionally we pray for those who have died:

- **November Prayers for the Dead.** There are slips of paper available to write the names of those for whom you wish to pray during November. Place them in one of the baskets in front of the altar and they will be remembered at Mass during the month.
- **There will be a Parish Memorial Mass for those in the parish and our family/friends who have died,** especially those whose funerals have been held here during the past year, on Saturday, 28th November, 11.00 am. If you would like anyone's name to be included in this special commemoration please let me know (in writing). All welcome.
- **Remembrance Sunday.** Sunday, 8th November, will be Remembrance Sunday when we remember and pray for those who have died in past and present wars. We shall have a short service after the parish Masses to lay a wreath at the foot of the cross and pray for those who died and for peace.



Gift Aid. Gift Aid envelopes for the financial year 2020/21 are now available in the hall. Thank you to all those who Gift Aid their contributions to the parish; it makes a big difference. Just a reminder that if your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay tax, or you have moved house, could you let Sally McVeigh know, please. 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. For a form, contact Sally McVeigh or Chris Breward, (sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).

Fr. Hudson's Care. We missed the annual collection for Fr. Hudson's, the social care agency of the Archdiocese. This annual collection makes a great difference to the work they can do, so if you can manage it, I should like to have a collection next Sunday.

Next Friday is the First Friday of the month. The Prayers to the Sacred Heart will be said before Thursday evening Mass.

Ordinations. Today three men will be ordained as Permanent Deacons at St. Chad's Cathedral. It is a great day for them and for their families, and a day for the diocesan family to rejoice. Please pray for John Garvey, Dirk Hermans, and Dominic Kerr.

Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage, Today, at noon, celebrated by Bishop David Evans. Livestream via St Chad's website (<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>). Married couples are encouraged to join the Mass at home which will include the Renewal of Commitment.

Tailpiece: Little Philip was walking home in the rain with his mother one Sunday after Mass. They rounded the corner, and to their surprise and delight there was a vivid double rainbow in the sky. "Isn't that beautiful?" his mother exclaimed. "I bet God painted that just for you!" "Yes," replied Philip, "God did it, and what's more He did it left-handed." Confused, his mother asked him, "What makes you say God did this left-handed?" "Mummy!" said Philip, "The priest just said at church that Jesus is sitting on God's right hand."

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