



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday of Lent

28th February, 2021

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

(Also serving Our Lady Help of Christians, Cowley, 01865 770910)

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

Sunday, 28 th February Second Sunday of Lent <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	9.00 am 5.15 pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 6.00 pm	<i>Lucia Josephat - RIP</i> <i>J Madeira, N Madeira & Octavio Salsina - RIP</i>
Monday, 1 st March <i>Feast of St. David, Bishop, Patron of Wales</i>	9.15 am	<i>Helen Cullen - Intention</i>
Tuesday, 2 nd March <i>Feast of St. Chad, Patron of the Archdiocese</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Wednesday, 3 rd March	No Public Mass Today	
Thursday, 4 th March <i>Optional Commemoration of St. Casimir</i>	6.00 pm <i>Exposition & Benediction</i> 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Jordan Hollero - Intention</i>
Friday, 5 th March <i>Women's World Day of Prayer</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Saturday, 6 th March	No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 7 th March Third Sunday of Lent <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	9.00 am 5.15 pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 6.00 pm	<i>The People of the Parish</i> <i>Special Intention</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00-6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today,

A Liturgical Note: During Lent we do not say the Gloria during Mass on Sundays, nor the joyful word "A*****A!" There are no flowers decorating the altar or the lectern, and the statues in the church will be veiled from the 5th Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday) until Holy Saturday. We shall save it all up and let rip with sound, light and colour at the Easter Vigil when we celebrate the Resurrection.

First Friday. This Friday is the first of the month. We shall pray the Novena Prayers of the Sacred Heart before Mass on Thursday evening.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of John Flanagan, Bernadette Gavin, Mary Lillis, Philomena Gardiner, Bridget Willoughby, Jose Robeiro, Marty Patten and for the souls of all who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop Kevin Dunn, Canon Peter Taylor, Frs. John Flynn, William Diver, Denis McGuinness, Denis Murphy, Douglas Carter, John Pinkman and Robert Wright. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Jose Robeiro's funeral will be at Our Lady's at noon on Tuesday, 9th March, and Bridget Willoughby's funeral will also be at Our Lady's on Monday, 22nd March, at 10.00 am

Please pray for all those we know who are sick. If you or family members are ill and you would like to ask for prayers on this newsletter, let me know (in writing, please). Thank you.

Mass at Home. You are welcome to Sacred Heart for Mass, but if you wish to join us for Mass from your home, we can Zoom the Mass to you. Alternatively, you could watch the Mass on Saturday, 5.30 pm, and/or Sunday, 11.00 am from Our Lady's where we are now live and can be viewed at <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

Here is a prayer, **an Act of Spiritual Communion**, which you can say as you watch the Mass at home:

"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.*



We had the CAFOD Lent Fast Day last Friday.

CAFOD asked us to give up something to help them as they work with people in need around the world. There are envelopes on your seats in church today. If you wish, you can

use them and put them into the collection baskets along with your weekly offering to the church. Or you could donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent. You can also give via text. Text LENT to 70460 to donate £10. (*Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more info, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice*)

Lectio Divina. Would you like to try "Lectio Divina" by Zoom during Lent? It is a Latin phrase, meaning "divine reading", and it is a way of praying with the Bible. We had our first session last Monday and I think it worked quite well. You are welcome to join us. We read the following Sunday's Gospel together and pray about it. It takes about half an hour, 7.00–7.30 pm. If you would be interested in trying it please let me know and make sure that I have your email address.

Congratulations to Rachel and Phoebe who are taking on the Walk for Water Challenge and have even got into the Oxford Mail, which is great. Have a look at <https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/19095066.mother-toddler-go-extra-mile-water-aid-quest/> For updates and photos: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/rachel-and-phoebe-walk-for-water>. If you would like to join them, email rachel.beward@gmail.com

Parish Penance Service. On Thursday, 18th March, at 6.00 pm, with Mass at 7.00 pm.

"Walk With Me" Booklets. There are still a few copies available in the hall, cost £1, or whatever you can afford. The Lent calendars are free. The daily reflections can help us on our journey of prayer and contemplation.

Feasts of St. David, Patron Saint of Wales, and St. Chad, Patron of this Diocese. A happy feast day tomorrow to anyone with Welsh blood. And a happy feast day to us all on Tuesday, St. Chad's Day.

Morning Prayer. Each morning (except Wednesdays and Thursdays) I shall pray the Office of Readings and Morning Prayer of the Church at 8.00 in Our Lady's. You are welcome to join me through the live streaming

Stations of the Cross each Sunday afternoon in Lent, at 5.15, before the evening Mass.

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new envelopes will be available next week. If your circumstances have changed in a way that affects your income tax please let Sally know (01865 779078). Similarly, if you wish to start gift aiding your weekly donations to the church, please give Sally a call.

COVID-19. When you come to church, please wear a face-covering, sanitise your hands on arrival and departure, check in for the track and trace, and keep your distance from others who are not in your "bubble".

Induction. According to Canon Law, a Parish Priest should be "inducted" into his new parish. Normally it would be a chance for a celebration in church, followed by a party. Unfortunately, we can't do that at present, but there will be a service of Induction at 12.00 noon on Saturday, 20th March, when the Dean, Canon Mervyn Tower, with "introduce" me to the parish. All welcome.

Annual Guild of St Stephen Mass. Altar servers across the Archdiocese are invited to join the live streaming of the Guild of St Stephen Mass at St Chad's Cathedral at 10am on Saturday, 6th March. As part of the celebration servers (young and old, whether at home or in church, vested or not) are encouraged to send a picture of themselves holding their Guild Medal to office@vocations.org.uk so the Vocations team can create a montage poster in lieu of the annual photo at Mass. **Please save the date and get involved!**

Echoes of God: Journeying with the word of God. The next chapter in our 7-week course on the Bible, written by David McLoughlin is available. to take away, or go to <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/thegod-who-speaks/focus/sunday-of-the-word-of-god/echoes-of-god-journeying-with-the-word-of-god/>

Tailpiece: I liked this from a child's essay about the meeting between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well, as recorded in St. John's Gospel (but not quite like this):

"Jesus spake unto her saying, 'How many husbands have you had?'

And she, answering, said, 'Lord, five.'

Jesus said, 'Give me a drink.'"

May God bless you throughout the Season of Lent and all those who are dear to you.

Fr. Harry