



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

11th April, 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

Happy Eastertide, everyone.
Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 11 th April Second Sunday of Easter <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>Bob Fryer</i> <i>John PM - RIP</i>
Monday, 12th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.15 am	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday, 13th April <i>Easter Feria</i> <i>Op. Memorial of St Martin I, Pope, Martyr</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Wednesday, 14th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Thursday, 15th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Friday, 16th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Saturday, 17th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 18 th April Third Sunday of Easter	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>Marissa Ferreira da Costa - RIP</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today. If you have recently moved into this parish, or if you are returning after lockdown, please say hello to me. Thank you.



The Easter Season

The Easter Season began on Easter Sunday, and ends after Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday. These fifty days are a very special time and, as St. Athanasius wrote, they “are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday.” The joyful sound of “Alleluia!” is heard many times throughout this season.

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

Please pray for the repose of the souls of James Kinyanjui, Kathleen Mullan and for the souls of all who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Bernard Gerald Hodgson, Frs. Joseph Barr, Michael McManus, Wilfrid Sheeran, Walter Edwards, Anthony Browne, Peter Moore and also Dorothy Byrne. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Prayer at the end of Mass:

*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia;
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia;
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.*

**O Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia,
Has risen as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

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 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."

Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions. Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. According to the diary of St. Faustina, Jesus said: *"...tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.... Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy".* (Diary 699).

"We believe you."

There is a beautiful story told recently about a woman named Rosemary who works in the Alzheimer's Unit of a nursing home. Rosemary and a colleague named Arlene brought the residents of the home together one Good Friday afternoon to view Franco Zeffirelli's acclaimed production, Jesus of Nazareth. They wondered whether these elderly Alzheimer's patients would even know what was going on, but they thought it might be worth the effort. When they finally succeeded in getting everyone into position, they started the video. Rosemary was pleasantly surprised at the quiet attention being paid to the screen. At last came the scene where Mary Magdalene comes upon the empty tomb and sees that Jesus' body is not there. An unknown man, in reality the Risen Christ, asks Mary why she is looking for the living among the dead. Mary runs as fast as she can back to the disciples and tells Peter and the rest with breathless excitement, "He's alive! I saw Him, I tell you! He's alive." The doubt in their eyes causes Mary to pull back. "You don't believe me . . . You don't believe me!" From somewhere in the crowd of Alzheimer's patients came the clear, resolute voice of Esther, one of the patients. "WE BELIEVE YOU," she said, "WE BELIEVE YOU!" [Rosemary Kadrmas in Jeff Cavins, et.al, *Amazing Grace for the Catholic Heart* (West Chester, PA: Ascension Press, LLC, 2003), pp. 211-212.]

Mass on Thursday. I am sorry but I cannot be here for Mass this Thursday evening.

CAFOD Walk for Water. Rachel and Phoebe would like to thank parishioners for supporting the Walk for Water campaign. We achieved our 10,000 steps over 40 days, reaching an actual total of 543,920 steps over those days. We have raised over £750 for CAFOD: this money could bring water to an entire community, so well done!!

If you would still like to sponsor us there is still time: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/rachel-and-phoebe-walk-for-water>

Collection on Good Friday for the Holy Places:
£41.19. Thank you.

Tailpiece: A priest, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave during the middle of his message. The man returned just before the end of the Mass. Afterwards the priest asked the man where he had gone. "I went to get a haircut," was the reply. "But why didn't you do that before Mass?" asked the priest. "Because," came the reply, "I didn't need one then."

Finally, what do you get if you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?

Hot Cross Bunnies!



Thank you for your generosity to me in the collection last Sunday and also for your gifts, cards, good wishes and prayers. I appreciate them very much.

May God bless you and all those you love.
Fr. Harry