



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Easter Sunday

4th April, 2021

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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

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

Sunday, 4 th April Easter Sunday	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>Larry Gardner The People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 5 th April <i>Monday within the Easter Octave</i>	9.15 am	<i>Maisie Moran</i>
Tuesday, 6 th April <i>Tuesday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Wednesday, 7 th April <i>Wednesday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Thursday, 8 th April <i>Thursday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Friday, 9 th April <i>Friday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Saturday, 10 th April <i>Saturday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 11 th April Second Sunday of Easter <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>Bob Fryer (Anniversary) John PM RIP</i>

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.



The Easter Season begins today, 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 first eight days make up the Easter Octave and they are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord – that is, feast days of the most importance. The joyful sound of “Alleluia!” is heard many times in this season and we add two “Alleluia’s” at the dismissal of the Mass.

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 John Flanagan, John Kinyungu, Kathleen Mullan and for the souls of all who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop Anthony Emery, Canons William Swift and Peter Jones, Frs. Michael Clive Glynn, Timothy Burke, Kevin Preston, Eamon Clarke and Kenneth Collins, and also Samuel E. Williams, Jack and Kathleen Duffy, Larry Gardner, Joan Ann Kelly. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

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

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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.”

Gift Aid Envelopes.

The new envelopes are available. Please take your box from the hall as you leave the church today, and if you have neighbours who are not here today, please do take their box and deliver it to them. 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.

New to the Parish or returning for Easter?

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

A big thank you

to everyone who worked so hard to make our Holy Week celebrations so beautiful. Thank you especially to our stewards and cleaners who made it possible to hold our services and who performed their tasks so willingly and with such efficiency and humour. Thank you too to Fr. Martin Flatman who was here on Maundy Thursday and Holy Saturday.

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>

Divine Mercy Sunday (next Sunday).

This week we are encouraged to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet (there are leaflets in the porch).

Cycle of Prayer.

During Easter we are asked to pray for the following intentions: new members of the Church; Vocations; the right use of the media; the Church; human work.

Today's collection.

Traditionally the collection at the Easter Masses is your personal offering to your priest. There are envelopes at the back of church to use if you wish. Thank you.

Tailpiece:

Once or twice it has been pointed out to me that I am a little forgetful at times (!), so I take some comfort from the example given by a Bishop of Exeter in times gone by. That kindly, but absent-minded gentleman was a keen cyclist and left his palace one warm day for a ride in the country. Two miles outside Exeter he realised that the bicycle he was riding did not belong to him, so he turned around and cycled back to find his own. By the time he was back in the city however, he had forgotten why he had returned and set out once again for the open road, still riding the wrong bicycle.



**Have a very happy and blessed Easter.
May God bless you and all those whom you
love. Fr. Harry**