



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

25th July, 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, 25 th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>World Day for Grandparents & the Elderly</i>	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>Gabriela Monterio & Osvaldo Da Silva - RIP</i> <i>Mrs & Mrs Abrigo</i>
Monday, 26 th July <i>Memorial of St. Joachim & St. Anne</i>	9.15 am Mass	<i>Tusin Tchung Vila-Nova (RIP)</i>
Tuesday, 27 th July <i>Memorial of Blessed Robert Sutton, Martyr</i>	(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Dennis Barry (Anniversary)</i>
Wednesday, 28 th July	No Mass Today	
Thursday, 29 th July <i>Memorial of St. Martha</i>	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Bibiana Hollero (RIP)</i>
Friday, 30 th July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Terezina Sarmento</i>
Saturday, 31 st July <i>Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola, Priest</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 1 st August Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00 am 6.00 pm	<i>The People of the Parish</i> <i>John & Family (Thanksgiving)</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass.

If you have recently moved into this parish, or if you are returning after lockdown, please come and say hello to me. Thank you.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The Holy Father has designated today the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The elderly can obtain an Indulgence by participating in one of the Masses celebrated on the occasion of this World Day, and this is extended to those who participate via television, radio or the internet. The Indulgence is also granted to all those who perform a 'work of mercy' on this World Day by visiting an elderly person who is alone, either face-to-face or virtually.

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.*

Mass at Home. We are no longer streaming the Sunday morning Mass from Sacred Heart on Zoom. I should be very grateful to hear from parishioners who have been using this service to see if it might be worthwhile to renew and even expand it. 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."

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

To see the Diocesan Privacy Notice go to <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

COVID REGULATIONS.

Following the lifting of certain regulations on July 19th the Bishops' Conference has issued guidelines for Catholic churches. Although some regulations will be lifted, care must be taken to ensure that churches continue to be places where people feel safe to gather to worship.

The full guidance can be viewed at:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/covid-guidance-collective-worship/>. In summary:

- Hand sanitising is still **recommended**.
- Face coverings are still **strongly recommended** in church.
- Adequate ventilation is still a priority.
- The individual desire for social distancing still needs to be respected.
- Holy water fonts are to remain unfilled.
- The sign of peace remains suspended.
- As long as the Test, Track and Trace system is operational, QR codes will remain clearly visible and parishioners should sign in on the sheets provided if they are not using an app.
- Holy Communion will continue to be under one Kind.
- Congregational singing may be reintroduced. Musicians, please take note (no pun intended). **Those who want to join in with the singing should wear a mask at this time.**

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is still suspended. The Bishops' Conference hopes that it will be reintroduced on the 1st Sunday of Advent (28th November).

Future Parish Events. As I am sure you will understand, it is very difficult to make definite plans for the near future, but here are a few ideas:

- **Parish Party.** It has been pointed out to me that the date I chose for our party, in the middle of August, may not be a good one for many of you. Perhaps it would be a good idea to postpone it until September when everyone is back and we are able to celebrate together.
- **A Day of Recollection for Eucharistic Ministers and Readers.**
- **A course for anyone who would like to be received into the Church or who would simply like to know more about the Faith.**
- **Bible Study or Prayer Groups**

Please pray for those we know who are sick. If you are ill and you would like to ask for prayers on this newsletter, let me know.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Shirley Anne Milne, and the souls of all who have died recently, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Arthur Diamond, Frs. Joseph Tynan, Euan Henderson, Denis O'Shea, Basil Wrighton, Thomas Michael Duffy, Deacons Frank Lockett and Ernie Titchmarsh and also Richard Bolton, Jenny Doherty, Bernadette Nolan, Abie Doherty and Douglas Rothery. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Parish Census. Thank you to everyone who completed the census forms last summer. However, with the upcoming review of diocesan structures, it is important that our records are as accurate as they can be. If your family did not complete and return the forms last summer, please can I encourage you to do so now. If you would like a paper copy of the form, please ask me for one. If you would like an electronic copy, please email sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk. Please return the forms to Chris Breward either by email (preferred option) or by post, c/o Sacred Heart Church.

Your Parish Needs YOU!! Please join in.

So many ministries and activities have been "mothballed" during the lockdowns that I don't really know who does what normally. So can I start asking for help, please? On your seats are leaflets inviting you to volunteer for different things. It is the chance to re-start things, or perhaps to start something new in the parish. Please ask yourself if you would like to be part of the re-awakening of our parish and fill in the leaflet and return it by the end of August.

Keys. We have been asked if we would rent out the parish flat to a priest from the Syro-Malabar community, and we have started the hard work of doing this. We will also be turning the small meeting room into my study. Can I ask that if you have keys to the downstairs door to the flat or to the small meeting room can you return them to me or to Chris Breward as soon as possible, please?

Tailpiece: Dear Lord, so far today I've done well. I haven't gossiped, I haven't lost my temper, I haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or overindulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to have to get out of bed, and from then on I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Amen.

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