



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday after the Nativity

2nd January, 2022

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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

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Sunday, 2 nd January SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	The People of the Parish Antero Amaral & M Minezes
Monday, 3 rd January Optional Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Special Intention
Tuesday, 4 th January Christmas Feria	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Bridget White (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 5 th January Christmas Feria	No Public Mass Today	Private Intention
Thursday, 6 th January Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 7.00 pm Mass	Josie Dekkers (102 nd Birthday) Gerard Doyle
Friday, 7 th January Optional Memorial of St. Raymond of Penyafort	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Claudino Serra Vaz (get well)
Saturday, 8 th January Christmas Feria	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 9 th January FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	John Walsh & Maria Dirkin Manuel Salsina & Madalena Salsina

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church, especially if you are visiting our parish for the Christmas holiday.

If you are here with us for the first time today, welcome. If you are returning to Mass after a period of time away because of the pandemic, welcome back! It is lovely to see you again today.

Feasts this week. Today we are celebrating the Second Sunday after Christmas. Next Thursday is the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. Next Sunday will be the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

First Friday. Next Friday is the First Friday of the Month. The Novena prayers to the Sacred Heart will be said during Exposition before Mass on Thursday evening.

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. 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.mcmedia.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."

Please pray for Betty Duff, Eileen McGarry, and Daniel Holdsworth and all those we know who are sick. If you are ill and you would like to ask for prayers on this newsletter, please let me know.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Joseph Cahill, James Anthony Kenny, and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canon Martin Power, Frs. Martin Cassidy, Philip Garrett, Francis Dwyer, Philip Smith, John P. Davis, Brian Harding, John Bentley, and also Deirdre Nolan, Mrs Ann Tobin, Jane Scott and Marsella Doherty. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.



Goodbye to 2021



I thought you might be interested to see some of the events of the last year that happened in Sacred Heart. During 2021:

- ❖ Three children were Baptised.
- ❖ Adrian and Kim were married.
- ❖ One Parish Priest was inducted.
- ❖ 4 Funerals were celebrated – Aileen Margaret Young, Patrick Griffiths, Pamela Kathleen Campbell, Patricia Mary King.
May they rest in peace.



Hello to 2022



Pope's Prayer Intention for January: For true human fraternity. We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. You can donate on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal, and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

My Day By Day Book. Many people found the Advent edition of this prayer book helpful, with the daily Mass readings. There now copies of the January edition available (price £1).

Christmas Crib. Crib Offerings this year will be divided between Emmaus Oxford who try to help homeless people in Oxford, and Friends of the Holy Land, an ecumenical charity supporting the vulnerable Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan.

COVID Regulations. The news about the infectiousness of the omicron variant is not good. Please consider your own actions and decisions about what keeps you AND others safe.

- Face coverings are now compulsory by law. You must not enter church without one
- Sanitise hands
- Keep a 1m distance if you can
- Ventilation in church is important, so dress warmly
- Feeling ill: if you feel unwell please stay at home and do not risk passing on the virus
- Vaccination: have your jabs!

Synodal Pathway. Pope Francis has asked all Catholics to reflect and report on their experience of what it means to be the Church today. In the

New Year I shall give out a list of open-ended questions and I shall invite you to send in your thoughts.

Tailpiece. Help, I've seen too many Christmas crackers! Why did Scrooge buy everyone birds for Christmas? *Because they were going cheap!* What carol is sung in the desert? *O Camel Ye Faithful.* *Knock, Knock!* Who's there? *Mary and Abby!* Mary and Abby who? *Mary Christmas and Abby New Year.*

I wish you and your families every blessing in the New Year.
Fr. Harry

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus
The prayer for our path to the Synod 2021-2023
We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.