



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Easter Sunday

17th April, 2022

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

(01865) 770910 • 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 Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 17 th April Easter Sunday	7.45 am Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass	Mary and Edward Murphy
Monday, 18 th April <i>Monday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	Esther Masterson (Anniv.)
Tuesday, 19 th April <i>Tuesday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Wednesday, 20 th April <i>Wednesday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	Special Intention
Thursday, 21 st April <i>Thursday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	Jos and Priya (Thanksgiving)
Friday, 22 nd April <i>Friday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	Special Intention
Saturday, 23 rd April <i>Saturday within the Easter Octave</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 24 th April Second Sunday of Easter <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	Cecilia Michael The People of the Parish

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for this Easter Day celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus.

New to the Parish or returning for Easter? Welcome. If you have recently moved into Our Lady's parish, or if you are returning after lockdown, please say hello to me. Thank you.

The Easter Season

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 "Alleluias" at the dismissal of the Mass this week.



A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our Holy Week celebrations so beautiful. Thank you to the altar servers, the sacristans, the stewards, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the musicians, the Eucharistic ministers, the readers and everyone who attended the services. Thank you too to Fr. Martin Flatman who was here on Good Friday.

Easter Duties. All Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion should receive the Holy Eucharist sometime between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday. They should also take part in the Sacrament of Penance before receiving this Easter Communion.

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. We are no longer streaming the Sunday morning Mass from Sacred Heart on Zoom. But as an alternative you could watch the Mass on Saturday, 5.30 pm, and/or Sunday, 11.00 am from Our Lady's where it is livestreamed 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."

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Fr. Edward Simpson SCJ, Deacon Jack Foxall, Pat Markham, Martyn Spackman and all who have died recently, and also those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishop Leo McCartie, Frs. Peter Moore, William Smith, Reginald Slade, Patrick Downey, Antony Conlon, Hugh Griffith, Andrew Kenny, Oswald Joyce and Liam Bouchier, Deacon Peter Seoney, and also Anne Doherty, Esther Masterson, Dorothy Byrne, Edward Murphy, Eddie Parker. May they rest in peace.

Please pray for Betty Duff and Eileen McGarry, and all those we know who are sick.

Volunteers Needed. During the services this week there is the chance for people to take part – foot washes, servers, readers, welcomers. Please sign up to show that you would like to do this. Thank you.

Holidays. I am planning to take a few days off this week, so there will be no public Mass here on Monday or Thursday. I shall still be celebrating Mass, however, and I shall offer Mass for the intentions listed above.

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.

Diocesan Directories. The new directories are now available. Spiral-bound £4.50, normal binding £3.50.

Collection for the Holy Places. Thank you very much for your generous support of the retiring collection on Good Friday to support the shrines in the Holy Land. You gave £264.98.

Wanted! Someone to cut the bushes down to a manageable size around the church, and clear up. We do have tools. If you can help, please talk to Jacqui.

The Solemnity of St. George. We usually celebrate the Feast of England's Patron Saint on 23rd April, but because this year that falls during Easter Week the feast has been transferred to Tuesday, 26th April.

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new Gift Aid envelopes are available to collect from the church porch. If you would like to start or stop using the Gift Aid scheme, or your circumstances have changed (e.g. you no longer pay income tax, or you have changed your address) please let Sally McVeigh know (01865 779078). We do need more people to be involved in the Gift Aid scheme, please.

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Refreshments are available after the 9.00 Mass in the hall.

"My Day By Day" Easter Booklets are available in the porch (£1). They contain the Mass readings starting on Good Friday and going on until the end of May.

Divine Mercy Sunday. Throughout this week we are encouraged to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet (there are leaflets in the porch), and next Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday.

Tailpiece: A nun told me this story, so it must be true. While Noah was in the ark, and the heavens were raining for all those days and nights, it so happened that the ark sprang a leak. Nobly, the dog put his nose into the hole to stop the water coming in and sinking the ark. That is why, to this day, a dog has a cold nose. But the leak grew bigger, and so Noah's wife put her feet into the hole. That is why, to this day, a woman has cold feet. But the hole got still bigger, and so eventually Noah had to sit in it. And that is why, to this day, a man likes to stand with his back to the fire!



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