



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Second Sunday of Easter*

### *(Divine Mercy Sunday)*

*24<sup>th</sup> April, 2022*

**Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD**

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**Happy Easter, everyone.**

**Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!**

Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup> April <b>Second Sunday of Easter</b> <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>	<b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Cecilia Michael</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist</i>	<i>8.00 am</i> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Solemnity of St. George, Martyr,</i> <i>Patron of England</i>	<i>8.00 am</i> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Annie Kennedy (2<sup>nd</sup> Anniv.)</i>
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Special Intention</i>
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Op. Mem. of St. Peter Chanel, Priest,</i> <i>Martyr, or of St. Louis Marie Grignon</i> <i>de Montfort, Priest</i>	<i>8.00 am</i> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>6.00 pm</i> Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Feast of St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin,</i> <i>Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe.</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Europe</i>	<i>8.00 am</i> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(11.30 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)</i> <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Patrick Meredith</i>
Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> April <i>Op. Mem. of St. Pius V, Pope, Religious</i>	<i>8.00 am</i> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> May <b>Third Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Francisco G. Ximenes</i> <i>Ceanne Netto</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 5.30 - 6.45 pm		

**Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.**

**If you have recently moved into our 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.”**

**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>.

*“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

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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.**

**Today is “Divine Mercy Sunday”,** which is celebrated on the Sunday after Easter each year. Divine Mercy Sunday was first announced by St. Pope John Paul II in a homily for the Mass celebrating the canonization of Maria Faustina Kowalska in 2000. St. Faustina was a Polish nun who received prophetic messages from Christ. These messages included revelations about the infinite mercy of God – coined the “Divine Mercy” – and her obligation to spread the message to the world, as recorded in her diary. The pope said in his homily that “the light of divine mercy, which the Lord in a way wished to return to the world through Sr Faustina's charism, will illumine the way for the men and women of the third millennium.”

**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.

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

**Please pray for the souls of Stephen Bradley, Fr. Edward Simpson SCJ, Deacon Jack Foxall,** and all who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frs. Patrick Quilty, Benjamin Cox, Wilfrid Davenport, Desmond Donnelly, Peter Dennison, Joseph Bernard Hickson, Peter Cooney, Peter Heath and Deacon James Fantham and also and also Edward Murphy, Eddie Parker, Ellen Monks, Vincent Murray, Bridie Hamill, Mary Whelan, Keiran Braiden and L. F. Peter. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

**Gift Aid Envelopes.** There are still a few of the new Gift Aid envelopes available to collect from the church porch. If you would like to start or stop using the Gift Aid scheme, please contact Sally McVeigh (01865 779078). We do need more people to be involved in the Gift Aid scheme, please.

**Wanted! A gardener.** We need 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.

**Refreshments are available after the 9.00 Mass in the Parish Hall. Come and have a chat with friends.**

**New national Catholic newspaper.** There are copies of the first edition of *The Catholic Post* available at the back of the church. This edition is free, so please take a copy. If you like it and would be willing to pay for it in the future please let me know.

**Diocesan Directories.** The new directories (or as they are now called, “Year Books”) are now available. If you want to know anything about our diocese, this is the book for you. Spiral-bound £4.50, normal binding £3.50.

**St. John Fisher School: Vacancy.** Commencing in September, 2022, the Directors of the Academy Trust, in partnership with the Governing Body of St John Fisher Catholic Primary school, are seeking to appoint an experienced Early Years Teacher to lead the Nursery and Reception classes. The closing date is Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> April, at 12:00pm with interviews on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> May. More information and application form at <https://st-john-fisher.oxon.sch.uk/category/staff/vacancies>

**Congratulations** to Len and Elite Godinho who were married in Goa last Friday. Len comes to Mass here and will be returning shortly. May God bless them both in their new life together.

**St Scholastica's Retreat – Sheltered Housing for Catholics – Job Opportunity.** Competitive Salary, pension, and accommodation onsite in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. The Trustees are seeking to appoint a Warden and Clerk to the Trustees for this almshouse charity that provides sheltered housing for Catholics in financial need aged 60 or over. Closing date: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May. For details of the role and how to apply see: [www.stscholasticas.co.uk/warden-clerk-vacancy](http://www.stscholasticas.co.uk/warden-clerk-vacancy)

**The Solemnity of St. George.** In case you are wondering what has happened to St. George's Day– it's been moved. We usually celebrate the Feast of England's Patron Saint on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, but because this year that fell during Easter Week the feast has been transferred to Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> April.

**Tailpiece:** A young curate once found himself, ill-prepared and very nervous, in the pulpit of a cathedral, having to stand in for the Bishop. Somehow he stumbled through a sermon, but in the sacristy afterwards he felt bound to apologise to the sacristan. “Don't you worry, you did your best,” the sacristan told him reassuringly, before adding ruefully, “It's those who sent you who should be shot!”

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

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