



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

4th September, 2022

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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

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Sunday, 4 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time	(Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm at Our Lady's) 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Michael Iago (Birthday) John Joseph McGroarty Maureen White (Anniv.) The People of the Parish
Monday, 5 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Edmund Griffin
Tuesday, 6 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Michael Gildea
Wednesday, 7 th September	No Public Mass Today	Mr. and Mrs. Connelly
Thursday, 8 th September <i>Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	(7.00 pm Reception with Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	The Watts Family Special Intention
Friday, 9 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Osburg, Abbess, or of St. Peter Claver, Priest</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (12.00 noon Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Paul Watts Helen Towey
Saturday, 10 th September <i>Memorial of Blessed Agnellus of Pisa</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (12.00 noon Baptism at Our Lady's) (Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm at Our Lady's)	Grace Marie Morrissey The Barry Family (Ints)
Sunday, 11 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Education Day</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 1.00 pm Baptism 2.00 pm Baptism 3.00 pm Baptisms (4.30 pm Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Tony Donovan Richard Carroll Marley Nelson Elijah Blake Cummins Shayne & Sherin Mwasu The People of the Parish
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.

Please pray for the soul of Paul Watts and the souls of all who have died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Thomas (Tom) Fallon, Frs. James J Holland, Anthony (Tony) Taylor, Arthur McCrystal, David Walter Hutt and Deacon Francis Andrews, and also Sr. Iolanda Marsella FMA, James Moore, John McCallum, James Ross, and Hilda Ross. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace. Paul Watts' body will be brought into Our Lady's church at 7.00 on Thursday evening and Fr. Graham will be there to celebrate Mass. The funeral will be on Friday at 12.00 noon.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Barry Holland, Betty Duff and Eileen McGarry and all those we know who are sick. If you or someone you know is sick and would like to be included on this newsletter, please let me know.

Mass at Home. If you are not able to come to Mass you could watch it on Saturday, 5.30 pm, and/or Sunday, 11.00 am from Our Lady's where it is livestreamed at <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>. Here is a prayer that you can say when you watch the 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."

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Prayer Before Mass:

God our Father, you sent Jesus, our High Priest, to redeem us and you willed that His saving work should continue through the ministry of priests. Enlighten us to celebrate this Sunday Mass with our priest, so that, empowered by the Word of life and the Eucharist, we may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit to live to the full our Christian calling. We ask this through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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.

A Message From CAFOD. “You will have seen on the news about the devastating floods that have hit Pakistan, leaving millions in need of urgent help to survive. Families have lost their homes, their cattle, their lands, and their livelihoods, and are totally dependent on humanitarian assistance. Thirty million people are affected as a third of the country is now submerged (that’s almost the size of Great Britain). We know our Catholic community will want to reach out to support our brothers and sisters in Pakistan.” CAFOD is a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). If you would like to give something to help there will be a second collection at Masses this weekend. Or you could put your offering in an envelope (marked CAFOD) for next week. Thank you.

A CAFOD Parish Day of Recollection. Saturday 24th September, 10.30-3.30, at Our Lady’s church, in the Don Bosco Centre. This Day will be based on the CAFOD “Seven Station Journey” and will help us to reflect on how we use the blessings of God.

Parish day out to Douai Abbey, with Mass, a tour and a talk. Tuesday, 11th October. Cost; £15 (for the Abbey and the talk). Douai Abbey is a Benedictine Abbey at Upper Woolhampton, near Thatcham, Berkshire. It is about 36 miles from here. If you are interested, please sign the list as you leave the church today. If you can offer a lift in your car please indicate that as well.

A Day for Parish Readers. Saturday, 19th November, 10.00-4.00 in Our Lady’s church and the Don Bosco Centre. This Day for Readers will give some practical help for reading, and also some spiritual input as we approach Advent. If you are a reader or would like to be one (I should welcome new readers), please make sure this date is in your diary.

Remember: refreshments are available in the hall after the 9.00 am Mass on Sundays. Come and have a chat with friends and make new ones.

Education Sunday. Next Sunday is Education Sunday when we are asked to pray for the work of Catholic education across the schools of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Education Service at Masses next weekend.

Season of Creation. Last Thursday was the start of the Season of Creation (1st September to 4th October). This year’s theme is “Listen to the voice of Creation”.

My Day By Day Booklets. The September edition of these booklets, which give the Mass readings for each day of the month, are available in the basket at the back of church (£1).

The Relics of St. Bernadette, to whom Our Lady appeared at Lourdes in 1858, will be visiting the Archdiocese and will be in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Bicester, on the 9th and 10th October. This will be a chance to pray in the presence of St Bernadette’s relics and draw closer to Our Lady. To book your visit: <https://stbernadette.org.uk/registration/#birmingham-diocese>.

Anniversary List: If you would like a deceased family member or friend to be remembered in the bulletin during the week of the anniversary of their death please let me know in writing, or email their name and the date of their anniversary to: fr.harry.curtis@rcaob.org.uk.

Instructions in the Catholic Faith: If you would like to become a Catholic – maybe you have not been baptised, or baptised in another Denomination, or baptised in the Catholic Church but not received the Sacrament of Confirmation – please come and have a word with me or call me. I should be delighted to arrange a programme of instructions.

Christmas Fete: We haven't had one of these since before Covid, but this year we should like to have one on Saturday, 26th November. If you feel you could help with planning or in any way please let me know.

Tailpiece: One day a priest complained because he had noticed that after Mass his congregation all trooped rapidly across the road and straight into the pub. “But, Father,” replied one member brightly, “You are for ever telling us that we must thirst after righteousness.”

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and good wishes while I was away, and thank you to the priests who came to celebrate Mass here in my absence. I had a good time and prayed for you all. May God bless you and all those whom you love.
Fr. Harry