



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God*

### *1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023*

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

(01865) 770910 • [sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) • [www.sacredheartoxford.com](http://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](mailto:fr.harry.curtis@rcaob.org.uk)

Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> January <b>SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD</b>	<b>Saturday Evening Vigil: 5.30 pm</b> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.00 am Mass</b> (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Martin and Bridie Keane  Grace Mungai (Intentions) Anne Mullagh Mr R. K. Joshi
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> January Mem. of St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen	No Public Mass Today	Winston Borthwick (get well)
Tuesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> January Op. Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> January Christmas Feria	No Public Mass Today	Albert Daniel
Thursday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January Mem. of St. Charles of St. Andrew	No Public Mass Today	Robert William Pill (Anniversary)
Friday, 6 <sup>th</sup> January <b>Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord Holyday of Obligation</b>	(7.30 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.15 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>10.00 am Mass</b> (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Honorina O'Brien  Briget Duncan and Victoria Thomas Gaughan (get well)
Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup> January Op. Mem. of St. Raymond of Penyafort, Priest	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Kathleen Murphy
Sunday, 8 <sup>th</sup> January <b>FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD</b>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.00 am Mass</b> (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (4.30 pm Syro Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Cecilia Michael Winnie Gildea & Helen Towey (Anniv.)  The People of the Parish

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

*Our Parish Prayer: Help us, Lord, to receive you with an open heart this day.  
May our community receive your grace and deepen its faith in you.  
Make us lights to shine forth with your love, giving life and hope to those who have fallen away  
or who have never known you. Amen.*



**Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI RIP.** We pray for the repose of the soul of His Holiness Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI who led the Church of Christ on earth from 2005-2013. May he rest in peace. Archbishop Bernard has released this statement:

"I pray for the repose of the soul of His Holiness Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI as his long life of devoted service comes to a close. May he now enjoy forever the company of the saints and the reward of all the Lord's good and faithful servants. I recall with gratitude the warmth and impact of Pope Benedict's presence during his State Visit in

2010 and especially during his visit to Birmingham for the Beatification of Cardinal Newman. He showed us the love of the pastor's heart which had guided his ministry as priest, as bishop and as Supreme Pastor. I am grateful for the prayerful way that he supported his successor Pope Francis, continuing to promote the unity and mission of the Church. On behalf of the clergy, Religious and all the faithful of the Archdiocese of Birmingham I offer our condolences and pray that Emeritus Pope Benedict may rest in peace with his risen Lord."

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>



## Goodbye to 2022



It has been a momentous year, with record temperatures, the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and her subsequent death. Prime Ministers, Chancellors, and mini-budgets came and went. The war in the Ukraine started and has continued. There were the Commonwealth Games, Olympic Winter Games, the Euros and the World Cup. We discovered Bazball.

Besides all that I thought you might be interested to see some of the events of the last year that happened in Sacred Heart. During 2022:

- ❖ We went on a Parish day out to Bournemouth and also a trip to Douai Abbey.
  - ❖ 9 people, including 1 adult, were Baptised
  - ❖ 17 children received their First Holy Communion
  - ❖ 4 children and 1 adult were Confirmed
  - ❖ Lukasz and Margaret were married.
- ❖ 1 Funeral was celebrated – Duarte Miguel Viveiros Coito. May he rest in peace.



## Hello to 2023



**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.”*

### 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.

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

**Next Friday.** Next Friday, the First Friday, is the Solemnity of the Epiphany, a Holyday of Obligation. There will be Mass here at Sacred Heart at 10.00 am, and at Our Lady's at 7.30 am and 7.00 pm.

**My Day By Day Book.** The January edition is now available at the back of church (price £1).

**Crib Offerings.** As usual, your crib offerings will be divided between a local charity and an international charity. This year we are supporting Emmaus (Oxford), who try to help homeless people in Oxford, and Bethlehem University.

**Pope's Prayer Intention for January: for educators.** We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

**Prayers for the Sick.** Please pray for Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, 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 bulletin, please let me know.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Ann Holden, Kathleen Murphy, Dermot Carroll and Lucy Lynch and all who have died recently**, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Frs. Martin Cassidy, Philip Garrett, Francis Dwyer, Philip Smith and John P. Davis, and also Jane Scott, Catherine Carpenter, Deirdre Nolan, Mrs Ann Tobin, Marsella Doherty. May they rest in peace.

**First Holy Communion Lessons.** Parents, if your children are aged 8 or over and you wish them to receive their First Holy Communion next June, please register them with me, using the form at the back of the church.

**Tailpiece.** What carol is sung in the desert?  
*O Camel Ye Faithful.*

I wish you every blessing in the New Year. Thank you very much to all who helped in any way to make our Christmas celebrations so beautiful: those who cleaned and prepared the church, arranged the flowers, read, sang or played, served at the altar, and all the many other jobs. Above all, thanks to you and your families for coming and joining in these celebrations.

**Thank you all for your very generous Christmas offerings and for the many individual gifts and cards that I received. May God bless you all. Fr. Harry**