



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Feast of the Baptism of the Lord*

*8<sup>th</sup> January, 2023*

**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, 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) <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Cecilia Michael Winnie Gildea & Helen Towey (Anniv.)  The People of the Parish
Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.15 am Mass</b>	Private Intention
Tuesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> January	No Public Mass Today	Jim O'Brien (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> January	(6.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's) (7.00 pm Reception of Lucy Lynch at Our Lady's)	Private Intention
Thursday, 12 <sup>th</sup> January <i>Op. Memorial of St. Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.30 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Lucy Lynch  Thanksgiving (John and Family)
Friday, 13 <sup>th</sup> January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Hilary</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Sr. Maria (Intentions)
Saturday, 14 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>6.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Novena Santo Expedito (Special Int.)
Sunday, 15 <sup>th</sup> January <b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</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>	Ursula Hestrade (Birthday) Josie Coughlan (Intentions) The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

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

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, and Christmastide ends after Evening Prayer on Sunday evening. From Monday we return to "Ordinary Time" in the Church's Year. Sunday Mass readings are taken from Cycle A, and Weekday readings are from Year 1.

**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.

**We pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI.** He served as Supreme Pontiff from April 2005 to February 2013, and died aged 95 on Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022.

**We pray for all those who have died recently, remembering Fr. Anthony De Vere, Deacon Joe Patterson, Anne Holden, Dermot Carroll, Steven Motherway and Lucy Lynch,** and all whose anniversaries occur around this time: Frs. Brian Harding, John Bentley, Charles Becker, Philip Wyles, Patrick Farrelly, Patrick McSwiney, and Patrick Joyce, Deacons William Murphy and Brian Dockerty, and also John Shanahan, Graciana Zgambo and Columb Whelan. May they rest in peace.

Fr. Anthony De Vere was ordained in 2000 and served the people of God at Corpus Christi, Headington, until his retirement. Reception and Mass will take place at Corpus Christi, on Thursday, 12th January at 7.00pm. The Funeral Mass will be at Corpus Christi, on Friday, 13th January at 1.00pm

*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.*

This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

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**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.**

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

**Next Sunday** is the **Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**. It is also designated as **Peace Sunday**, a day to pray for world peace. The theme of World Peace Day this year is: *"No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace."* There will be a second collection for the work of Pax Christi.

**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.** The traditional time for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is 18<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> January, the days between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul.

**Christmas Decorations.** The time has come once again to take down our Christmas decorations and put them into storage for another year. Thank you to everyone who helped to decorate the tree with stars carrying your messages of love. It helped us to appreciate the coming of Jesus who brings us the love of God. Thanks to everyone who has helped to make the church so beautiful and prayerful this Christmas.

**Christmas Crib Offerings. Today is the last chance if you want to make a donation.**

This year we are supporting Emmaus (Oxford), who try to help homeless people in Oxford, and Bethlehem University.

**Cowley Collective** are collaborating with artist Micah Hayns at the Jungle art gallery in Templars Square Shopping Centre to offer a community space. They host a Story Time and Senior Social every Tuesday and Thursday (1.00 - 3.00 pm) and invite you to join them for conversation, puzzles, games and more. It's all free.

**New Year's resolution - help build a better world through volunteering?** CAFOD is looking for people to give some time and join in their parish mission of global outreach. Could you help develop their work in parishes or Catholic schools? Training and support is provided. See [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch - Deborah Purfield 07786 114 390 | [dpurfield@cafod.org.uk](mailto:dpurfield@cafod.org.uk)

**Burst Pipes.** I am afraid that because of the freezing weather before Christmas we had three burst water pipes and two leaking joints. It caused quite a lot of damage around the area of the gents toilets and the handicapped toilet, and has also done something to the heating boiler. I am sorry for any inconvenience, but I am extremely grateful to parishioners, and especially Jimmy and James McCarthy, for their quick help to put things right.

**Going Into Hospital.** Please do let me know if you or someone you know is going into hospital. It is also important that you [ask for the Catholic chaplain](#) when in hospital because Chaplains are often no longer automatically given the names of Catholic patients.

**Young Adult Group for 18-35s** at Holy Rood Church on Abingdon Road. The next meeting is on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January with Fr Yamai, OCD. The talk starts at 7:30 pm. There will be a discussion and the meeting will end with prayer by 9:00 pm. Contact Kate on 07933765367 if you have any questions. All are welcome.

**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.

**Marriage Encounter England and Wales** are advertising an upcoming Experience on 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> March at The Campanile Hotel, Great Western Way, Delta Business Park, Swindon, SN5 7XG. The marriage enrichment course offers a unique opportunity for couples to rekindle their relationships and focus on what is important to them. Please go to their website for further information and to book, <https://wwme.org.uk>

**Tailpiece:** Here are a few Biblical howlers, all said to be authentic, but not necessarily all made by children.

*"In the first book of the Bible, Guinness, God got tired of creating the world, so He took the Sabbath off."*

*"The epistles were the wives of the apostles."*

*"The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert."*

*"Moses died before he ever reached Canada."*

**Thank you.** In case you missed it last week, I should like to thank you all for your very generous Christmas offerings and for the many gifts and cards that I received.

**May God bless you all. Fr. Harry**