



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*

### *19<sup>th</sup> February, 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, 19 <sup>th</sup> February <b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	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>	Cecilia Michael Daniel Tang (Intentions) The People of the Parish
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.15 am Mass</b>	Janelio Miranda
Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> February <i>Op. Mem. of St. Peter Damian</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Marian Boggis
Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> February <b>Ash Wednesday</b> <b>LENT BEGINS</b>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's) <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Murphy-Simmons Family (Ints) Mary O'Mahony (Get Well)
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> February <i>Op. Comm. of St. Polycarp, Martyr</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>10.30 am Requiem Mass</b> 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Sr. Helen Carey FMA Mary McKenna (Get Well)
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Madeline Carvell
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>10.00 am Mass</b> (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Tonya Barbosa Ximenes Kath Kavanagh (Anniversary)
Sunday, 26 <sup>th</sup> February <b>First Sunday of Lent</b> <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.00 am Mass</b> (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 5.00 pm Stations of the Cross <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Lucia Josephat Daniel Tang (Intentions) Ansel Netto
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am (Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm at Our Lady's)		

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

We pray for all those who have died recently: Sr. Helen Carey FMA, Canon Gary Byrne, Ryszard Kaniszewski, Eufemia Maria Gentile Mastroddi, William McDermott, Felix Saulong and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishop Joseph Francis Cleary, Canons William Roughan and Sean McTernan, Frs. Alexander McGavin, Francis Coyle, Sean Farrell, Michael McCabe, Martin Meagher, John Collins and Oliver Kemp, and also Thomas Dermot Moran and John A. Duffy. May they rest in peace.

Sr Helen's funeral will be here at Our Lady's on Thursday at 10.30 am.

William McDermott's funeral will be at the Immaculate Conception, Bicester, on Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**Prayers for the Sick.** Please pray for Sally McVeigh, 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.

**The counting rota:** Sunday, Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> February: Chris and Edwin. 26<sup>th</sup> February: Rachel and Phil.

*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

To see the Diocesan Privacy Notice go to <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

**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.**

**First Holy Communion Preparation.** Preparation classes will be in the parish hall on Monday afternoons, 4.30-5.30 pm, starting tomorrow, Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February. The Rite of Enrolment will be during the 9.00 am Mass next Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> February.

**Exciting News!** We are planning to re-start a parish youth group next month. Forms are available for parents to complete, and young people will need to bring them on our first day which will be announced soon.

**CAFOD's Big Lent Walk.** Rachel Breward is speaking on BBC Radio Oxford today at 8.50am about CAFOD's Big Lent Walk! You can listen to it in the car as you arrive at Mass on Sunday, or you can catch up with it later on BBC Sounds!

The idea is to walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends, have fun or take time to pray and reflect. There is a fundraising page for Sacred Heart if anyone would like to walk and fundraise online <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/sacred-heart-blackbird-leys>  
To sponsor Rachel go to: <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/rachel-beward-oxford>  
To sponsor me go to: <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/harry-curtis>

**Young Adult Group** for 18-35s at Holy Rood Church on Abingdon Road. The next meeting is on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30 pm, with Fr. Kelvin Ekhoegbe, OCD. Arrive from 7.00 pm. Talk starts at 7.30 pm. Discussion and prayer. Ends at 9.00 pm. Contact Kate Preston on 07933 765367 if you have any questions. All welcome.

**"Discovery of Belonging. Finding Connection in an Age of Isolation".** Many people experience loneliness in our society. We are invited to join a conversation with Kim Samuel and the Rt. Rev. Eric Varden, Bishop of Trondheim, at the Sheldonian Theatre, 4.00-5.30 pm on Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> March. It's free, but please register at [Bit.ly/Belonging5March](http://Bit.ly/Belonging5March)

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.** Canon Mervyn from Corpus Christi, Headington, is leading a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August, price £1,995.00 pp (single suppl. £450). See [www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk](http://www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk) for more details and to book.

**Ash Wednesday.** Lent starts this Wednesday! Mass at Our Lady's will be at 9.15 am and Here at Sacred Heart it will be at 7.00 pm. Ashes will be distributed as a mark of sorrow for our sins and a reminder of our mortality. **It is a day of fasting and abstinence** when we should abstain from meat and those between 18-60 should also fast, taking only one meal and two lighter snacks.



**Lent Begins Ash Wednesday** between 18-60 should also fast, taking only one meal and two lighter snacks.

**A Liturgical Note:** During Lent we do not say the Gloria during Mass on Sundays, nor the joyful word "Alleluia!" There are no flowers decorating the altar or the lectern, and the statues in the church will be veiled from the fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday) until Holy Saturday. We shall save it all up and let rip with sound, light and colour at the Easter Vigil.

**Lent 2023.**

1. **My Day By Day and the Walk With Me Booklets** are available (£1.00). Calendars and children's books are free.
2. **Stations of the Cross**, at 5.00 pm each Sunday.
3. **Parish Lent Day of Recollection**, Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm at Our Lady's, Hollow Way. There will be a talk, the chance for Confession, and a time of prayer.
4. **Parish Penance Service.** On Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, before the evening Mass at 5.30 pm.
5. **Saturday Mass and Confessions**, 10.00 am

**Lent House Masses.** If you would like/be willing to host Mass in your home during Lent, please let me know.

**Tailpiece.** A woman went to Confession and told the priest, "Whenever my husband gets in from work he's always angry and we argue." The priest told her, "I want you to take some Holy Water home with you and each day when your husband gets home I want you to put a tablespoon of it in your mouth. Keep it there for ten minutes. Don't swallow it or spit it out." The next week the woman came back and said, "Father, it WORKED!! I kept the water in my mouth just as you said, and we've not argued once. We've been so happy. That water really is miraculous!" The priest smiled and said, "Let's just say, it wasn't the water."

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