



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Second Sunday of Lent*

*6<sup>th</sup> March, 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, 5 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Second 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) <b>5.00 pm Stations of the Cross</b> <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Thomas Gaughan (Get Well) Daniel Tang (Intentions)  Ansel Netto
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> March	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>5.30 pm Reception</b>	The People of the Parish  Felix Saulong
Tuesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March <i>Op. Com. of Ss. Perpetua &amp; Felicity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)  <b>11.30 am Requiem Mass</b>	In Thanksgiving (to Nossa Senhora de Fatima and de Lourdes) Felix Saulong
Wednesday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March <i>Op. Com. of St. John of God</i>	No Public Mass Today	John Trinder (Birthday)
Thursday, 9 <sup>th</sup> March <i>Op. Com. of St. Frances of Rome</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Fr. David Hartley (Intentions)
Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (1.30 pm Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Francis (Tommy) Billington Judith Flynn (Get Well)
Saturday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Dorrie Price Mrs Brennan (ill)
Sunday, 12 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Third Sunday of Lent</b> <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i> <i>Dementia Prayer Week</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>	Methodia Method Anthony Raj (Anniversary)  The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm. (Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm at Our Lady's)		

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

**The counting rota:** Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> March: Kylla and Lilian. Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> March: Chris and Edwin.

**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 someone you know is sick and would like to be prayed for, please let me know.

**We pray for all those who have died recently: William McDermott, Francis (Tom) Billington, Felix Saulong, Regine Umurungi and Barbara Harrold,** and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canons Peter Taylor and Anthony Allport, Frs. John Pinkman, Robert Wright, Humphrey Crookenden CO, Terence Luxon, Francis Johnson, Thomas Fullerton CO, Joseph Purcell, Ralph Sheppey-Greene and Christopher Thornton, Deacons James Rowe and Philip Prince, and also John and Jane Bartlett, Sr. Imelda James and Matthew Murray. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

**Parish Penance Service followed by Confessions,** On Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March, at 5.30 pm.

*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.**

**Parish Lent Day of Recollection, next Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, at Our Lady Help of Christians, Hollow Way, starting with Mass at 10.00 am and finishing at 4.00 pm.** This is open to everyone, but will be especially aimed at Eucharistic Ministers, in preparation for renewal of their ministry on Maundy Thursday. Light refreshments will be provided. Please let me know if you are intending to come.

**Please note that this means that there will be no 10.00 am Mass here at Sacred Heart next Saturday.**

**Lent Fast Day.** You will be able to put whatever you saved by fasting last Friday into the second collection at Masses this weekend (or you can donate on the CAFOD website: [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give)). This Lent, your donations will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that CAFOD can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Please also pray for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

**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.** 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>

**Stations of the Cross.** We shall meditate on the Stations together each Sunday in Lent, 5.00 pm.

**Pope's Prayer Intention for March: For victims of abuse.** We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

**Dementia Prayer Week, 12-19<sup>th</sup> March.** We remember especially the often-forgotten pain of those suffering with dementia, and those who care for them. Prayers, short videos, printable materials, and other resources can be found at [www.rpbooks.co.uk/dementia-prayer-week](http://www.rpbooks.co.uk/dementia-prayer-week)

**Mondays in Lent.** There will be no Mass here at Sacred Heart on Monday mornings, but there will be Mass at Our Lady's at 7.00 am, followed by breakfast.

**Mass for Missio, 11<sup>th</sup> March, 12.00 noon** at St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham. Missio is the Pope's charity for World Mission and supports the Church in greatest need, where it is growing and where it is suffering. All supporters of Missio, through prayer, through giving to the Red Box, as local secretaries are invited to a Diocesan Mass at St Chad's Cathedral with Archbishop Bernard Longley and representatives from Missio and Mill Hill Missions. This will be a wonderful occasion to thank God for the work of Missio and to pray for the work of the Church's Mission to the world.

**Gift Aid.** Thank you to everyone who is taking part in the Gift Aid scheme. It means that for every £1 you give us the taxman gives us a further 25p, so it is a big help. For anyone who is a Gift-Aider, the envelopes will be issued in March. Please let Sally McVeigh know if you have stopped paying tax (and when). New Gift-Aiders are welcome. For those who use the non-GA envelopes, if you didn't collect your envelopes last year then there will be no new ones this year unless you let Sally know.

**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.

**Tailpiece:** A young priest was nervous about hearing Confessions, so he asked an older priest to sit in the box with him. After a while the older priest asked him to step outside for a few suggestions. "When you are listening to what the penitent is saying try to look reverent and prayerful". The young priest tried it. Then the older priest said, "Try to be encouraging and say things like, 'I understand, yes, go on'." The young priest tried that too. The older priest concluded, "Now, don't you think that's better than slapping your knee and saying, 'No way! What happened next?'"

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