



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Third Sunday of Easter

23rd April, 2023

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 23 rd April Third Sunday of Easter	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (3.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's): 6.00 pm Mass	Alia Ouseph & Roy Matthews Antonio Da Silva Aigbomodion Ian Otiobhi The People of the Parish
Monday, 24 th April Solemnity of St. George, Martyr, Patron of England	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Anton Debono
Tuesday, 25 th April Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist	7.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.30 am Requiem Mass	Julia Moran
Wednesday, 26 th April Easter Feria	No Public Mass Today	Clare Watts
Thursday, 27 th April Easter Feria	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Paddy McCartney (Anniversary)
Friday, 28 th April Op. Mem. of St. Peter Chanel, Priest, Martyr, or of St. Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort, Priest	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Annie & John Kennedy (Anniv.)
Saturday, 29 th April Feast of St. Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe Day of Prayer for Europe	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	In Thanksgiving to Nossa Senhora de Fatima Laurie Debono
Sunday, 30 th April Fourth Sunday of Easter World Day of Prayer for Vocations	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (3.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Cecilia Michael Igor Bogatirjov (Anniversary) Annemary Selin The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 am - 11.30 am		

Welcome to Sacred Heart for Mass today, especially if you are new to the parish or visiting for Easter.

The Easter Season began on Easter Sunday, and ends after Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday. These fifty days are a very special time and, as St. Athanasius wrote, they “are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday.” The joyful sound of “Alleluia!” is heard many times throughout this season.

*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.*

Solemnity of St. George. In case you are wondering what has happened to St. George's Day today – it's been moved to Monday for this week because the celebration of the Day of Resurrection is more important.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Anne Delaney, 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.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Bishop David McGough, Dermot McMahon, Cajetan Pereira, Nicholas Dore, Julia Moran, and also those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop Patrick Leo McCarty, Frs. Benjamin Cox, Wilfrid Davenport, Desmond Donnelly and Peter Dennison, Deacon Peter Seeney, and also Ellen Monks, Peter Nottingham, Vincent Murray, Mary Whelan and Keiran Braiden. May they rest in peace.

Prayer at the end of Mass:

*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia;
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,
Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia:
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.*

**O Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia,
Has risen as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

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

Parish Youth Group Cake Sale.

Today members of the Youth Group will be selling cakes after the 9.00 am Mass to raise funds to pay for a trip to Malvern later in the year, and any future trips.

If you wish to join us for Mass from your home go to <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

Here is an Act of Spiritual Communion:

“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.”

Sacramental Preparation:

- 1. The Sacrament of Confirmation.** Canon Paul Fitzpatrick will be coming to Sacred Heart on Sunday, 21st May, to celebrate this Sacrament during the 6.00 pm Mass. Lessons will be starting at 10.00 am next Saturday 29th April in Elmthorpe Convent.
- 2. First Holy Communion** will be on the Feast of Corpus Christi, 11th June.

Coronation of King Charles III. On Saturday, 6th May, we shall have Mass in Our Lady’s church at 10.00 am followed by a bring-and-share breakfast/lunch in the Don Bosco Centre as we watch the ceremonies together. All welcome.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham. All welcome to join this year’s Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on **Saturday, 13th May.** The Principal Celebrant is Bishop David Evans. The afternoon programme is:
12 noon - Arrival at the Shrine.
1.30pm - Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation.
3pm - Procession to the Priory ruins, and prayers at the site of the Holy House.
5pm - Depart

For further details please contact pilgrim organiser, Fr Philip Griffin, via walsingham.pilgrimage@rcaob.org.uk

Easter Duties. Remember! All Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion should receive the Holy Eucharist sometime between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday. They should also go to Confession before receiving this Easter Communion.

Clergy Training Fund. Next Sunday is “Good Shepherd Sunday” or Vocations Sunday. It is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations when we pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life in our Archdiocese. There will be the annual collection at Masses for the Clergy Training Fund which supports our seminarians and diaconate students.

Choral Directors. The Archdiocese of Birmingham is seeking up to five enthusiastic Choral Directors to work with the Programme Director to implement, deliver and develop the National Schools Singing Programme within the Archdiocese. The positions are suitable for new graduates, offering a permanent contract, based in Coventry/Warwickshire and in Staffordshire. To start this September. For more please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat at St Anthony of Padua Church, 115 Headley Way, OX3 7SS on Saturday, 13th May, 1:30-4:30 pm, led by the Marian Fathers. All welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

The Universe Catholic Weekly. When the pandemic came the Universe Catholic newspaper became available only online. **Now it is coming back as a hard copy** from Friday 19th May. The new printed version can be posted directly to subscribers. To subscribe or for further information, call Michelle Jones on 07436 617650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Tailpiece: Five-year-old Brian had a vital part to play in his Easter school assembly: it was his job to announce “*He is not here; he is risen*” (Luke 24:6). Unfortunately, he forgot what to say, and the teacher had to whisper it to him. He then confidently grabbed the microphone and shouted, “He’s not here; he’s in prison!”

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