



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Easter Sunday

9th April, 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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Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 9 th April Easter Sunday	7.45 am Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Larry Gardner & Richard Bolton Antonietta Aprea (Birthday)
Monday, 10 th April Monday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Michael McDonagh (Birthday)
Tuesday, 11 th April Tuesday within the Easter Octave	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)	Dermot Francis McMahon
Wednesday, 12 th April Wednesday within the Easter Octave	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 13 th April Thursday within the Easter Octave	No Public Mass Today	Jos & Priya (Wedding Anniv.)
Friday, 14 th April Friday within the Easter Octave	No Public Mass Today	Fr. Peter Dooley (Anniv.)
Saturday, 15 th April Saturday within the Easter Octave	10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Francisca Guterres Antonietta Aprea (Birthday)
Sunday, 16 th April Second Sunday of Easter Divine Mercy Sunday	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Mary Doyle (Intentions) Clare Watts (Special Intention) Antonio M da Silva & Rosa C Lobato Soriano
Confessions: 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

The Easter Season begins today, 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 first eight days make up the Easter Octave and they are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord – that is, feast days of the most importance. The joyful sound of “Alleluia!” is heard many times in this season and we add two “Alleluias” at the dismissal of the Mass this week.



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

Please pray for those who have died recently, especially **Bishop David McGough, Cajetan Pereira, Nicholas Dawe, Johanna Berg and Dermot McMahon**, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Peter Jones, Frs. Eamon Clarke, Kenneth William Collins, Joseph Barr, Michael McManus, Walter Edwards, Deacon Jack Foxall, and also Mary Batten, Samuel E. Williams, Larry Gardner, Jack and Kathleen Duffy, and Joan Ann Kelly. May they rest in peace.

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

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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.*

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.**

**Congratulations and welcome to Raymond Clement
who was baptised, confirmed and received his First
Holy Communion this weekend. May God bless him
now and always.**

A big thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make our Holy Week celebrations so beautiful. Thank you to the altar servers, the sacristans, the stewards, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the musicians, the Eucharistic ministers, the readers and the booklet-folders. Thank you too to Fr. Martin Flatman who was here on Maundy Thursday and again for the Easter Vigil.

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. To find out more please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs

Holidays. I am planning to take a few days off this week, so there will be no public Mass here on Thursday as there would normally be. I shall still be celebrating Mass, however, and I shall offer Mass for the listed intentions.

Traditionally the collection at the Easter Masses is your personal offering to your priest. There are envelopes at the back of church if you wish. Thank you.

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.”

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>

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. If you want to be confirmed please fill in an application form found at the back of church and give it to me. Lessons will be starting after Easter.

Being a Welcoming Church. “At Fr. Hudson’s we want to encourage the social mission of the Church by sharing our own experience and the experience of parishioners from around the Diocese, to foster the great work in parishes. You can join in one of our three remaining online, Zoom meetings, on Monday 17th April, 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. Our next session is on ‘supporting refugees’; there is no charge, simply email kevinhateley@fatherhudsons.org.uk to register.”

Tailpiece: Actual items from church Bulletins:

- Thursday night – potluck supper. Prayer and medication to follow.
- This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the altar.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

**Have a very
happy and
blessed Easter.
May God bless
you and all those
whom you love.**

Fr. Harry

