



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*7<sup>th</sup> May, 2023*

**Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD**

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### Happy Easter, everyone.

### Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> May <b><i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i></b>	<b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>9.00 am Mass</b> (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (3.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's): <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Luciana Viviana da Silva Josie Coughlan (Intentions) Tommy Burke Thanksgiving (Ercia & Jaffe B'days)
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (10.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Marian Boggis (Intentions)
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i> <i>Day of Prayer for the Survivors of Sexual Abuse</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Michael Iago (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Op. Mem. of St. John of Avila</i>	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Peter
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Op. Mem. of Ss. Nereus &amp; Achilles, or St. Pancras</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Mercedes Carrera Paredes
Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (12.00 noon Mass at Our Lady's)  (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	In Thanksgiving for 100 years of Our Lady's Catechists In thanksgiving for friendship
Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> May <b><i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i></b>	<b>7.45 am</b> 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>	Margaret Crowe (Anniversary) Sr. Maria  Patsy Jennings
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

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

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.*

**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: Anne Delaney, Julia Moran, Jose Do Livramento De Abreu, Thomas White,** and also those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishop Joseph Gray, Canon Francis Woodward, Frs. Donal O'Connor, Francis Carr, Walter Joseph Joret and Patrick Cocklin, Deacon James Duffy, and also Mary Kelly, Robert Curtis, James Doherty and John McAndrew. 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.**

**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.”*

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham.** All welcome to join this year's Pilgrimage on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> May. The Principal Celebrant is Bishop David Evans. 12.00 noon, Arrival; 1.30 pm, Mass; 3.00 pm, Procession to the Priory ruins, and prayers at the site of the Holy House; 5.00 pm, Depart. For further details please contact Fr Philip Griffin, via [walsingham.pilgrimage@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:walsingham.pilgrimage@rcaob.org.uk)

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate** is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat at St Anthony of Padua Church, 115 Headley Way, OX3 7SS on Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> May, 1.30-4.30 pm, led by the Marian Fathers. All welcome.

**May Devotions.** Next Sunday at 2.30 at Littlemore, there will be Rosary in the Newman College garden followed by a Procession in honour of Our Lady from The College to Bl. Dominic Barberi Church, with the Crowning of Our Lady and Benediction.

**Our Lady's Catechists.** For the past 25 years I have been privileged to be the chaplain of Our Lady's Catechists – a national organisation of catechists formed 100 years ago at the request of Cardinal Bourne to help with the religious education of Catholic children, particularly those unable to attend Catholic schools. Next Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> May, Bishop Peter Doyle will be coming to Our Lady's church to celebrate Mass for the Centenary of OLC and to give thanks to God for His graces. The Mass will also mark the closure of OLC as each diocese now has its own organisations for training and equipping catechists. Everyone is welcome to the Mass at noon. There will be no Mass or Confessions here at Sacred Heart that morning.

**WANTED!!! Preferably alive.**

- 1. The Parish Forum (or Council or whatever name we want to give it).** We haven't met very much, but as our parish community shakes off the effects of the pandemic we want to move forward with energy and vision. And so I am asking for volunteers to be part of the Parish Forum – parishioners who will plan parish events and projects, and who can advise me. We are very blessed in this parish to have such a mix of nationalities and cultures, and it would be great to have a representative or two from each to join the parish forum so that it reflects our community and gives each a voice in the running of this parish. If each group in the Parish put forward two people by Pentecost we can have the first meeting soon after.
- 2. The Parish Finance Committee needs a new Chair (a person, not a piece of furniture).** Many thanks to Chris Breward who has filled this position so well. His time of office has come to an end, and I should love to hear your nominations, please.
- 3. Safeguarding Officer.** Again, many thanks to Margaret Lawes who has been our Safeguarding Officer for some time and would now like to step down. Would YOU be willing to do it? Help and training will be available.

**Confirmation.** Canon Paul Fitzpatrick will be here to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, at the 6.00 pm Mass. Would any of our choirs be able and willing to provide some music for this important occasion in the life of our parish, please? Please pray for those preparing to be confirmed and for their families.

**Ascension Thursday.** Looking ahead slightly, the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord into heaven will be celebrated on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> May. It is a Holyday of Obligation, when we are obliged to attend Mass. The Mass here at Sacred Heart will be at 7.00 pm.

**Tailpiece:** Old Dan was fond of a drink. One evening his parish priest found him in the street very much under the influence. “Dan,” said the priest, sternly, “If God called you now what would you do?” After some thought Dan replied, “I wouldn't be able to go, Father.”

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