



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

10th September, 2023

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

(01865) 770910 • sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk • 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

Sunday, 10 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Education Day	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (4.30 pm Syro-Malabar Community Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Tony Donovan & Stacey Stretch Lucy Da Silva (Birthday) Special Intention
Monday, 11 th September	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Mary & Sean Merrigan (Ints)
Tuesday, 12 th September Op. Mem. of the Most Holy Name of Mary	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (11.30 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Ursula Lillis John Flanagan
Wednesday, 13 th September Mem. of St. John Chrysostom	No Public Mass Today.	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 14 th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Donstephen (Thanksgiving)
Friday, 15 th September Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Our Lady's School) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	The new School Year Antonietta & Peppi Aprea
Saturday, 16 th September Memorial of St. Cornelius, Pope, and St. Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Bridie Willoughby Special Intention
Sunday, 17 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (Home Mission Sunday)	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 3.00 pm Baptism 6.00 pm Mass	Anne O'Neill Bridie & Martin (Tim) Keane Aria Karina McKoy The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am		

Welcome to Sacred Heart for Mass today, especially if you are visiting for the first time.

Education Sunday. Today is Education Sunday when we are asked to pray for the work of Catholic education across the schools of the Archdiocese. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Education Service.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Iris O'Brien, Mary Doyle, Thomas Gaughan, Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Betty Duff and Eileen McGarry and all those we know who are sick. If someone is sick and would like to be prayed for, please let me know.

Please pray for those who have died recently: Ursula Teresa Lillis, Frs. Keith Enston and Edwin Cownley, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Frs. David Walter Hutt, Dominic Round, Guy Colman, Richard Dinnis and Patrick Meagher, Deacon Michael McGrail, and also Baby Oliver Michael Knott, Antonio Abreu, Daniel Lyons and Brian Peter Harper. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

*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.*

If you wish to watch the Mass at your home, go to

<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

This Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. At present, our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Margaret Lawes. She can be contacted at: sgsacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern. We are still asking for someone to volunteer to take Margaret's place. Please come and see me.

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.

VOLUNTEERS, PLEASE.

(i) **A Handyman.** Are you able and willing to do small(-ish) jobs around the church and hall? If so, please come and let me know.

(ii) **People who could count the weekly collections.**

Thank you to everyone who already helps out, and it would be great to have a larger pool of helpers.

"International Day"

On Sunday, 1st October, we shall have something special, shared with Our Lady's Parish. Just for that day Mass will be at 10.00 am at Our Lady's Primary School (cancel 9.00 at Sacred Heart and 11.00 at Our Lady's), followed by events/shared food/games until about 2.00 pm. The object of the Day is to celebrate the many different cultures and traditions in our parish and also to get to know one another and have some fun together. People are encouraged to wear national costume and to bring national dishes to share. Please sign the sheet at the back of the church if you can offer to bring and share some food.

Next Saturday evening (16th September) it would be good if organisers could have a brief meeting at Our Lady's School after the 5.30 pm Mass at Our Lady's to see how it can all be arranged.

Foundation Governors. St. John Fisher School is seeking Catholics to serve as Foundation Governors. If you can help, please contact the school; tel. 01865 779676 or email: office@stjohnfisher.co.uk

Guild Of St. Stephen Annual Mass Our altar servers and their families are invited to join this year's annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Guild of St Stephen for Altar Servers. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop David Evans on Saturday, 7th October at 12.00 noon at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, with refreshments. Please let me know if you wish to attend by Sunday, 24th September, so that we can let the cathedral staff know how many will be attending and also arrange transport.

Next Sunday is *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday (formerly known as Home Mission Sunday). There will be a second collection to support the work of evangelisation in our own country.

Situation Vacant. We are looking to appoint a part-time parish secretary. There is a job description available at the back of church. Please tell me if you are interested by next weekend.

Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. On Sunday, 24th September, we shall give thanks to God for the food we receive. If you have fruit and/or veg that we could put before the altar on that day then please bring them along. After Mass you can either re-claim them or they can be passed on to the Foodbank.

The Diocesan Education Service is recruiting for a Director of Education. Details for this role can be found on the websites of the Diocesan Education Service www.bdes.org.uk/vacancies and the Archdiocese www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk. The closing date is Monday, 18th September.

Father Hudson's Care invite you to a face-to-face Welcoming Church event next **Saturday, 16th September, at St. Catherine of Siena Church, Bristol Rd, Birmingham, B5 7BE, at 10.00 am.** The individual sessions will talk about how parishes can support older people, refugees, people with disabilities and those who are homeless, creating a plan to make real change. To learn more please call 01675 434000 or email kevinhateley@fatherhudsons.org.uk

The Leys Youth Fete is happening on 6th October, 15.30-20.00, at Leys Leisure Centre, Pegasus Rd, OX4 6JL, promising a vibrant and engaging event for the youth of the Leys area in Oxford. It will be a day filled with learning, fun, and empowerment. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be a part of something special. ewa@leysyouthspace.com; <https://leysyouthspace.com>

Tailpiece: A mother greeted her husband with the news that she had sent their son to his room because she had heard him using a "bad word". "Swearing, was he?" said Daddy. "I'll teach him to swear", and he set off up the stairs. Unfortunately, a roller skate had been left at the top and Daddy came down the stairs again a lot quicker than he had gone up. After almost five minutes of invective, during which Daddy never repeated himself once, Mummy said, "Alright, Daddy. That will do for the first lesson."

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