



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th October, 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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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.

Sunday, 15 th October Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Carlos Monteiro Tommy Gildea (Anniversary) The People of the Parish
Monday, 16 th October <i>Op. Mem. of St. Hedwig, Religious, or St. Margaret Mary Alacoque</i>	<i>(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Mrs. Thomas (Private Int.)
Tuesday, 17 th October <i>Mem. of St. Ignatius of Antioch</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Annamma Chacko
Wednesday, 18 th October <i>Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist</i>	No Public Mass Today.	John Edwards
Thursday, 19 th October <i>Mem. of St. Frideswide, Abbess, Patron of Oxford</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Alexander McVeigh (Anniv.)
Friday, 20 th October	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's School)</i>	Nalini (Birthday)
Saturday, 21 st October	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 1.00 pm Baptism <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's School)</i>	Rhea da Souza (21 st B'day) & Maria da Souza (Birthday) Elle Imogen Boyd Martin Jennings (1 st Anniv.)
Sunday, 22 nd October Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>World Mission Sunday</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's School)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Bernadette Nolan (Anniv.) Shaheen Joshi (Birthday) The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

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

Survive-Miva. This weekend we welcome especially Sally Ward who will speak to us about the work and purpose of Survive-Miva and ask for our help. The second collection today will be for Survive-Miva.

Please note some changes in Masses this week:

- **Next Saturday there will be no Mass or Confessions here at Sacred Heart**
- **Masses at Our Lady's during the week will be in the chapel, not the main church, and**
- **Masses at Our Lady's next weekend will be in the school not the church because the church will be closed while the floor is being worked on.**

Please pray for Archie Allen who died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Bishop Michael Glancey, Mgr. Paul Joseph Watson, Canon William Withers, Frs. Aidan White-Spunner, Brendan Byrne and Thomas Burbage, and also Alexander McVeigh and Joseph Patrick McGarry. 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.*

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.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Iris O'Brien, Mary Doyle, Thomas Gaughan, Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Betty Duff, Beatrice Upham 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 Fatima Mohammed as she receives the Sacrament of Confirmation next Saturday morning.

The Synod in Rome. The Holy Father has asked Catholics to join in prayer during this time of Synod for a spirit of discernment and wisdom for those attending, so that the whole Church may know the power of the Holy Spirit at work in these days. Central to this time of Synod is a desire to discern how the Lord wants us to follow him and be faithful to his call to bring His Good News to all peoples.

October is the month dedicated to Our Lady of the Holy Rosary. In March 2020, Catholics and other Christians across England took part in the re-dedication of the country to the Virgin Mary which originally took place in 1381 when the country was in a period of turmoil and the King turned to the Virgin Mary for protection. The best way to celebrate the month is, of course, to pray the Rosary. So let us all turn to Our Blessed Lady and seek her intercession and ask that she will always be 'our most gentle Queen and Mother.'

Christmas Bazaar.

*The change in the weather this week is a reminder that the year is getting on!
With that in mind let me announce:
OUR PARISH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
THIS YEAR WILL BE ON SATURDAY,
25TH NOVEMBER.*

*Raffle tickets for the bazaar are available from today. There is a chart for donations for the raffle in the porch. Please do support our parish by selling the tickets and/or offering prizes.
Thank you.*

In aid of fundraising for CAFOD, Good luck to Rachel Breward who is going to be running her first ever Half Marathon! Please pray for her, especially her knees, and please sponsor her if you can <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Rachel-Breward-Oxford-half>. The run will take place today, 15th October, in Oxford (the flat bits of Oxford).

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Parish collections for World Mission Sunday support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. Missionaries work tirelessly, often in dangerous places to bring the Gospel and practical help to those in need. Please support them with your donations and prayers.



Missio Red Boxes. If you have a Red Box, could you please bring it in to be emptied by Sunday 12th November. You can leave boxes in the Sacristy. If you would like to know more please speak to Jacqui.

40 Days for Life Campaign: Join other Christians in 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end of abortion. From Wednesday 27th September to Saturday 4th November, you are invited to stand and pray peacefully outside BPAS (Rectory Centre, 27-29 Rectory Road, OX4 1BU). For more information or to volunteer to help, contact Catherine at catherinermell2@gmail.com or sign up to vigils hours online via: 40daysforlife.com/Oxford.

Tailpiece: A friend of mine told me this story. Many years ago he was a hospital chaplain and he was called out in the middle of the night on a sick call. Still half asleep he went into the hospital room and found a lady sitting in bed. He gave her the Sacrament of the Sick and returned home. The next day he was doing his regular round and he noticed that the room the woman had been in was empty. "What happened to her?" he asked. "Did she die?" "No, she's fine," replied the nurse. "She's gone home. You went into the wrong room; she was only here because her husband was in the next room recovering from an operation." "Good heavens!" said the chaplain, "What must she have thought!" "Oh, that's alright," said the nurse. "She was very impressed. She thought it was part of the National Health Service."

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