



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th 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, 8 th October Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Prisons Week (continues until Friday)	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Horacio Liu & Filomena Liu John Hudgell (Birthday) The People of the Parish
Monday, 9 th October Feast of St. John Henry Newman	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Nancy Surliss
Tuesday, 10 th October Op. Mem. of St. Paulinus of York, or Ss. Denis & Comps., Martyrs, or St. John Leonardi, Priest	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Winnie Gildea
Wednesday, 11 th October Op. Mem. of Bl. William Howard, or of St. John XXIII, Pope	No Public Mass Today.	Martin McDonagh
Thursday, 12 th October Op. Memorial of St. Wilfrid, Bishop	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	John Flanagan
Friday, 13 th October Op. Mem. of St. Edward the Confessor	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Margaret Stevens (Get Well)
Saturday, 14 th October Op. Mem. of St. Callistus I, Pope, Martyr	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Holy Souls Josephine & Dermot McMahon
Sunday, 15 th October Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Carlos Monteiro Tommy Gildea (Anniversary) The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am (Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm at Our Lady's)		

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

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 those who have died recently: Archie Allen, Jorge Garcia, Baby Tarcisio Jeronimo Andrade Babo, Luis Abel Da Silva, Frs. Paul Chavasse (Cong Orat) and Edwin Cownley, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Cyril L. Fay, Frs. Thomas Power, Terence James Brian Whatmore and Seamus Gilroy, Deacons Patrick Selwood and Louis Kelly, and also Catherine Doherty. 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.**

In aid of fundraising for CAFOD, Rachel Breward is going to be running her first ever Half Marathon in October! 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 on 15th October in Oxford (the flat bits of Oxford).

International Day. A big THANK YOU, first of all to God who answered our prayers for good weather and made our celebration last week a success. Then secondly, thank you to everyone who planned and did so much work to make sure things went well, especially musicians, servers, technicians, and also Tara, Carl and all at Our Lady's School. Thirdly, thank you to so many people for bringing so much delicious food and sharing it with generosity and openness. Finally, thank you to everyone who came along and took part. Some of the comments made to me afterwards summed up the atmosphere: "Can we do this again next week, please?", "I have never taken part in anything like this before", "So many people have come up to speak to me and introduce themselves. It has been wonderful."



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. Thank you. If you would like to know more please speak to Jacqui.

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.'

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day was last Friday and the second collection at Mass this weekend is for the money you saved by fasting. Your gift to CAFOD will mean families can get help from doctors and other local experts when they need it most.

Please pray for the sick, especially those we know:

Claire French, John Pill, Aven Kavanagh, Iris O'Brien, Doreen Cox, Jean Carpenter, Beatrice Upham, Thomas Gaughan and Pat Mazonowicz.

40 Days for Life Campaign: Join us for our Mid-point rally, happening on Saturday 14th October at 7.30 pm at Cafe Neri, Oxford Oratory of St. Aloysius. If you'd like more information or to volunteer to help, contact: catherinermell2@gmail.com or sign up to the prayer vigil online via: 40daysforlife.com/Oxford

Survive-Miva. Next Sunday we welcome Sally Ward to speak to us about Survive-Miva and ask for our help.

Today is Prisoners' Sunday when we are asked to pray for prisoners, their families and all of those affected by imprisonment and those who support them. For more info go to: www.prisonadvice.org.uk/prisoners-sunday

The Synod in Rome began last Wednesday. 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.

Parish Finance Committee. There will be a meeting at 7.30 pm on Thursday evening in the hall.

Newman Night Walk this Sunday, 8th October, from Oxford to Littlemore, commemorating the arrival of Bl. Dominic Barberi at Littlemore and the anniversary of St. John Henry Newman's Reception into the Catholic Church. It starts at 7.15 pm with prayers at the Oratory, Oxford, followed at 9.00 pm by Candlelight Procession from 7 Courtland Road to Bl. Dominic Barberi Church; 9.30 pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; 9.50 pm Benediction and Procession to the College Library and Chapel. Light refreshments afterwards.

Tailpiece: Pope St. John XXIII (whose feast day is this week) had a cheeky sense of humour. He used to say what a hard life his parents had as small wine-growers. With a twinkle, he would remark, "There are only three ways a man can be ruined: women, gambling and farming. My father chose the most boring of the three."

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