

Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

14th January, 2024

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

(Also serving Our Lady Help of Christians, Cowley)

Parish Secretary: Reena Bartrip

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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: sg.sacredheart.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.

Sunday, 14 th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Peace Sunday</i>	<i>(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> <i>(2.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Anita Allen Lucas Da Silva Harry Thomson Oliver Philip Christopher Dell Philomina Daniel
Monday, 15 th January	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday, 16 th January	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Michael Knibbs RIP</i>
Wednesday, 17 th January <i>Mem. of St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Sean Jennings</i>
Thursday, 18 th January <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	<i>6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction</i> 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Don Stephen (In Thanksgiving)</i>
Friday, 19 th January <i>Feast of St. Wulstan, Bishop</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Sheila Jennings and Family</i>
Saturday, 20 th January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Fabian, or of St. Sebastian, Martyrs.</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> 10.00 am Mass <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Sandra Carr (Get Well)</i> <i>Sean Jennings</i>
Sunday, 21 st January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	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	<i>Ena Maguire</i> <i>Newton & Clara (Wedding Anniv.)</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am <i>(Confessions at Our Lady's: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)</i>		

Welcome to Sacred Heart for Mass today.

*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 are unable to come to church and wish to watch the Mass at your home, go to

<https://www.mcn.live/Camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Keith Dolton, Iris O'Brien, Mary Doyle, Thomas Gaughan, Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Betty Duff, Inna, Beatrice Upham and Eileen McGarry, Rosa Fernandes, Miguel Balbag 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 Sean Jennings, Anita Allen, Shean Scanlon, Madeleine Watson and Michael Knibbs who died recently, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Canon Matthias (Matt) Corrigan, Frs. Benedict O'Gorman, Gerard Peuleve, Cyril Bennett, Archibald (Archie) John Snell, Timothy Dinan, Cecil Keane, Bernard Robertson, and Edward Kirner, Deacons Brian Dockerty and Thomas Mark Carter, and also Jimmy Doyle, Mary Cleary, Thomas Patrick Braiden, Patrick Joseph Philbin, Patrick Whelan, Sally Roberts, Margaret Hodson, Johnny Evans, and William (Bill) Barber. May they rest in peace.

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.

Today is the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time. It is also **Peace Sunday**, a day to pray for world peace. The theme of the Day this year is: 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace', that AI should be used in the service of humanity and not to further injustice and inequality.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is traditionally observed from 18th–25th January. Resources are now available for the 2024 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, prepared by an ecumenical team from Burkina Faso facilitated by the local Chemin Neuf Community (CCN). They have chosen the parable of the Good Samaritan as the theme for this Week.

We can start the week of prayer with time before the Blessed Sacrament in St John Henry Newman's Chapel at Littlemore, next Thursday, 12.00 noon – 9.00 pm

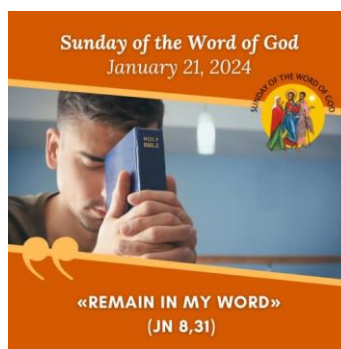
Year of prayer. The first Deanery event in the Year of Prayer (in preparation for the Jubilee Year in 2025) will be a talk and prayer, led by Canon Mervyn at Corpus Christi Church in Headington on Monday 22nd January, 7.00-8.00 pm. All welcome. (The second event will be at Our Lady's on Monday, 5th Feb., 7.00-8.00 pm).

Parish Finance Committee. There will be a meeting today at 4.00 pm in the hall.

First Holy Communion Preparation. Children aged 8 or older are invited to start preparing to receive Holy Communion on Sunday, 26th May.

- Preparation classes will be in the parish hall on Monday afternoons, at from 4.30-5.30 pm, starting in February.
- There will be a meeting for parents on Monday, 29th January, at 4.30 pm, with the Mass of Enrolment on Sunday, 4th February at 9.00 am.

Parents, if you haven't done so already, please register your children's names with me by this weekend if you wish them to receive their First Confession and Holy Communion this year, with one of the application forms at the back of church.



Next Sunday (the 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time) is the "Sunday of the Word of God". It is a day when we reflect on the importance of the Bible in our faith. Next weekend please bring your family Bible or the Bible that you use most to Mass to be blessed.

CAFOD School Volunteers needed. Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in your local Catholic schools by delivering an assembly or a workshop? You will be supported by CAFOD with training and all resources will be provided and expenses paid. Do consider the role of CAFOD school volunteer. For more information contact Debbie Purfield dpurfield@cafod.org.uk or call 07786 114 390

Pro-life social. 7.30-9.00 pm, Friday, 19th January. "Up in Arms", Marston, OX3 OEN. Whether you're new and would like to find out more or a seasoned pro-lifer, come along to relax with like-minded people and keep connected with the pro-life community in Oxford. All welcome! Just turn up, and you can get in touch with Ed via <https://tinyurl.com/ox-pro-life>. And why not bring a friend?

Old Palm Crosses. If you have any old palm crosses at home that you don't want, please bring them to church to be burned to make ash for this year's Ash Wednesday services. Ash Wednesday is on 14th February, only just over 4 weeks away!

Tailpiece: A young curate was visiting a parishioner on her 99th birthday. As he was leaving, the curate said, "Well, I hope I shall be able to visit you again next year when you celebrate your 100th Birthday." The parishioner looked him up and down and replied, "I don't see why not, Father. You look quite fit to me."

May God bless you and all those who are dear to you.
Fr. Harry