



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## Fourth Sunday of Lent

10<sup>th</sup> March, 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](mailto:sg.sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

Sunday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b> Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments	(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's) <b>7.45 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</b> (9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) <b>9.00 am Mass</b> (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Ruth Joshi (Birthday)  Private Intention Dominic Durkin The People of the Parish Ansel Netto
Monday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Jose de Jesus Carvalho & family
Tuesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> March Dementia Prayer Week	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's) (6.00 pm Reception of Lisa O'Brien at Our Lady's)	Mattie Cooney
Wednesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> March Dementia Prayer Week	(10.00 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)	Lisa O'Brien
Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March Dementia Prayer Week	<b>6.15 pm Stations of the Cross</b> <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Special Intention
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> March Dementia Prayer Week	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (12.00 noon Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's) (7.30 pm Stations of the Cross at Our Lady's)	Anne Marie McCarthy Nossa Senhora de Fatima
Saturday, 16 <sup>th</sup> March Parish Lent Day of Recollection Dementia Prayer Week	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>10.00 am Mass at Boars Hill Convent</b> (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Mary Doyle Carlota Maria da Costa
Sunday, 17 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Fifth Sunday of Lent</b> Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments Dementia Prayer Week	<b>7.45 am Office of Readings &amp; Morning Prayer</b> (9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) <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>	Private Intention Methodear Method Kathleen Davey Beatrice Awe The People of the Parish
<b>(Confessions during the Day of Recollection at Boars Hill on Saturday).</b> (Confessions at Our Lady's: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)		

Welcome to Sacred Heart for Mass today.

**Happy Mothering Sunday to all Mums**

Each of us has a mother, whether she is with us or has passed away. We thank God for them and pray for them especially today. We also pray for our holy Mother Church.

During Lent we do not say the Gloria during Mass on Sundays, nor the joyful word "Alleluia!" Just for today we have a few flowers decorating the altar because it is LAETARE SUNDAY, "Be joyful Sunday". The statues in the church will be veiled from next Sunday, the fifth Sunday of Lent (Passion Sunday), until Holy Saturday.

**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>

*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 Claudino Serra Vaz, Keith Dolton, Iris O'Brien, Thomas Gaughan, Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Betty Duff, Inna, Beatrice Upham, Eileen McGarry, Rosa Fernandes, Miguel Balbag, Keelin Trahearn 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 Pat Mazonowicz, Lisa O'Brien, Anne Dewdney, Amelia Frances Roach, Anne McCarthy and Madeline Dandridge** who died recently, and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop David Cashman, Canons Gerard J Hanlon and Raymond Walsh, Frs. Joseph Purcell, Ralph Sheppey-Greene, Christopher Thornton, Connell Harkin, Vaughan Lloyd, Anthony Sims, John McNally and Michael Crumpton, Deacon Patrick Duffy, and also Sr. Imelda James, Matthew Murray and Bernard McAndrew. 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.**

**Mass on Monday mornings at 7.00 am at Our Lady's,** followed by breakfast. This could be a good Lenten practice to start each working week with Mass.

**Dementia Prayer Week, 12-19th March.** Please pray for those suffering with dementia, and those who care for them. Prayers, short videos, printable materials, and other resources can be found at [Dementia Prayer Week | RP Books](#)

**Gift Aiders.** First, a big thank you to everyone who gift aids their offerings. Anyone who pays income tax can do this. It means that if you give money to the Church we can get back the income tax you have paid to earn it. If you sign up as a gift aider, for every £1 you give we can claim back 25p from the Government. Second, it won't be long before Sally McVeigh will be putting out the new envelopes, so if any of your circumstances have changed (i.e. if you have stopped paying tax or your address has changed), or if you would like to start gift aiding, please let Sally know as soon as you can.

**Easter Duties.** All Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion should receive the Holy Eucharist sometime between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday. They should also take part in the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) before receiving this Easter Communion.

**Wanted: Minutes Secretary.** The St. Francis de Sales Charitable Trust, dedicated to financially supporting pro-life and Catholic causes, seeks a voluntary Minutes Secretary to start asap. Would suit someone seeking a flexible hybrid/remote role to fit around their schedule. Commitment: ~ 3 hours work per 6 weeks. For more info: <https://prolifecommunityoxford.org.uk/sfds/>

**Parish Lent Day of Recollection. Next Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 10.00 am – 4.00 pm at Boars Hill Carmelite Convent. £10 per person, and bring your own lunch. There will be Mass, talks, and a chance for quiet prayer. Please sign the sheet in the porch if you would like to take part. Those going should meet outside the church at 9.00 am next Saturday morning.**

**National Novena to St. Joseph, 10-18 March.** Join St. Joseph's Missionary Society (Mill Hill Missionaries). Novena Masses will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, Maidenhead, at 10.00 am on weekdays and Saturday (16<sup>th</sup>), and 11.00 am on Sunday (10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>). Evening Prayer will be at 6.00 pm daily during the Novena. These will be on Zoom, [www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena](http://www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena)



**The Kenelm Youth Trust will be travelling to Lourdes on the annual Diocesan pilgrimage.** Over 16's have the opportunity to travel to Lourdes with the trust to serve in the Accueil and take part in all aspects of the pilgrimage. Any young people who are interested can find all the information they need at: <https://www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/lourdes.html> or email Libby - [libby.cox@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk](mailto:libby.cox@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk)

**Tailpiece:** A conversation that took place with children preparing for their First Confession:

Teacher: "When you tell Fr. Harry something in Confession he won't tell anyone else. In fact, he won't remember it afterwards."

First child (sounding rather hurt): "Why won't Fr. Harry remember what I have said to him?"

Second child: "Well, old people do forget things, and Fr. Harry is very old".

Ouch!

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