



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## *Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord and Holy Week*

### 24<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, 24 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</b> <i>Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's) <b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (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>	Joaquina Fatima da Costa & Delfin Alves da Costa  Private Intention Cecilia Michael Sr. Mary (Birthday) Special Intention
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> March	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Regina Mihailova
Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> March	No Public Mass Today	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> March	No Public Mass Today	<i>In Thanksgiving (Fr. Harry)</i>
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Maunder Thursday</b>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am-11.00 am Confessions  <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>THE EASTER TRIDUUM</b>  <b>7.00 pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER</b> Ellen McGarry            After Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be taken in procession from the main altar in the church to the Altar of Repose where there will be watching until 10.00 pm.  <i>"Can you not watch with me one hour?"</i> </div>	
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Good Friday</b>  <b>Today is a day of fasting and abstinence.</b>	10.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer  <b>3.00 pm SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION</b> This is not a Mass, but a solemn celebration held at the time of Our Lord's death on the Cross.  6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	
Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> March <b>Holy Saturday</b>	10.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.30 am-11.30 am Confessions Today we join Jesus in His "Sabbath Rest" in the tomb, until ... <b>8.00 pm THE EASTER VIGIL</b> Felipe Maxanches Bintaldays	
Sunday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March <b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (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>NO EVENING MASS</b>	Private Intention John Cullen Winnie Gildea (Birthday)

Welcome to Sacred Heart 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 wish to join the Mass from your home go to: <https://www.mcn.live/Camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>**

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**Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for our celebration of Mass. Today we begin Holy Week.**

Holy Week is the greatest week in the Church's year, so please take part as much as you can. *By taking part in the celebrations of the Liturgy we can enter into the events that happened about two thousand years ago. But we enter in, not as bystanders or casual observers but as believers, recognising our own part in what is unfolding, and also recognising the great things that God has done for us.* We can share with Jesus His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, His special celebration of the Passover with His disciples at the Last Supper and then His agony and betrayal in the Garden on Maundy Thursday, all the horrible events of Good Friday, His "Sabbath Rest" on Holy Saturday, and thus we can truly share in His Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

**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, Cheryl Jones 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 Amelia Roach** who died recently, and all whose anniversaries are at this time: Bishops David McGough and Humphrey Bright, Mgr. Canon John Joseph Welch, Mgr. Francis Davis, Frs. John Joseph Donnelly, John McManus, Thomas Cockburn, Deacon Louis Joseph Livesey, and also Sarah McVeigh, Paddy McLoughlin, Charlie O'Connor, Regina Mihailova, Colm Keady, Catherine Regan, Josie Bates, John Steele and Breda Keenan. May they rest in peace.

**Remember: refreshments are available in the hall after the 9.00 am Mass on Sundays. Come and have a chat with friends.**

**Today is Palm Sunday, the start of Holy Week**

**Wednesday: The Chrism Mass.** The Archbishop will celebrate the Chrism Mass at 11.30 am on Wednesday morning in St. Chad's Cathedral. The Chrism Mass is the occasion when the Holy Oils are blessed. It is also the occasion when the priests of the diocese renew their commitment of service to God and the Church. [Chrism Mass, live streamed from St Chad's Cathedral | Birmingham Diocesan Trust \(birminghamdiocese.org.uk\)](#)



**Maundy Thursday:** The Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.00 pm on Maundy Thursday evening is the end of Lent and the start of the Easter Triduum. At this Mass we celebrate the institution of the Sacraments of the Eucharist and the Priesthood.



**Watching at the Altar of Repose.** When the Mass of the Last Supper ends we shall go to the Altar of Repose and keep watch with Jesus, remembering His Agony in the Garden and His acceptance of His Father's will.



**Good Friday:** On Good Friday there is no Mass, but at 3.00 pm in the afternoon, the hour at which our Lord died, there is a "Solemn Celebration" of the Passion of our Lord.

**Holy Saturday:** We do not celebrate Mass on Holy Saturday, the Lord's Day of Rest in the tomb, but in the evening at 8.00 pm we begin our Easter celebrations with the Easter Vigil, the greatest event in the Church's year.



**The Solemnity of the Annunciation.** Because 25<sup>th</sup> March this year falls in Holy Week, the Annunciation will be deferred and will be celebrated after Easter.

**My Day By Day** booklets for Easter are available (£1) at the back of church.

**Eucharistic Ministers** will be re-commissioned during the Mass of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday.

**The collection on Good Friday** is for the Holy Places – i.e. for the upkeep of the sites in the Holy Land associated with the life of Our Lord.

**Traditionally the collection at the Easter Masses** is your personal offering to your priest. There are envelopes at the back of church if you wish. Thank you.

*Our Easter Raffle will be drawn in the hall after Mass this morning. Proceeds will go to support the work of the De La Salle Brothers.*

**Welcome to Fr. Martin Flatman.** I am very grateful to Fr. Martin who will be helping me out this week. On Maundy Thursday I shall be here at Sacred Heart and Fr. Martin will be at Our Lady's. Then Fr. Martin will be here at Sacred Heart on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, while I am at Our Lady's.

**Easter Triduum.** There is a list on the table at the back of church for people to sign up for various roles at the services of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. We need volunteers, especially to have your feet washed, so please don't be shy.

**Gift Aiders.** Please don't forget to pick up your new envelopes, from the church porch. Thank you.

**Opposing the decriminalisation of abortion.** The government's flagship Criminal Justice Bill has two important amendments that could fundamentally change our laws on abortion. You can write to your local MP to make your voice heard on this important issue. (Pre-printed cards are available on the table if you want them).

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