



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

*Easter Sunday*  
*31<sup>st</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.*

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| Sunday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March<br><b>Easter Sunday</b>   | <b>Saturday Evening 8.00 pm Easter Vigil</b><br>7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br>(9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's)<br><b>9.00 am Mass</b><br>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) | <i>Felipe Maxanches Bintaldays</i><br><br><i>Private Intention</i><br><i>John Cullen</i><br><i>Winnie Gildea (Birthday)</i>                                    |
| Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April<br><i>Monday within the Easter Octave</i>                        | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br>(10.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)   | <i>The People of the Parish</i>  |
| Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> April<br><i>Tuesday within the Easter Octave</i>                      | No Public Mass Today   | <i>Josie McCrave</i>   |
| Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April<br><i>Wednesday within the Easter Octave</i>                  | No Public Mass Today   | <i>Carmel and Family</i>   |
| Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> April<br><i>Thursday within the Easter Octave</i>                    | No Public Mass Today   | <i>Sabas and Lourdes Balbag</i>  |
| Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April<br><i>Friday within the Easter Octave</i><br><i>First Friday</i> | No Public Mass Today   | <i>Private Intention</i>   |
| Saturday, 6 <sup>th</sup> April<br><i>Saturday within the Easter Octave</i>                    | 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br><b>10.00 am Mass</b><br>(1.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's)<br>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)  | <i>Maise Moran</i><br><i>Grace Huish</i><br><i>Mick Mullagh (Anniversary)</i>  |
| Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> April<br><b>Second Sunday of Easter</b><br><i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i>  | <b>7.45 am</b> Office of Readings & Morning Prayer<br>(9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's)<br><b>9.00 am Mass</b><br>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)<br><b>6.00 pm Mass</b>                   | <i>Private Intention</i><br><i>Larry Gardner</i><br><i>Pat Atherton and Family</i><br><i>Luvi Andrade Dircia da</i><br><i>Conceicao &amp; Januario Andrade</i> |
| Confessions: Saturday 10.30 – 11.30 am   |  |  |

## The Easter Season

The Easter Season begins today, Easter Sunday, and ends after Evening Prayer on Pentecost Sunday. These fifty days are a very special time and, as St. Athanasius wrote, they “are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one great Sunday.” The first eight days make up the Easter Octave and they are celebrated as Solemnities of the Lord – that is, feast days of the most importance. The joyful sound of “Alleluia!” is heard many times in this season and we add two “Alleluias” at the dismissal of the Mass this week.



Welcome to Sacred Heart today, especially if you are new to the parish or visiting for Easter.

*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>

**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 and Aleyamma John** who died recently, and all whose anniversaries are at this time: Archbishop Thomas Leighton Williams, Bishop Anthony Emery, Mgr. Canon Daniel Leonard, Frs. Matthew Sheridan, John Callaghan, Philip O'Reilly, Lawrence King, Michael Clive Glynn, Timothy Burke, Deacon Raymond Zacaroli, and also Betty Kellett, James Craig, Mary Batten, Samuel E. Williams, Elizabeth Conry, Bob and Collette McNarry, Mary Bailey, Mick Mullagh, Jack and Kathleen Duffy. May they rest in peace.

### Prayer at the end of Mass:

*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia;*

*Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia,*

*Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia:*

*Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.*

**O Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia.**

**For He whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia,**

**Has risen as he said, alleluia.**

**Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

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

**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.

**Holidays.** I am planning to take a few days off this week so there will be no public Mass here on Tuesday or Friday as there would normally be. I shall still be celebrating Mass, however, and I shall offer Mass for the listed intentions.

**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).

**Congratulations and welcome to Gill Goddard who was baptised, confirmed and received her First Holy Communion and to Richie Harris who was received into full communion with the Catholic Church at Our Lady's at the Easter Vigil. May God bless them now and always.**

**A big thank you** to everyone who worked so hard to make our Holy Week celebrations so beautiful. Thank you to the altar servers, the sacristans, the stewards, the flower arrangers, the cleaners, the musicians, the Eucharistic ministers, the readers and the booklet-folders. Thank you too to Fr. Martin Flatman who was here on Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

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

**'Oxford Pro-Life Rosary Witness:** On Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April (On Our Lady's first Saturday of the Month) all pro-lifers are warmly invited to recite the Rosary for the end of abortion and in defence of life. We will be meeting outside the Clarendon building at 48 Broad Street, Oxford, OX1 3AZ, at 12.00 noon. Please join us in the mission of witnessing to the Gospel of life for the conversion of hearts and minds. For more info contact Honor Roberts at [honorroberts@hotmail.com](mailto:honorroberts@hotmail.com).'

**Tailpiece:** Finally, what do you get if you pour boiling water down a rabbit hole?  
Hot Cross Bunnies!

(Sorry!)

**Have a very happy and blessed Easter.  
May God bless you and all those whom you love.  
Fr. Harry**

