



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Fourth Sunday of Easter

21st April, 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

(01865) 455182 • sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk • www.sacredheartoxford.com

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, 21 st April Fourth Sunday of Easter <i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>	Saturday Evening 8.00 pm Easter Vigil 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Mercedes Carrera (2 nd Anniv.) Private Intention Cecilia Michael Mabel (Intentions) The People of the Parish
Monday, 22 nd April <i>Monday of Easter Week 4</i>	<i>(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	The Sisters at Elmthorpe
Tuesday, 23 rd April Solemnity of St. George, Martyr, Patron of England	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Kath and John Pill (Intentions)
Wednesday, 24 th April <i>Op. Mem. of St. Adalbert, & of St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen</i>	No Public Mass Today	Special Intention (Perpetua)
Thursday, 25 th April Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist	7.00 pm Mass (Confirmations)	Maria Ribeiro and Family
Friday, 26 th April <i>Friday of Easter Week 4</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Nancy Lyons (Birthday)
Saturday, 27 th April <i>Saturday of Easter Week 4</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	Kim Netto and Jovita Correya (25 th Wedding Anniversary) Tommy White (Anniversary)
Sunday, 28 th April Fifth Sunday of Easter	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Private Intention Paddy McCartney Annie Kennedy (Anniversary) The People of the Parish
Confessions: Saturday 10.30 – 11.30 am <i>(Confessions at Our Lady's: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)</i>		

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

The Easter Season

The Easter Season began on Easter Sunday and it 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.”

Today is “Good Shepherd Sunday”. It is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations when we pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life in our Archdiocese. There will be the annual collection at Masses for the Clergy Training Fund which supports our seminarians and diaconate students.



*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 Esteban, Mely 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 Francis, Susana Lee and Gillian Phipps who died recently, and all whose anniversaries are at this time: Bishop Patrick Leo McCartie, Frs. Hugh Griffith, Andrew Kenny, Oswald Joyce, Liam Bouchier, Benjamin Cox, Wilfrid Davenport, Desmond Donnelly and Peter Dennison, Deacon Peter Seeney, and also Eddie Parker, Ellen Monks, Esther Masterson and Peter Nottingham,. May they rest in peace.

	Counting rota	Readers' Rota (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers' Rota		Flowers rota
This week	Kylla & Lilian	R. Breward	Josh Peter	John Thomas	Claire & Family
Next Week	Rachel & Phil	D. Wallace & R. Costa	Pat McGroarty	Lilian Mwawa	Priya & Family

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.**

Work Experience opportunity for young adults with the SVP and CAFOD. The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are offering residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. It will be 7th–13th July in London. Candidates must be aged 20-30 years old and have a passion for social justice. For more info go to SarahB@svp.org.uk or khutchinson@cafod.org.uk.

A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and the SVP, equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local election candidates. Please see cafod.org.uk/encounter for more info and online sessions on Thursday, 25th April, and Saturday, 4th May.

Gardening Morning. All the grass, trees, litter and weeds around the church are growing well now that Spring is here, and it will need a big effort to get everything looking good. If you can spare the time there will be a “gardening morning” here **next Saturday**, 27th April, 8.00 – 12.00 am. Please bring whatever equipment you think might be useful.

Annual Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage. Married couples, those celebrating a milestone anniversary and those preparing to marry this year, are invited to the annual Mass for Marriage at St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham on Saturday 4th May at 12 Noon, followed by light refreshments. Please visit www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Next Thursday evening Canon Paul Fitzpatrick, the Episcopal Vicar for Coventry, Warwickshire and Oxfordshire, will be here to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 7.00 Mass. Please pray for the candidates and their families.

Parish Forum Meeting. This afternoon, 21st April, at 4.00 pm., in the hall. All are welcome, and it would be good if representatives of all ages and nationalities in our community could be there, please.

Bingo Night – proceeds in aid of the Catholic Handicapped Fellowship Oxford, Lourdes Pilgrimage. On Wednesday, 8th May, eyes down 8.00 pm, at the Headington Conservative Club, Windmill Road, Headington (OX3 7BZ). For more information email the secretary macdon1@uwclub.net

Tailpiece: Joe scored the winning goal for England in the last minute of the football world cup final. But in his heart he felt that he was offside. In the dressing room he confessed to his teammates, but they all assured him he was *not* offside. In church on Sunday he confessed to the priest who also assured him that he was *not* offside. Eventually Joe died. He got to the Pearly Gates where he confessed again. A voice said, “You were *not* offside.” “But I’m sure I was,” said Joe. The voice again reassured him. “You must take my word for it; it was a good goal.” “That’s taken a great weight off my mind,” said Joe. “Thank you, St. Peter.” The voice interrupted, “Oh, I’m not St Peter; it’s his day off. I’m St. George.”

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