



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

7th 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

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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, 7 th April Second Sunday of Easter <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</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	<i>Mick Mullagh (Anniversary)</i> <i>Private Intention</i> <i>Larry Gardner</i> <i>Pat Atherton and Family</i> <i>Luvi Andrade Dircia da Conceicao & Januario de Andrade</i>
Monday, 8 th April Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> 12.00 noon Mass <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Special Intention</i> <i>Tom Gaughan (Anniversary)</i>
Tuesday, 9 th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Mary Bailey (Anniversary)</i>
Wednesday, 10 th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Thursday, 11 th April <i>Mem. of St. Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr</i>	<i>6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction</i> 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Dominic Durkin</i>
Friday, 12 th April <i>Easter Feria</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Patrick Murphy (Anniversary)</i>
Saturday, 13 th April <i>Op. Mem. of St. Martin I, Pope, Martyr</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> 10.00 am Mass <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Jeronimo Ribeiro Babo Martins</i> <i>Fr. Peter Dooley (Anniversary)</i>
Sunday, 14 th April Third 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	<i>Private Intention</i> <i>Martinho Amaral</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i> <i>In Thanksgiving</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>		



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.” The joyful sound of “Alleluia!” is heard many times in this season and we add two “Alleluias” at the dismissal of the Mass today.

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 Francis, Susana Lee and Aleyamma John who died recently, and all whose anniversaries are at this time: Canon Peter Edward Jones, Frs. Kevin Preston, Eamon Patrick Clarke, Kenneth William Collins, Joseph Barr and Michael McManus, Deacon Jack Foxall, and also Larry Gardner, Joan Ann Kelly, Thomas (Tom) Gaughan and Jose Do Livramento De Abreu. 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.**

Today is Divine Mercy Sunday. According to the diary of St. Faustina, Jesus said: *"...tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon the souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet...."* (Diary 699).

A big thank you to everyone who helped to make our Holy Week and Easter celebrations so beautiful.

Thank you for your generosity to me last Sunday and also for your gifts, cards, good wishes and prayers. I appreciate them very much.

Gift Aid Boxes. Thank you to those who have collected their new Gift Aid envelopes, and a reminder to those who have yet to do so that they are available at the back of the church. Please let Sally McVeigh know if you no longer need the boxes. Thank you.

The SJOG Homes for Ukraine Scheme seeks sponsors who have a spare bedroom in their home or empty property that could accommodate an individual or family for 6 months, to help those who are fleeing the war settle into life in the UK. So far, the Catholic community in England and Wales have responded very generously, but the need is still great with over 2000 families still waiting to find a home. For more information contact homesforukraine@SJOG.org.uk or visit the website at <https://sjog-homesforukraine.uk/>.

Year of Prayer. The next Deanery talk about Prayer will be given by Br. Martin Mikuskiewicz OFM (Cap) at Greyfriars, Iffley Rd, Tuesday, 16th April, 7.00-8.00 pm. All welcome.

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).

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

All are invited to join Stella Maris (formerly known as Apostleship of the Sea) this week as it hosts a Mass celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, on Wednesday, 10th April. Mass will start at 12.15 pm and will be followed by a reception in the Grimshaw Room.

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.

Tailpiece: One Sunday a priest, known for his lengthy sermons, noticed a man get up and leave during his message. The man returned just before the end of the Mass. Afterwards the priest asked the man where he had gone. "I went to get a haircut," said the man. "Why didn't you do that before you came to Mass?" asked the priest. "I didn't need one then", came the reply.

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