



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

5th September, 2021

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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Sunday, 5 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	Jorge Carrascalao, Dinis Madeira & Carlota Pinto RIP Thomas RIP
Monday, 6 th September	9.15 am Mass	Francisco Gomes Ximenes
Tuesday, 7 th September	(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's) (2.00 pm Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)	The People of the Parish Brenda Browning
Wednesday, 8 th September <i>Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	No Public Mass Today	
Thursday, 9 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Osburg, Abbess or of St. Peter Claver, Priest</i>	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Manu - RIP
Friday, 10 th September <i>Memorial in Oxford of Bl. Agnellus of Pisa</i>	(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Lucy D'Souza
Saturday, 11 th September	No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 12 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Education Day</i>	9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	Tony Donovan Jomon John - Thanksgiving

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.

If you have time, please come and say hello to me after Mass. Thank you.

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.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Brenda Browning, Maria Mirto, Baby Arju Thomas Gauly Ulahannan** and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Thomas (Tom) Fallon, Frs. Anthony Taylor, Arthur McCrystal, David Walter Hutt, Dominic Round and Deacon Francis Andrews, and also John McCallum, James Ross, Hilda Ross and Billy Durkin. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Please pray for **Domenico Mirto** and all those we know who are sick. If you are ill and you would like to ask for prayers on this newsletter, please let me know.

Mass at Home. We are no longer streaming the Sunday morning Mass from Sacred Heart on Zoom. Alternatively, you could watch the Mass on Saturday, 5.30 pm, and/or Sunday, 11.00 am from Our Lady's where we are now live and can be viewed at <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>.

Here is a prayer, **an Act of Spiritual Communion**, which you can say as you watch a Livestream Mass:

"My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You."

Welcome. Unfortunately sickness prevented Kim from being baptised on Saturday evening, but I hope that in the next few days, we shall welcome Kim Harris into the family of the Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion. Kim sometimes comes to Mass here at Sacred Heart, and she has been preparing for this for a long time. I invite you all to share her joy on this occasion. Please pray for her and for her family.

Education Sunday. Next Sunday is Education Sunday when we are asked to pray for the work of Catholic education across the schools of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Education Service at Masses next weekend.

Gift Aid Donors. There are still envelopes that gift aid donors have not picked up yet. It is essential that you use your envelopes for your offertory, otherwise we cannot claim the tax back on your weekly offerings. Secondly, we need to know if you are no longer paying tax, so that we can take you off our records. If you have moved house in the past 2 years, we need an up-to-date address for you. **We need this information as soon as possible so that we can send in our claim for the year 2020/21.**

Gift aiders are important to the parish, and over the past few years we have lost several gift aiders, so it is vital that we can claim funds for the parish in this way, especially at this present time. We would like to encourage all tax payers, who do not at present gift aid their offerings to the church, to consider doing so, please. For more information or to sign up for gift aiding, please contact Sally McVeigh on 01865 779078.

Your Parish Needs YOU!! Please join in.

Thank you to those who have returned their yellow leaflets. Please ask yourself if you would like to be part of the re-awakening of our parish and fill in the leaflet and leave it in the basket on the table.

CAFOD responding to multiple emergencies across the world. You can read about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters & brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: https://cafod.org.uk/News/_Emergencies-news..

Please urge Rishi Sunak to show climate leadership ahead of COP26. With just a few months to go to COP26, add your name to the call for the Chancellor to step up to the challenge and prevent communities who've done least to cause the climate crisis from paying the biggest cost.

<https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/85465/action/1>

Parish Census. It is important that our records are as accurate as they can be. If your family did not complete and return the forms last summer, please can I encourage you to do so now. If you would like a paper copy of the form, please ask me for one. If you would like an electronic copy, please email sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk. Please return the forms to Chris Breward either by email (preferred option) or by post, c/o Sacred Heart Church.

Do you want to become a Catholic?
Do you know anyone who wants to be a Catholic?
Do you know anyone who is lapsed from their faith but would like to know more so that they can come back?
Do YOU want to know more about your faith?
I am planning a series of meetings on Monday evenings at Our Lady's, starting on Monday, 27th September at 7.00 pm. The meetings will be "live" in the Don Bosco Centre, but they will also be Zoomed to people who do not want to attend in person. Everyone is welcome. Please mention this to anyone you know who may be interested.

The Pope Francis Catholic MAC in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, which currently comprises eleven Catholic schools in Oxfordshire, wants to appoint a Governance Manager. For further details and to apply, go to: <https://www.eteach.com/careers/bgn-oxon>

Marriage: Please pray for Adrian Aspel and Kim Harris as they prepare for their marriage at Our Lady's next Saturday afternoon. May God bless them with His gifts as they celebrate this Sacrament of unity and love.

First Holy Communion Preparation. As you know, the pandemic has messed up our usual calendar of preparation. To "catch up" I should like to have two programmes of preparation. The first series of instructions will be for children aged 9 or over on 1st September, 2021. After Christmas there will be another programme for those aged 8 on 1st September, 2021. **Parents, if your child is aged 9+ and has not made his or her First Holy Communion yet, please email me with the details.** Thank you.

The annual diocesan Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage, Saturday 9th October, 12.00 noon at St Chad's Cathedral. The Mass is open to all married couples, and those preparing to marry in 2021 but you will need to register a place via email marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk Closing date to register for the Mass is 1st October.

Parish Party. I still have hopes of having a party for the whole parish when we could get together and re-awaken a sense of community. **No charge, but everyone can help!** Would anyone be willing to organise and run it, please?

Tailpiece: A priest was driving along and got stopped for speeding. The policeman smelled alcohol on the priest's breath and then saw an empty wine bottle on the floor of the car, so he said suspiciously, "Father, have you been drinking?" "Just water," said the priest, fingers crossed. The policeman said, "Then why do I smell wine?" The priest looked at the bottle and said, "Praise be! He's done it again!"

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