



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

First Sunday of Advent

28th November, 2021

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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Sunday, 28 th November First Sunday of Advent	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass</i>	<i>Francisco Gomes Ximenes Deonpeter (Thanksgiving)</i>
Monday, 29 th November	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass</i>	<i>Thomas Duff</i>
Tuesday, 30 th November <i>Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>James O'Brien (Birthday)</i>
Wednesday, 1 st December <i>Feast of St. Edmund Campion, Martyr</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Margaret Griffin (Birthday)</i>
Thursday, 2 nd December	<i>6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass</i>	<i>Bibiano Hollero</i>
Friday, 3 rd December <i>Memorial of St. Francis Xavier, Priest Migrants Day</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Jack Robbins (ill)</i>
Saturday, 4 th December <i>Opt. Memorial of St. John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church</i>	<i>7.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today</i>	
Sunday, 5 th December Second Sunday of Advent	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass</i>	<i>Joseph McGarry John Cullen</i>

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.

If you are here with us for the first time today, welcome. If you are returning to Mass after a period of time away because of the pandemic, welcome back! It is lovely to see you again today.

Advent. Today we enter into the Church's new year.

The Sunday Mass Lectionary Cycle is Year C, and the Weekday Cycle is Year 1.

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.*

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.'

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Patricia King, Elizabeth Brennan, Sr. Patricia Millinson and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop Joseph Masterson, Archbishop Edward Ilsley, Frs. Edward Neary, Joseph du Moulin Browne CO, Reginald Anwyl, Norman Millard and Peter John Rogers, and also Clare Curtis, Genista Purcell, John McWilliams and Kathleen Duffy. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord. May they rest in peace.

Please pray for Betty Duff, Eileen McGarry, and Daniel Holdsworth 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.



Grand
Christmas
Draw. Yes,
Christmas
is coming!!
All counter-
foils and the
payments
should be

returned by this weekend, and the DRAW will be made on SUNDAY, 12th DECEMBER. If you can and would like to donate a prize for the raffle it will be gratefully received. Thank you.

Honouring Sunday.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have not yet reimposed the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays, but if you have not been attending Mass since the pandemic began they ask you strongly to reflect on your Sunday practices and, if you can, to return to Mass on Sundays. The full statement is available at the back of the church.

The Sower. The latest edition of the Diocesan magazine, The Sower, is available (free) as you leave church today.

Pope's Prayer Intention for December: Catechists. Let us pray for catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Poor Parishes Fund. There will be a second collection at Masses next Sunday for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese. The Fund was put in place to help those smaller parishes where they experience difficulty in paying their day-to-day bills.

The Advent Walk With Me booklet is now available for £1, with daily and Sunday reflections. *Walk With Me* can be a wonderful resource to give to relatives, friends and work colleagues who are interested in discovering the true meaning of Christmas. There are also copies of the **Advent Day by Day booklets** (also £1) which have the readings used at Mass for each day of Advent.

Wanted!!

After Christmas we shall be starting the lessons to prepare children for Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. But we need people who are willing to help them. If you would like to try this ministry, please talk to me about it. Training will be provided.

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus
The prayer for our path to the Synod 2021-2023

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

Accommodation for a Catholic family. A young family are returning to Oxford and need accommodation. They require two bedrooms and a rent of no more than £1,000 per month. Please let me know if you can help them.

First Friday. This Friday is the First Friday of the month and we shall pray the Novena Prayers before Mass on Thursday evening.

Message from CAFOD.

“Like many women around the world, Garmah in Liberia had no legal rights to her home when her husband died. CAFOD worked with local experts to help her and now Garmah and her children live rightfully and happily together in their family home. ‘I feel safe, my children have a place to rest their head and I can make a garden to feed them and myself. God sent redeemers to fight for my land rights. I am overfilled with joy.’ **Thank you for your support** which enables hundreds of women like Garmah remain in their homes during times of struggle. Other examples of our work can be found in our World Gift catalogues or website worldgifts.cafod.org.uk.”

Oxford Pro-Life Social Evening. Tuesday 30th November. 7.30 pm at the Britannia Inn, Headington (free parking!). A get-together for those in the Oxford area interested in doing a little drop of good for the pro-life cause in the melee of everyday life, together. No experience required and all ages welcome. For more info and to RSVP (optional but helpful), contact Ed Smith: ednsmith@gmail.com/07897194483.

Tailpiece: A small boy was taken by his parents to visit Santa who asked him what he would like for Christmas. “A train set”, came the eager reply. “If you get your train set,” Santa warned him, “your Daddy is going to want to play with it too. Is that all right?” The boy became very quiet. So Santa asked, “What else would you like?” He promptly replied, “Another train set.”

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