



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

16th January, 2022

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

(Also serving Our Lady Help of Christians, Cowley, 01865 770910)

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Sunday, 16 th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Peace Day</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Cecilia Michael</i> <i>Don Peter (In Thanksgiving)</i>
Monday, 17 th January <i>Memorial of St. Anthony, Abbot</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>Merryl Jennings (1st Anniversary)</i>
Tuesday, 18 th January <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Robert William Pill (Anniversary)</i>
Wednesday, 19 th January <i>Feast of St. Wulstan, Bishop</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Thursday, 20 th January <i>Op. Memorials of St. Fabian, Pope, or St. Sebastian, Martyrs</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Donstephen (Thanksgiving)</i>
Friday, 21 st January <i>Memorial of St. Agnes, Martyr</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (11.00 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Joseph Cahill</i> <i>Michael Conway</i>
Saturday, 22 nd January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Vincent, Deacon</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 23 rd January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Patrick Dawson</i> <i>Deceased Members of Dimble's family</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00 - 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church, especially if you are visiting our parish for the Christmas holiday.

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.

Peace Sunday. Today is a day of prayer for peace on earth.

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."

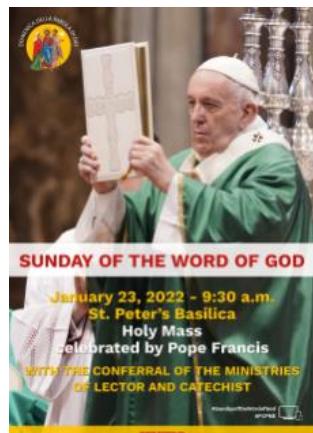
Please pray for Betty Duff, Eileen McGarry, and Daniel Holdsworth and all those we know who are sick. If you are ill and you would like to ask for prayers on this newsletter, please let me know.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Joseph Cahill, James (Seamus) Kenny, Isodoro Nahabwe and Maura Dennehy and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canons Matthias (Matt) Corrigan and Bernard McKenna, Frs. Gerard Peuleve, Cyril Bennett, Archibald (Archie) John Snell, Timothy Dinan, Cecil Keane, Bernard Robertson, C. J. Gregory Winterton, CO, Edward Leicester, CO, Edward Kirner, Clement Burrett, Michael Walshe, George Jackson, John Tolkien and Joseph McKenna, and also Jimmy Doyle, Mary Cleary, Thomas Patrick Braiden, Patrick Joseph Philbin, Patrick Whelan and Mary McGarry. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

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.*

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. You can donate on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal, and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.



Sunday of the Word Of God. Pope Francis has decreed that next Sunday, 23rd January, should be “the Sunday of the Word of God”. This year’s theme is Blessed are those who hear the word of God! (cf. Lk 11: 28). Next Sunday:

1 Bring a Bible to Mass to be blessed.

2 During Mass that day I shall re-commission and ask God’s blessing of our readers, whether they are able to be present physically at the Mass or not.

First Holy Communion Preparation. The Feast of Corpus Christi this year falls on the weekend of 18th/19th June, and that is a good date for the celebration of First Holy Communion. I hope that classes will start towards the end of February. If you haven’t done so already, please register your children’s names with me this week if you would like them to receive Our Lord.

Confirmation. The Bishop will come to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, 29th May. Anyone who is aged 11 or over may receive this Sacrament. If you would like to do so this year, please let me know in the next few weeks, if you have not already done so. Thank you.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins on Tuesday and goes on until 25th January. This year the theme is 'We Saw His Star in the East'. The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is a very familiar one. The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world’s diversity – different religions and cultures – that come to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all humanity that God desires.

Synodal Pathway. Pope Francis has asked all Catholics to reflect and report on their experience of what it means to be the Church today. Last week I invited you to let me have your thoughts using the open-ended questions on the separate sheets. If you need more time to consider and listen to the Holy Spirit, that is good, but please let me have your thoughts and reflections by the end of the month. Or you could send them to me at fr.harry.curtis@rcaob.org.uk.

COVID Regulations. When you come to church, please consider what keeps you AND others safe.

- Wear a face covering and sanitise your hands
- Keep 1m distance if you can
- If you feel unwell please stay at home
- Vaccination: have your jabs!
- Please dress warmly because we have to keep the church well-ventilated

My Day By Day Booklets. There are copies in the church hall of the January edition (price, £1).

Tailpiece. When a priest had been in his parish for about a year a parishioner asked him what he thought had been his main contribution to the life of the parish. After some thought he replied, “People here didn’t know what sin was until I arrived.”

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