



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

23rd January, 2022

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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

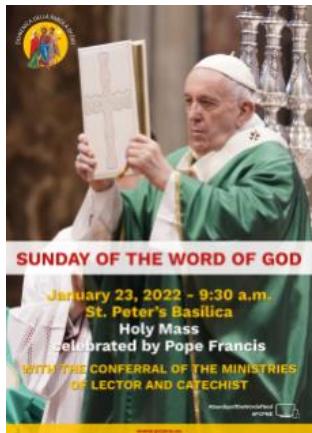
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Sunday, 23 rd January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Patrick Dawson</i> <i>Bernie Gavin (1st Anniversary)</i>
Monday, 24 th January <i>Memorial of St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>Ena Maguire</i>
Tuesday, 25 th January <i>Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul</i> <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>Fr. Michael Jordan</i>
Wednesday, 26 th January <i>Memorial of St. Timothy & St. Titus</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Thursday, 27 th January <i>Op. Mem. of Bl. Edward Oldcorne, Priest, Martyr, or of St. Angela Merici</i>	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Mary Lillis</i>
Friday, 28 th January <i>Memorial of St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of the Church</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Aida and Joe</i>
Saturday, 29 th January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 30 th January Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Francisco G Ximenes - RIP</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00 - 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church.

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.

Today is the SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD. It is celebrated each year on the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time. Our readers will be commissioned or recommissioned during the Mass and your Bibles will be blessed.



The Bible In A Year. Each of us should try to make the word of God a part of our lives but we may need some help to get started or restarted. In *The Bible in a Year* podcast, Fr. Mike Schmitz walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way. *Bible in a Year* follows a reading plan inspired by The Great Adventure Bible Timeline, an approach to understanding salvation history developed by Catholic Bible scholar Jeff Cavins. With this podcast, you won't just read the Bible in a year, you'll also see how all the pieces of the Bible fit together to tell an amazing story that continues in our lives today. Register for the podcast at <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/biy-registration>

Mass at Home. We are no longer streaming the Sunday morning Mass from Sacred Heart on Zoom. But as an alternative you could watch the Mass on Saturday, 5.30 pm, and/or Sunday, 11.00 am from Our Lady's where it is livestreamed 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: Mgr. Peter Dao-Duc-Diem, Canons Arthur Wall, Thomas Sylvester Copsey, Giles Goward and Kevin James Good, Frs. Michael Forde, Charles Ross, John Garvey, Anthony Timlin, Vincent Joseph Royles, Richard Roche, James Heneghan and Charles Smith, and Deacon Michael Ainsworth, and also Sarah McVeigh and Anne Marie Kelly. 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, 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.

Holocaust Memorial Day (27th January). The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2022 is One Day. HMD is One Day that we put aside to come together to remember, in the hope that there may be One Day in the future with no genocide. For more information visit [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust \(hmd.org.uk\)](https://hmd.org.uk)

COVID Regulations. Despite the recent relaxation of rules, I still ask you, when you come to church, please,

- Wear a face covering and sanitise your hands
- Keep 1 meter away from others if you can
- If you feel unwell please stay at home
- Vaccination: have your jabs!

Finally, please dress warmly because we have to keep the church well-ventilated and that lets out the heat.

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 ends on 25th January. *Attend with favour to the prayers of your people, we ask, O Lord, and grant that the hearts of believers may be united in your praise and in repentance together, so that, with division among Christians overcome, we may hasten with joy to your eternal Kingdom in the perfect communion of the Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Does anyone need a fridge-freezer? We have one in the hall that we do not need. If you want it and can collect it, please come and see me.

Synodal Pathway. The next Synod of bishops will take place in Rome in 2023. The Holy Father has asked the whole Church to take part in the preparations by reflecting and reporting on their experience of what it means to be the Church today. As members of the Church we are not on our own: the 'Synodal way' is an invitation for us to journey together. There is a box at the back of church for you to return your reflections.

Next week it will be the feast of St. John Bosco on Monday. Because he founded the Salesian Order who founded the parish of Our Lady Help of Christians, the morning Mass next Monday will be at Our Lady's, and the morning Mass on Tuesday will be at Sacred Heart.

Tailpiece. A child was being interviewed on an American religious TV programme and she was asked for her favourite Bible story. She replied that it was the story of Jesus turning all that water into wine. The interviewer said, "Yes, that was a great miracle, wasn't it. And what does it teach us?" With great wisdom and solemnity the child replied, "When you run out of wine, get down on your knees and pray"!

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