



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

13th February, 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, 13 th February Sixth Sunday of the Year Racial Justice Day	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	Cecilia Michael Eamon Flanagan
Monday, 14 th February Feast of Ss. Cyril & Methodius Day of Prayer for Europe	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Patrick Joseph Meridith
Tuesday, 15 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Bob Hinchen (Birthday)
Wednesday, 16 th February	No Public Mass Today	Private Intention
Thursday, 17 th February Optional Memorial of the Seven Founders of the Order of Servants of the Blessed Virgin Mary	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	John PM RIP
Friday, 18 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Thomas Dunne
Saturday, 19 th February	7.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 20 th February Seventh Sunday of the Year	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	Neil Noonan Ernesto Madeira & Domingo Rebelo
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Thursday, 6.00 - 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.

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 the repose of the souls of Mgr. John Heslin, Fr. David Lloyd, Kath Kavanagh, Dolores Connolly, Carlos Esteban, Daniel Holdsworth and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Joseph Healey, Mgr. Canon Peter W. Lawler, Canon William Roughan, Frs. Daniel Daly, Joseph Hogan, Charles Joseph O'Reilly, William Conefrey, Joseph Denis McEvilly, Timothy Healy, Terence McDonnell, Francis Jordan, Alexander McGavin and Francis Coyle, and also William Tobin, Henrique Mgungwe, Jim McNally and Thomas Dermot Moran. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.

Updated COVID Regulations. Following the new instructions from the Bishops' Conference we can relax some of the precautions. However, whilst infection rates remain high I ask that we all be as considerate as we can be in keeping each other safe, and I would still like to ask everyone to wear a face covering in church, please, and to sanitise hands on entering the church. Thank you.

Please pray for Betty Duff and Eileen McGarry, and all those we know who are sick.

Today is Racial Justice Sunday. The Bishops of England and Wales are encouraging Catholics to mark the day by praying the words of Pope Francis taken from his encyclical letter *Fratelli Tutti* – on fraternity and social friendship: *Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. Amen.* There will be a second collection today to help promote racial justice.

Synodal Pathway. The 'Synodal way' is an invitation for us to listen to the Holy Spirit as we journey together. There is a box at the back of church for you to post your reflections. Thank you if you have already done so.

Lent 2022. It's getting closer! Here are some things we can do as a parish family:

Incidentally, the Ashes that we are marked with on Ash Wednesday (2nd March) are made from the palms from the previous Palm Sunday. So if you have palms that we could use to make this year's ashes, please let me have them during the next few weeks.

1. **Prayer petitions.** When Lent begins I shall invite you to write out any petition that you would like the rest of us to pray for and post it up on a board at the front of the church.
2. **My Day By Day and the Walk With Me Booklets** will be available.
3. **Stations of the Cross.** We shall meditate on the Stations together after Mass each Thursday.
4. **Lectio Divina.** We tried this last year by Zoom. This year I hope we can meet properly for half an hour following the 9.15 am Mass on Mondays to reflect and pray about a passage of the Bible.
5. **Parish Lent Day of Recollection**, Saturday, 2nd April, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm. There will be a talk and a time of prayer. It will be open to all, but it will be especially for Eucharistic Ministers, in preparation for renewal of their ministry on Maundy Thursday.
6. **Parish Penance Service.** On Thursday, 31st March at 5.00 pm, before the evening Mass.

First Holy Communion Preparation. Children aged 8 or over may receive their first Holy Communion on the Feast of Corpus Christi (18th/19th June). Children who are in St. John Fisher school will receive instructions in school. There will be lessons for children who do not attend St. John Fisher School here at Sacred Heart on a weekday after school. I hope that classes will start on Thursday afternoons 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 (and also which school they go to). Thank you.

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.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, Sunday 29th May - Friday 3rd June. The leadership team for the Lourdes Pilgrimage is now actively planning for the pilgrimage. Lourdes has always been an important part of Diocesan life and therefore after two years' absence it would be good to make every effort to be present in Lourdes in 2022. For more information see www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage

Preaching the Gospel in a Multifaith Society. Mission is one of the themes of the synodality process and walking together leads inevitably to the mission of the Church. Dr Rosalee Velloso Ewell, Principal of Redcliffe College, will be speaking on the theme of Mission in a multifaith and multicultural society. This will be an online meeting via Zoom to be held on Sunday February 20th from 2.30pm - 4pm. To get the link to join the Zoom meeting, please email actabhm@gmail.com.

40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration. From Friday 25th to Sunday 27th February there will be 40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration during the daytime in St. John Henry Newman's chapel at Littlemore (9 College Lane, Littlemore OX4 4LQ) to pray for the synodal process. Each day will include Prayer of the Church and the possibility for Confession.

Job Opportunity: Warden & Clerk, St Scholastica's Retreat, Sheltered Housing for Catholics. Competitive Salary, pension, and accommodation onsite in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. The Trustees are seeking to appoint a Warden & Clerk to the Trustees for this almshouse charity that provides sheltered housing for Catholics in financial need aged 60 or over. For details of the role and how to apply, see: www.stscholasticas.co.uk/warden-clerk-vacancy
The closing date is Monday, 28th February.

Refreshments are available after the 9.00 Mass in the Parish Hall. Come and have a chat with friends.

Tailpiece. A few examples of classroom bloomers:

“Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark”
“Christians can only have one wife. This is called monotony.”
“The patron saint of travellers is St. Francis of the Seasick.”

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