



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th 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, 20 th February Seventh Sunday of the Year	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Neil Noonan Ernesto Madeira & Domingo Rebelo</i>
Monday, 21 st February <i>Op. Mem. of St. Peter Damian</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	<i>Kath Kavanagh</i>
Tuesday, 22 nd February <i>Feast of the Chair of St. Peter</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Bob Hinchen</i>
Wednesday, 23 rd February <i>Mem. of St. Polycarp, Martyr</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Private Intention</i>
Thursday, 24 th February	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>In Thanksgiving (Jos Peter)</i>
Friday, 25 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Clerico Nueva</i>
Saturday, 26 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 27 th February Eighth Sunday of the Year <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Lucia Josephat (Anniversary) The People of the Parish</i>
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, Noreen Hayes, Luciano Magnasgo and all who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop Joseph Cleary, Canon Sean McTernan, Frs. Sean Farrell, James Wharton, Michael McCabe, Martin Meagher, John Collins, Oliver Kemp and James Cooney, and also José Ribeiro, John Gerard Flanagan, John A. Duffy. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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

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.

Synodal Pathway. The ‘Synodal way’ is an invitation for us to listen to the Holy Spirit as we journey together. If you had the chance to speak to Pope Francis for five minutes about the Church today, what would you want to say to him? 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:

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, please let me have them this week and we shall burn them after Mass next Sunday (weather permitting). Thank you.

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** for Lent are available at the back of church (£1).
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. Classes will be at 4.30 on Thursday afternoons, starting on 3rd March. We shall have a little service of enrolment during the Masses next weekend.

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.

A Message from Marriage Encounter. “Do you want to give your marriage a boost? Treat yourselves to a life changing Marriage Encounter Experience. Our next experiences are 4-6th March, 14th & 21st May, 11-12th June. Visit WWME.org.uk for more details and booking. A great marriage, lifts your family, Parish and personal happiness.”

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

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.

Deputy Headteacher post at St John Fisher Catholic Primary School. Commencing in September 2022, they are seeking to appoint a Deputy Headteacher to support the Headteacher in leading this popular, vibrant faith school whilst inspiring its children, staff and families ‘to be the best they can be’. This is an exciting opportunity to help shape the future growth of this thriving school which is situated in the east of Oxford. Contract: Permanent, Full Time. Leadership Range L4 – L8. Responsibilities: Religious Education Subject Lead The closing date for this vacancy is Friday 4th March at 12pm. Please contact Mr Matthew White in the school office for more information at: office@stjohnfisher.co.uk Tel No: 01865 779676. Or see more information on the school website at: <https://st-john-fisher.oxon.sch.uk/deputy-headteacher-closing-date-4th-march-2022/>

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. This letter appeared in a national daily newspaper: “Concerning George Brown, there is a story how, after a particularly convivial dinner, he crossed the floor and bowed low to a fellow diner, saying: ‘Beautiful Lady in Red, will you please dance this waltz with me?’ The reply came: ‘I fear not, Sir, for three reasons. Firstly, I think you are too drunk to dance. Secondly, this is not a waltz, but someone’s National Anthem. And thirdly, because I am not a Beautiful Lady in Red, but the Papal Nuncio!’”

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