



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday of Lent

13th March, 2022

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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Sunday, 13 th March Second Sunday of Lent <i>Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments</i> <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Methodear Method</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 14 th March <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass 9.45 am Lectio Divina	<i>Tom Skerratt</i> <i>Permanent Deacons</i>
Tuesday, 15 th March <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Sissie McManus (2nd Anniv) & Mary Kate McTague</i>
Wednesday, 16 th March <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Johnny Evans</i>
Thursday, 17 th March Feast of St. Patrick, Patron of Ireland <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction (9.30 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) 7.00 pm Mass 7.30 pm Stations of the Cross	<i>Kath Kavanagh</i> <i>Thomas RIP</i>
Friday, 18 th March <i>Op. Comm. of St. Cyril of Jerusalem</i> <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Melanie and Pawan (Wedding Anniversary)</i>
Saturday, 19 th March Solemnity of St. Joseph, Husband of Mary <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	7.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 20 th March Third Sunday of Lent <i>Day of Prayer for the Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Cecilia Michael</i> <i>Deanne Netto (Thanksgiving)</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 Betty Duff and Eileen McGarry, and all those we know who are sick.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Michael McCarthy, Kath Kavanagh, Noreen Hayes, Steven Fontaine and all those who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bishop David Cashman, Mgr. Daniel Kelly, Canon Raymond Walsh, Frs. Vaughan Lloyd, Anthony Sims, Michael Crompton, William Madden, Patrick Maguire, Andrew Brennan, John McNally and Deacon Thomas Ashcroft, and also Bernard McAndrew, Edward and Eileen James, and Mary McAndrew. May they rest in peace.

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 Lent Fast Day. This year CAFOD is focussing on helping children around the world who are malnourished. But of course, there is now an ever-increasing humanitarian crisis caused by the war in Ukraine, and CAFOD is working as part of the DEC to help there. We want to support them in both endeavours by having a second collection at Masses this weekend. You can donate in the second collection or on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/lent. Please give as generously as you can.

National Novena to St Joseph, 10-18 March. Join St Joseph's Missionary Society (the Mill Hill Missionaries) for the annual Novena to St Joseph. You are invited to send in your petitions to the Mill Hill Missionaries. They will be placed at St Joseph's Altar during the Novena, to be remembered in the Masses and prayers. You can also join online – Masses from St Joseph's in Maidenhead will be held via Zoom: 7.30 pm on weekdays. Simply visit the Mill Hill Missionaries' website to access the link: millhillmissionaries.com/novena

COVID precautions. The latest guidelines from the Bishops' Conference make these points:

- Anyone with symptoms of Covid should stay at home.
- Hand sanitiser should be available for all to use at places of entry and exit to our churches.
- The necessity for social distancing is removed. (Note that in Sacred Heart we shall continue to make the left side of the church available for parishioners who prefer to keep some distance).
- Those who wish to wear a face covering may do so during the celebration of Mass. (Note that in Sacred Heart I ask that you continue to wear a face covering).
- Altar servers are encouraged to return.
- Singing can occur and there is a general encouragement to wear face coverings while singing.
- There is no further need for track and trace.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop William will be coming to Sacred Heart on Sunday, 29th May to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 6.00 pm Mass. If you have not already done so, would those who wish to receive this Sacrament please email me (fr.harry.curtis@rcaob.org.uk). Lessons will start soon.

St. Patrick. It is the feast of St. Patrick on Thursday – happy feast day to anyone of Irish extraction.

Faith in Politics. Are you a student coming to the end of your studies, wondering what you can do next year? Might you be interested in the Faith in Politics scheme (Intern Scheme) at the Bishops' Conference. If so, please see me for more details. Applications are open until Thursday 17th March.

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new Gift Aid envelopes will be available to collect from next weekend. It is important for us to know NOW if you no longer need them, or if your circumstances have changed (e.g. you no longer pay income tax) please tell Sally McVeigh know on 01865 779078. Likewise, if you have changed your address. If you would like to start using the Gift Aid Scheme and we need more people to do so, please) then talk to Sally.

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

Wanted! Someone to cut the bushes down to a manageable size around the church, and clear up. We do have hedge trimmers. If you can help, please talk to Jacqui.

Dementia Prayer Week, 12-19th March. We remember especially the often-forgotten pain of those suffering with dementia, and those who care for them.

Lectio Divina. On Monday mornings after the 9.15 Mass, we shall read a small section of St. Luke's Gospel together and pray about it. It will last about half an hour; anyone is welcome to take part. There is a sheet about *Lectio Divina* in the porch if you want to know more.

Easter Duties. All Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion should receive the Holy Eucharist sometime between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday. They should also take part in the Sacrament of Penance before receiving this Easter Communion.

Tailpiece. A certain Reverend Houston was once asked to lead a service at Crathie in the presence of Queen Victoria. During the service he decided to include an impromptu prayer for the monarch which entreated the Lord in words that went something like this: "Grant that as she grows to be an old woman, she may be made a new man, and stand before Thee as a pure virgin, bringing forth sons and daughters to Thy glory; and that in all peaceful causes she may go forth before her people like a he-goat on the mountains." The Rev Houston was not invited to officiate at Crathie again.

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

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