



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Third Sunday of Lent

20th March, 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 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	Cecilia Michael Deanne Netto (Thanksgiving)
Monday, 21 st March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass <i>9.45 am Lectio Divina</i>	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday, 22 nd March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (<i>9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's</i>)	<i>Edmund Griffin (Intentions)</i>
Wednesday, 23 rd March <i>Op. Comm. of St. Turibius of Mongrovejo, Bishop</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Claudino Sera Vaz</i>
Thursday, 24 th March	6.00 pm Exposition & Benediction (<i>9.30 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's</i>) 7.00 pm Mass <i>7.30 pm Stations of the Cross</i>	<i>Sarah McVeigh</i>
Friday, 25 th March Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (<i>7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's</i>)	<i>Regina Mihailova</i>
Saturday, 26 th March	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Public Mass Today	
Sunday, 27 th March Fourth 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>John Cullen Ansel Netto</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 Michael McCarthy, Kath Kavanagh, Noreen Hayes, Steven Fontaine, Debbie Gaughan and all who have died recently, and for those clergy or parishioners whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishops Bernard Ullathorne and Francis Grimshaw, Bishop Humphrey Bright, Fr. John Joseph Donnelly and Deacon Louis Joseph Livesey, and also Sarah McVeigh, Paddy McLoughlin. 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.

Please pray for Aisling Molloy and Thomas Gaughan who will be getting married next Friday in Co. Galway, Ireland. May God bless their life together.

Message from CAFOD. Thank you so much for your support of CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day, the Walk Against Hunger and the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your support means we can respond in crises such as Ukraine where our Caritas aid workers and volunteers could quickly help families fleeing conflict. It also means we're there in the long-term and can continue to respond to crises around the world, including in Afghanistan, Syria, Ethiopia, and South Sudan. We work alongside communities as they rebuild their lives once the conflict is over, as in Sierra Leone. For lots more detail on how your donations are being used, please go to the CAFOD website cafod.org.uk

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

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.

During the 9.00 am Mass this weekend we shall have a short service of enrolment for those preparing for the Sacrament.

Bishop William will be coming to Sacred Heart on 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 be in the Mornese Centre on Saturdays at 12.00, starting on 2nd April.

Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea).

On the first anniversary of the Ever Given ship getting stuck in the Suez Canal, Catholic charity Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is hosting a webinar about modernisation in the shipping industry. Please register now at www.stellamaris.org.uk/modernisation to join online on **23rd March at 7.30pm** to hear how shipping has changed in the last century, the impact this is having on seafarers today, and the important role Stella Maris has in supporting them.

The Solemnity of the Annunciation. This Friday is the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. Although it is not a Holyday of Obligation, it is a major feast marking the start of Our Lord's earthly life. There will be Mass at Our Lady's at 7.00 pm.

Gift Aid Envelopes. The new Gift Aid envelopes are available to collect this weekend. 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 tools. If you can help, please talk to Jacqui.

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.

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.

St. John Fisher School. Early Years Foundation Stage Teacher (Maternity Cover). Commencing in June 2022, the Directors of the Academy Trust, in partnership with the Governing Body of St John Fisher Catholic Primary school, are seeking to appoint an experienced Early Years Teacher to lead our Nursery and Reception classes. To make an appointment to view the school or to arrange an informal conversation with the Headteacher, please contact the school by way of telephone: 01865 779676 or email: office@stjohnfisher.co.uk

Tailpiece. Looking forward to summer perhaps I should pay attention to this story. A clergyman was on holiday and decided to lie down on the beach to enjoy the sun. Unfortunately, when it came to getting up his rheumatism made it impossible and a little girl who was nearby offered to help him. "It's very good of you, my dear," he said, "But do you think you are strong enough?" "Oh yes," answered the child, taking his arm, "I've often helped my daddy when he was much drunker than you."

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