



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th January, 2023

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

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Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

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

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Sunday, 15 th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Ursula Hestrade (Birthday) Josie Coughlan (Intentions) The People of the Parish
Monday, 16 th January	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass	Sr. Teresa (Birthday)
Tuesday, 17 th January Memorial of St. Anthony, Abbot	(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Daniel Tang (Intentions)
Wednesday, 18 th January Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity	No Public Mass Today	Private Intention
Thursday, 19 th January Feast of St. Wulstan, Bishop Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Don Stephen (Thanksgiving)
Friday, 20 th January Op. Mem. of St. Fabian, Pope, or St. Sebastian, Martyrs Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	The Davies Family (Intentions)
Saturday, 21 st January Memorial of St. Agnes, Martyr Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (5.30 pm Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Sr. Maureen Grigg (Intentions)
Sunday, 22 nd January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday of the Word of God Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Ena Maguire (Anniversary) Special Intention The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.

Today is Peace Sunday, a day to pray for world peace. The theme of World Peace Day this year is: "No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace."

There will be a second collection for the work of Pax Christi at Mass today.

The counting rota: Sunday, 15th January: Rachel and Phil; Sunday, 22nd January: Kylla and Lilian

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Betty Duff and Eileen McGarry and all those we know who are sick. If you or someone you know is sick and would like to be included on this bulletin, please let me know.

We pray for all those who have died recently, remembering Fr. Anthony De Vere, Deacon Joe Patterson, Kathleen Murphy, Dermot Carroll, Stephen Motherway and Lucy Lynch, and all those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Canon Matthias (Matt) Corrigan, Frs. Benedict O'Gorman, Gerard Peuleve, Cyril Bennett, Archibald (Archie) John Snell, Timothy Dinan, Cecil Keane, Bernard Robertson, C. J. Gregory Winterton, CO, Edward Leicester, CO, and Edward Kirner, Deacon Thomas Mark Carter, and also Jimmy Doyle, Mary Cleary, Thomas Patrick Braiden, Patrick Joseph Philbin, Patrick Whelan. May they rest in peace.

Our Parish Prayer: Help us, Lord, to receive you with an open heart this day.

May our community receive your grace and deepen its faith in you.

*Make us lights to shine forth with your love, giving life and hope to those who have fallen away
or who have never known you. Amen.*

Mass at Home. If you are not able to come to Mass you could watch it on Saturday, 5.30 pm, and/or Sunday, 11.00 am from Our Lady's where it is livestreamed at <https://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/our-lady-help-of-christians>. Here is a prayer that you can say when you watch the 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."

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.

**Remember: refreshments are available in the hall after the 9.00 am Mass on Sundays.
Come and have a chat with friends.**

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts this week. The traditional time for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is 18th - 25th January, the days between the feasts of St Peter and St Paul. Please remember this intention in your prayers.

Cowley Collective are collaborating with artist Micah Hayns at the Jungle art gallery in Templars Square Shopping Centre to offer a community space. They host a Story Time and Senior Social every Tuesday and Thursday (1.00 - 3.00 pm) and invite you to join them for conversation, puzzles, games and more. It's all free.

New Year's resolution - help build a better world through volunteering? **CAFOD** is looking for people to give some time and join in their parish mission of global outreach. Could you help develop their work in parishes or Catholic schools? Training and support is provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch - Deborah Purfield 07786 114 390 | dpurfield@cafod.org.uk

Burst Pipes. I am afraid that because of the freezing weather before Christmas we had three burst water pipes and two leaking joints. It caused quite a lot of damage around the area of the gents toilets and the handicapped toilet, and has also done something to the heating boiler. I am sorry for any inconvenience, but I am extremely grateful to parishioners, and especially Jimmy and James McCarthy, for their quick help to put things right.

Going Into Hospital. Please do let me know if you or someone you know is going into hospital. It is also important that you ask for the Catholic chaplain when in hospital because Chaplains are often no longer automatically given the names of Catholic patients.

First Holy Communion Lessons. Parents, if your children are aged 8 or over and you wish them to receive their First Holy Communion next June, please register them with me, using the form at the back of the church. The plan is that lessons will be held on Monday afternoons, 4.30-5.30 pm, starting towards the end of February. I shall confirm details next week.

My Day By Day Book. The January edition is now available at the back of church (price £1).

Marriage Encounter England and Wales are advertising an upcoming Experience on 3rd – 5th March at The Campanile Hotel, Great Western Way, Delta Business Park, Swindon, SN5 7XG. The marriage enrichment course offers a unique opportunity for couples to rekindle their relationships and focus on what is important to them. Please go to their website for further information and to book, <https://wwme.org.uk>

Next Sunday is the “Sunday of the Word Of God”. It is a day when we reflect on the importance of the Bible in our faith. This year's theme is *Blessed are those who hear the word of God!* (cf. Lk 11: 28). Next weekend:

1. Please bring your family Bible or the Bible that you use most to Mass to be blessed.
2. During the Masses next weekend I shall re-communion and ask God's blessing on the Readers, whether they are able to be present physically at the Mass or not.

Invitation from CAFOD (The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development). Lent begins this year on 22nd February and attention is turning to Lenten plans and commitments. Across the country, schools, parishes, groups and individuals are lacing up their walking shoes to walk in faith and solidarity, with CAFOD's Big Lent Walk. It's an event for a school, a parish, or a group of friends to plan now to walk together. Or simply, a chance to commit to some timeout and quiet reflection along the way. Walk when and where you choose over 40 days, alone or with friends, have fun or take time to pray and reflect. As a Lent commitment, it's an inspiring way to actively commit to bringing our faith physically into every day of Lent, and support people as they overcome poverty. For more information go to walk.cafod.org.uk

Tailpiece: A priest was leading a class for five-year-old children about the Church's Year and he asked them brightly, "What happened on Christmas Day?" One small boy replied solemnly, "Daddy was sick on the stairs."

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