



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th September, 2024

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

(Also serving Our Lady Help of Christians, Cowley)

Parish Secretary: Reena Bartrip

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*This Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. At present, our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Onyi Anyanwu**. She can be contacted at: sg.sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.*

Sunday, 15 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's) 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Martin & Bridie Keane (Anniv.) Private Intention Tony Donovan Tess Cahill (100 th Birthday) Tarcisio Jeronimo Andrade Babo
Monday, 16 th September <i>Mem. of Ss. Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs</i>	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Baby Cillian Hennessy
Tuesday, 17 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop, or St. Hildegard of Bingen</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Christopher John Kirby
Wednesday, 18 th September	No Public Mass Today	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Thursday, 19 th September <i>Op. Mem. of St. Theodore of Canterbury, Bishop, or of St. Januarius, Bishop, Martyr</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Michael R. J. Fernandes (Birthday)
Friday, 20 th September <i>Mem. of St. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Comps.</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (11.30 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Eric Williams Dermot & Josephine McMahon
Saturday, 21 st September <i>Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Brian McCann Joshi Family (Thanksgiving)
Sunday, 22 nd September Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Private Intention Stacy Stretch <i>The People of the Parish</i> Alarico Do Rego
<p>Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.; Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am. (Confessions at Our Lady's: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)</p>		

Welcome to Sacred Heart today, especially if you are new to our parish.

Today is *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday (it used to be known as Home Mission Sunday). The theme this year is 'Growing as missionary disciples'. *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday gives us the opportunity to reflect on the great mandate we have been given by the Risen Lord to evangelise the whole world: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations," as we hear in Matthew 28:19. There will be a second collection at Masses this weekend to support the work of the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate. Please hold this important work in your prayers.

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.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Claudio Serra Vaz, Keith Dolton, Thomas Gaughan, Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Betty Duff, Inna, Beatrice Upham, Eileen McGarry, Miguel Esteban, Mely Balbag, Keelin Trahearn, Cheryl Jones, Josie Griffiths, Mary Cross, Mary Heap, Nuala McNally, Billy Gardner and all those we know who are sick.

Please pray for Fr. Peter Bundell, Fr. Gerry O'Collins, Rose Thomas, John Kenny and Eric Williams who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop George Patrick Dwyer, Canons Peter McKenna and David Mellor, Frs. Richard Dinnis, Patrick Meagher, William Alfred Oddie, Alan Leslie Holtham, Peter Lees, John David Steward and John Roddy, and also Danny Lyons, Archie McKenzie Allen, Brian Peter Harper, Andrew McGregor, Thomas Bolger and Mary Manning. May they rest in peace.

	Counting rota	Readers' Rota (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers' Rota		Flowers rota
This week	Chris and Edwin	P. Chacka & Lizette	Josh Peter	John Thomas	Jacqui
Next Week	Sally and Phil	Dom & V. Robbins	Pat McGroarty	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa	Jocelyn

Remember: refreshments are available in the hall after the 9.00 am Mass on Sundays.

This is the “Season of Creation” (1st September to 4th October). The Archbishop has sent this message: “Hope and Act with Creation is the theme for this year, and I hope you’ll be able to pray that we and others will value all that we have in creation as a way of praising God and also caring for those who are most in need.”

You can find the full celebration guide as well as other prayers and resources on the Diocesan website www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/listing/category/season-of-creation#SOCResources

Next Sunday is a Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. If you have any produce from your garden or allotment that you can spare, please bring it to church and we can lay it before the altar as a focus for our thanksgiving to God for His blessings. Afterwards I can take it to the foodbank to help those in need.

A new Lectionary with a different translation of the Bible readings will come into use in England and Wales on the First Sunday of Advent, 1st December. If you are a reader in church, or if you would like to be a reader, please note that there will be an evening of prayer and preparation for all readers next Thursday, 19th September, starting with the Holy Hour at 6.00 pm and Mass. After Mass we shall meet in the hall. The prayer and Mass is part of the evening, so please try to attend.

Parish Outing. Next Saturday, 21st September, we shall visit the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire. The Arboretum is the UK's year-round centre of Remembrance and home to over 400 symbolic memorials. All the seats on the minibus have now been filled. If you have signed up, please be ready for a 9.30 am pick-up from Sacred Heart and 10.00 am from Our Lady's. Return approx. 6.00 pm. Cost: £20.00.

Notice of forthcoming events:

- There will be a gardening day here at Sacred Heart next Saturday, 21st September, to try to get things ready for the autumn and winter. All welcome to help (please!).
- The Parish Christmas bazaar (yes, sorry!) will be on Saturday, 30th November.

Accommodation? The Diocese recently appointed a new youth worker who will be working in this area to help the young people here. That is great news. He will be living in this area, but temporarily he needs accommodation until he finds a place to live. Do you have a room in your house for him for a couple of months, perhaps until Christmas? He would pay rent.

Rosary + Bible On-Line Prayer. The next meeting is today, Sunday, 15th September, at 6.00 pm. Please contact Eva on evasmithson1112@gmail.com

Adoremus in my parish. The 2024 National Eucharistic Congress took place at St Mary's College, Oscott on Saturday, 14th September, to coincide with the 53rd International Eucharistic Congress in Quito, Ecuador. Today, Sunday 15th September, the Bishops of England and Wales invite all parishes across our countries to have a period of Adoration to unite us in focusing on the Eucharist in anticipation of the Jubilee Year with renewed and deepened devotion. Before the 6.00 pm Mass this evening I shall put the Blessed Sacrament on the altar for 10 minutes for quiet prayer.

Tailpiece: Another Letter to God from a child:
Dear God,

It rained for our whole vacation and is my father mad! He said some things about You that people are not supposed to say, but I hope You will not hurt him anyway. Your friend - - (But I am not going to tell you who I am)

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