



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th 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

(01865) 455182 • sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk • www.sacredheartoxford.com

*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, 8 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Education Sunday	(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) 2.00 pm Baptism 6.00 pm Mass	Katherine & William Brett (Anniv.) Private Intention Anne O'Neill Raden Toton Kiemdarto Joanita de Jesus Viegas & Jose Antonio Joaquin Galucho
Monday, 9 th September Op. Mem. of St. Osburg, or of St. Peter Claver, Priest	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Nossa Senhora de Fatima
Tuesday, 10 th September Mem. of Bl. Agnellus of Pisa	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Pat Atherton (Birthday)
Wednesday, 11 th September	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Thursday, 12 th September Op. Mem. of the Most Holy Name of Mary	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Eileen McGroarty
Friday, 13 th September Mem. of St. John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Lucy De Souza
Saturday, 14 th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Jim McCann Martin & Bridie Keane (Anniv.)
Sunday, 15 th September Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Evangelii Gaudium Sunday (formerly Home Mission Sunday)	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 Tony Donovan Tess Cahill (100 th Birthday) Baby Angel Tarcisio Jeronimo Andrade Babo (1 st Anniv.)
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.; Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am. (Confessions at Our Lady's: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)		

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

Today is Education Sunday when we celebrate and give thanks for all involved in Catholic schools, as well as look forward to the year ahead. There will be a second collection this weekend for the Catholic Education Service. This year's theme for Education Sunday is drawn from today's Gospel reading of Mark 7:31-37: *He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.*

*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.*

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: Mgr. Thomas (Tom) Fallon, Frs. Arthur McCrystal, David Walter Hutt, Dominic Round and Guy Colman, Deacon Michael McGrail, and also Baby Oliver Michael Knott, James Ross, Hilda Ross, Billy Durkin and Antonio Abreu. May they rest in peace.

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Claudino 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 and all those we know who are sick.

	Counting rota	Readers' Rota (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers' Rota		Flowers rota
This week	Rachel & Phil	V. Robbins & Blossom	Chris Donovan	Rolly Esteban	Jacqui
Next Week	Chris and Edwin	P. Chacka & Lizette	Josh Peter	John Thomas	Jacqui

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:
"As you may know this is something growing year by year as we become more and more aware of our calling as Christians to have a care for the whole of the Created world... Pope Francis is asking us to think about how we care for the whole of Creation as an expression of our own Christian Faith and is referring us to St. Paul's letter to the Romans, which speaks about the whole of Creation groaning, but also looking for the freedom which Christ brings us as children of God... 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

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.
 There will be an evening of prayer and preparation for all readers on Thursday, 19th September, starting with the Holy Hour at 6.00 pm and Mass. After Mass we shall meet in the hall.

Notice of forthcoming events:

- There will be a gardening day here at Sacred Heart on 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.

Pilgrimage for the Planet, Sunday 15th September.
 Set off from Blackfriars, St. Giles, after the 9.30 am Mass (approx. 11.30 am) with a blessing on the pilgrimage from one of the brethren. Prayers will be said at each stop along the way. Ends at 2.00 pm at St Frideswide Church, Botley Road. Everyone is welcome. Please bring a picnic lunch. This event is organised by the Laudato Si' Circle which meets at Blackfriars, Oxford.

Lasallian Projects. Oxford – Kenya 2024. Here at Sacred Heart we try to support our brothers and sisters Br. John has sent us some photographs showing life in a rural area of Western Kenya. They are on a notice board in our hall, with descriptions of what is still needed.

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

The early morning Mass on Mondays at Our Lady's at 7.00 am will restart this week, followed by breakfast in the hall. Everyone welcome before you start the week's work.

Parish Outing. On 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. There are various attractions including a restaurant and coffee shop. 9.30 am pick up from Sacred Heart and 10.00 am from Our Lady's. Return approx. 6.00 pm. Cost: £20.00. Sign-up in the church porch.

Job Advert. The Archdiocese is seeking to recruit an enthusiastic and experienced RICS Chartered General Practice Surveyor to join its Property Team. The key role of the Property Team is to provide advice and guidance for management of parish property, the school estate as well as manage all property held centrally by the Archdiocese. This is a permanent/full-time role. The application deadline is Wednesday, 18th September. For job description and application form please visit <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs>.

Tailpiece: An angel appeared at a clergy deanery meeting and said to the dean, "In return for your unselfish and exemplary behaviour, the Lord will reward you with your choice of infinite wealth, wisdom, or beauty." "Give me infinite wisdom, please!" declared the dean. "Done!" said the angel and disappeared. All heads turned to the dean. "Well," said a colleague, "Say something brilliant." The dean stood and, with the poise of Socrates, opined, "I should have taken the money."

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