



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th July, 2025

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, 20 th July <i>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass 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	Mary Jo Davey Private Intention Cecilia Michael Danny Lyons (Anniversary) Luizinha Dolores Fernandes (2 nd Anniversary)
Monday, 21 st July Optional Memorial of St. Lawrence of Brindisi	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.30 am Mass at St. John Fisher School)	The People of the Parish The Leavers
Tuesday, 22 nd July <i>Feast of St. Mary Magdalene</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Camilo and Maria (Wedding Anniv.)
Wednesday, 23 rd July <i>Feast of St. Bridget, Religious, Patron of Europe</i>	No Public Mass Today.	The People of the Parish (JA)
Thursday, 24 th July Optional Memorial of St. Sharbel Makhluf, Priest	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Dai-Watu Luis Silva Amaral (B'day)
Friday, 25 th July <i>Feast of St. James, Apostle</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 26 th July Memorial of St. Joachim & St. Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass 12.00 noon Baptisms (5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)	Edward Carey Christopher-Jack and Bridiema Eve Kelly (Anniversary)
Sunday, 27 th July <i>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</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 Nenna Obasi (Exams) The People of the Parish Antonio Espirito Santos
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm, and Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am. (Also at Our Lady's on Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.)		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today.

We are a parish with a clear identity and purpose: to be a Catholic community, formed by the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus, for the glory and praise of God the Father and the service of His Kingdom, and also for the mutual building up and support of its members. The core message that we feel called to live is contained in Jesus' words:

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. (John 10:10)

Welcome: next Saturday we welcome Christopher-Jack and Bridiema into the family of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism. Please pray for them and their family.

*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.*

	Counting rota	Readers' Rota (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers' Rota		Flowers rota
This week	Chris and Edwin	A.Elizebeth and V.Robbins	Josh Peter	John Thomas	Jocelyn and Family
Next week		D. Wallace and Blossom	Pat McGroaty	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa	

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Sally McVeigh, Keith Dolton, Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Claudino Serra Vaz, Inna, Beatrice Upham, Eileen McGarry, Cheryl Jones, Josie Griffiths, Mary Cross, Nuala McNally, Maggie Durkin, Tony Davis, Cathleen Kennedy, Jim Kennedy, Ella Dawson, Mary Barry and all we know who are sick.

Please pray for Gabriel Ignatius Drumm, Hugh Allan and Betty Duff who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Peter Joseph Ryall, Canon Laurence Kelly, Frs. Albert Leo Kelly, Anthony Owen, Euan Henderson and Joseph Tynan, Deacon Frank Lockett, and also John (Danny) Lyons, Margaret McHugh, Noreen Griffin, Valerie (Val) Griffiths, Maureen Ann McEneaney, Sheila Anne Kelly, Joseph Costa, George Hiran, Padma Don, Patrick Craig, Richard Bolton and Jenny Doherty. May they rest in peace.

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

Prayers for Vocations. Each Deanery in the Diocese is asked to dedicate one month in the year to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and the Religious Life. This month of July is our Month. Before Mass on Thursday evenings we shall have a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament to pray for Vocations. Please join us.

St. John Fisher Primary School. This week is the last week of the school year and we will be celebrating an end of term Mass in St. John Fisher School on Monday morning at 9.30 am. All are welcome to join us. We shall thank God for His blessings over the last year and pray especially for those moving on to secondary school.

Summer holidays. If you are planning to get away somewhere in the next couple of months you will want to know where the nearest Catholic Church is and what time the Masses are. These days you can always go on line and find out, but if you need help, please ask me.

Next Sunday is the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, with the theme: *"Blessed are those who have not lost hope"*. These words, taken from the Book of Sirach, express the blessedness of the elderly and indicate hope placed in the Lord as the way to a Christian and reconciled old age. In the Jubilee year, the Day, established by Pope Francis in 2021, is intended to be an opportunity to reflect on how the presence of grandparents and the elderly can become a sign of hope in every family and church community.

Called and Gifted – a journey of discovering your spiritual gifts – is coming to Corpus Christi, Headington, starting on Saturday, 13th September 2025. It is a process which helps you discern more clearly the particular spiritual gifts (known as *charisms*) the Holy Spirit has given you.

Contact John Kirwan, johnkirwan1a@gmail.com or 07985098544 for more information and/or to register.

"WeBelieve" is a celebration of Catholic life, **Four days.** 25th-28th July, 2025, packed with worship, talks, and fellowship, offering a transformative weekend experience. St. Mary's College, Oscott, is the stunning venue with its rich Catholic heritage setting the perfect atmosphere. It is easily accessible by car or public transport from across the UK.

Grab a bite. Choose from the food vans and the College kitchen on-site, or shops just a short walk away.

Pitch your tent. Embrace the festival experience and catch the early-risers' and after-hours' content by camping on the general or family campsites.

Choose your pathway. With content streams meeting different interests and stages of the faith journey, there's something for everyone.

Bring a friend. This big celebration of the Church is the ideal place for your curious friends.

Space for all. With an accessible site, a family-friendly timetable, and dedicated spaces like the Quiet Room and Mothers' Room, there's a space for you!

Visit the diocesan website for more details and to book tickets. www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Sacred Heart Parish Youth Group. The Parish Youth Group meet in the hall here every other Wednesday, 6.00 – 7.30 pm. Why not come and join them?

Tailpiece: As a Parish Priest you know you are having a bad day when ...

- The parish council votes to send you on an extended sabbatical to Rome ... or Jerusalem ... or anywhere.
- You preach the same homily two Sundays running, and nobody notices.
- The parish treasurer sends you a postcard ... from the Bahamas.
- You find that the "good deal" you had negotiated for new carpeting throughout the presbytery is actually for secondhand carpet in a delightful shade of chartreuse.

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