



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10th August, 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, 10 th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(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	<i>Sheila Jennings (Intentions)</i> <i>Private Intention</i> <i>Michael Cullen</i> <i>Eric Williams</i> <i>Daiva and Gregorio (2nd Wedding Anniversary)</i>
Monday, 11 th August <i>Memorial of St. Clare</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Fr Fred Sheldon (JA)</i>
Tuesday, 12 th August <i>Op. Mem. of St. Jane Frances de Chantal</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Mr. M. E. Connelly (JA)</i>
Wednesday, 13 th August <i>Op. Memorials of Blessed William Freeman, Martyr, or of St. Pontian, Pope & St. Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Dec'd Hedgecox Family (JA)</i>
Thursday, 14 th August <i>Memorial of St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest, Martyr</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Fr. Jacob Lewis (JA)</i>
Friday, 15 th August Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION	(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Ercia Guterres Andrade (safe delivery)</i>
Saturday, 16 th August <i>Op. Mem. of St. Stephen of Hungary</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer No Morning Mass Today (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	<i>Neil Murphy (3rd Anniversary)</i>
Sunday, 17 th August Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time	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	<i>Private Intention</i> <i>John Joe McGroarty</i> <i>Paul Watts (Anniversary)</i> <i>Joao Bosco Maria Do Rego Soriano</i>

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today, especially if you are visiting for the holidays.

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)

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	Kylla and Lilian	D. Wallace and Blossom	Phil Doherty	Pawel Drozdz	Claire & family
Next week	Rachel and Phil	P. Chacka and Dom	Josh Peter	John Thomas	Claire & family

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Sally McVeigh, Keith Dolton, Barry Holland, Rosalind Ingrams, Claudio 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 Hugh Allan, John Mulvenna and Dr Marie Rowlands who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Frs. Denis Manion, Thomas Dennison, Michael Francis McGrath, Kevin Keaney and Keith Enston, and also Bridie Keane, Eric Williams, Margaret Gleeson, Brenda Browning, Paul Watts, Donna Vaughan. May they rest in peace.

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

Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Richard will be coming to Sacred Heart in October to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for members of our parish. If you are aged 11 upwards and have not been Confirmed then please apply using one of the forms at the back of church. Preparation will start in September.

Holy Day of Obligation. Please note that Friday is the Solemnity of the Assumption and is a Holy Day of Obligation when all Catholics are required to attend Mass. There will be Mass at Our Lady's Cowley, at 7.00 pm.

"Rosary, Roses and Miracles" for the Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady, on Saturday, 16th August at 11.00 am at Eva's house. Spaces limited; please contact Eva at evasmithson1112@gmail.com

The Annual Novena of Prayer for the Cause of Blessed Dominic Barberi begins on Monday, 18th August, and lasts for nine days up to his feast day on Tuesday, 26th August. We offer our prayers and good wishes to our neighbours in the parish of Blessed Dominic in Littlemore. The Novena Prayer can be prayed in parishes or at home.

O God, who so lovingly raised Blessed Dominic to the heights of holiness, learning and apostolic zeal and made him a powerful minister of your mercy, listen to our humble request. We pray that You will, in your goodness, grant a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Dominic, so that the Church may further honour him on earth and that many more people will come to know and invoke the help of this faithful servant of the Church.

Mary, Mother of Holy Hope, pray for us.

Saint John Henry Newman, pray for us.

Blessed Dominic Barberi, pray for us.

Summer holidays. I am on holiday until Friday, 15th August., and the office will be closed. Thanks to the Carmelite Fathers from Boars Hill who have kindly agreed to celebrate this weekend's Masses here at Sacred Heart. If you need a priest, please contact Fr. Ziggy at Bl. Dominic Barberi, Littlemore. Tel: 01865 778454; Email: bdb.oxford@rcaob.org.uk.

Jubilee Walk, 13th September. Join the Youth Group for a Jubilee Pilgrimage Walk from St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham to the Shrine of Blessed Carlo Acutis at St Michael's Church, Penn, (about 14 miles, and mostly flat). Families, clergy, youth groups and young adults can register to join. Refreshments will be available in the hall. (The parish Mass is at 5.30 pm). Please speak to Joyce for info.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith: If you know someone who would like to become a Catholic or who has lost their Faith, please invite them to contact me.

The Season of Creation. Pope Francis established 1st September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. He didn't hold back in his language: *'The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.'* In the Season of Creation (1st September to 4th October) we recognise our role in Creation. This year's theme is "Peace with Justice".

Live Simply And Sustainably: For simple and sustainable school holiday activities, consider nature-based adventures like visiting local parks, observing nature around your home, or having a garden campout. Get creative with crafts using recycled materials. Explore free local resources like libraries and museums. Get involved in community events.

Live In Solidarity: Refugees seeking asylum, migrants seeking a better life, have a right to do so. Our responsibility is to welcome such people, listen to their stories, and if they do have a claim to stay here, then we accept them. If not, then we help them to return home. At all times, we must treat them with respect and dignity.

Tailpiece: Archbishop George Patrick Dwyer was once baptising several babies, and beforehand he met all the parents to make sure that he had the names right. He came to one couple and asked the name of their baby. "Spindonna", he was told. Rather intrigued he passed on, but when he came to do the Baptism, just before he poured the water, he couldn't hold back his curiosity any longer and said, "You did say 'Spindonna', didn't you? Is that a Gaelic name?" "No, your Grace", the parents said, blankly. "It means we put 'er name on 'er with a pin".

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