



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

31st 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, 31 st August Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's) 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (8.45 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>	<i>Mick Mullagh Private Intention Jim McCann Fr. Charlie Timoney The People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 1 st September	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's) (11.45 am Mass at Greyfriars School)</i>	<i>Antonio De Souza (Birthday) Special Intention</i>
Tuesday, 2 nd September	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Anthony Newton Rodrigues (B'day)</i>
Wednesday, 3 rd September Feast of St. Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church	No Public Mass Today	<i>Michael Iagoe (Birthday)</i>
Thursday, 4 th September <i>Op. Mem. of St. Cuthbert, Bishop</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Louise Murphy (Get Well)</i>
Friday, 5 th September First Friday of the Month	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's School) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Special Intention Private Intention</i>
Saturday, 6 th September	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Aires Maria Da Silva, Rosa Maria De Silva, Luciano Viviana Soriano Da Silva Maria Socorro Agostinho, Carlos Agostinho, Julia Santos, Alfredo Santos and Family</i>
Sunday, 7 th September Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (8.45 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (2.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass</i>	<i>Private Intention Chidinma Vivian Ihuoma (Intentions) Julia Faria Dos Santos Chimbusomma Zaneta Ndidi The People of the Parish</i>
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, especially if you are new to this Parish.

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.

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)

	Counting rota	Readers' Rota (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers' Rota		Flowers rota
This week	Sally and Phil	D. Wallace and Blossom	Pat McGroarty	Rolly Esteban	Priya & Family
Next week	Kylla and Lilian		Chris Donovan	Anne Marie Sonan	Ghie & Rocelle

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 Fr. Paul Johnson, Barbara Joyce Holland and Mary Harrigan who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. James Dunlop Crichton, Canons Joseph Nightingale and Arthur Diamond, Frs. Thomas O'Doherty, James J Holland, Paul Devaney and Edwin Cownly, Dcn. Francis Andrews, Sr. Iolande Marsella FMA, and also John Joseph Patrick O'Connor, Trevor Dean, James Moore and Pamela Kathleen Campbell. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

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

Advance Notice. There will be a special Mass for the sick (provisional date: Saturday, 11th October, in Sacred Heart Church, Blackbird Leys, at 11.00 am). It will include the Sacrament of the Sick. We need musicians and servers, and we shall also need to be able to offer lifts and refreshments, so if you would like to help, please let me know.

Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Richard will be coming to Sacred Heart for the Sacrament of Confirmation at 10.00 am on Saturday, 18th October. If you are aged 11 upwards and have not yet been Confirmed please apply using one of the forms at the back of church. The timetable for preparation is on the board and also available in the porch. As you can see, the lessons will be on Thursday afternoons, 4.30-5.15. There will only be a few lessons, so please try to make sure you come to all of them.

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.

CAFOD. Rachel Breward is running her first marathon to raise money for CAFOD! The Marathon is the Abingdon Marathon on 19th October. If you would like to sponsor her, she has a sponsorship form, or to give online go to: [**'40 Days for Life'** \(24th September-2nd November\) is an international campaign to end abortion and to offer an alternative to women seeking it. You are invited to attend the opening event, at the Cafe Neri of the Oxford Oratory, on the 20th September at 7:30 pm, featuring the personal testimony of Amrita and the perspective of Robert Calquhon, who is at the forefront of prolife work.](https://www.justgiving.com/page/rachel-breward-3Putm_source>EmailShare_SFMC&utm_medium=email_socia&utm_campaign=LFCFRUK Day5 Full Std</p>
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The Season of Creation starts this week. Pope Francis established 1st September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, encouraging the Catholic community around the world to pray for our common home. In the Season of Creation (1st September to 4th October) we recognise our role in Creation. This year's theme is "Peace with Justice".

Ecumenical Prayer Service for the Earth. Wednesday, 17th September, 6.00 pm at Blackfriars Priory Church, St. Giles, Oxford. And **Pilgrimage for the Planet**, Sunday, 28th September. Starts 11.15 am from Blackfriars Priory, and ends at 2.00 pm at St. Frideswide Church, Botley Road. Bring a picnic lunch.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith: There will be a series of meetings at Our Lady's parish hall on Friday afternoons, at 4.30, starting on 13th September, for anyone who wants to find out more about our Faith. Copies of the programme of meetings are available at the back of church. If you know someone who may be interested, please let them know.

Altar Servers: It would be great to have more children (or adults) involved in serving, so parents, please encourage your children in this. You can start serving if you have made your First Holy Communion. When the schools restart there will be some training sessions.

Tailpiece: A woman died and went up to the Pearly Gates. St. Peter met her and said, "You can only come in here if you know something about love. For instance, can you spell it?" The woman managed this simple task and St. Peter happily allowed her to step inside. Then he said, "Will you do me a favour? I need to take a quick break. You've seen how I do this. Would you mind the gate for me for a moment, please?" She agreed, and while she was there, who should arrive but her husband. "Hello, dear," said she. "It's nice to see you again, but I'm afraid you can only come in here if you can pass a test. Spell ... onomatopoeia."

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