



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Thirty-third Sunday of the Year

16th November 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, 16 th November Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>World Day of the Poor</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) (1.00 pm Marriage Service and Baptism at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Sean Jennings Snr. (Anniversary) Private Intention The People of the Parish Dec'd Lyons & Kennedy Families Fernando and Helena, Marisol Rodrigues Nossa Senhora de Fatima
Monday, 17 th November <i>Optional Memorial of St. Hilda, or St. Hugh of Lincoln, or St. Elizabeth of Hungary</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Mary Blythe (Get Well)</i>
Tuesday, 18 th November <i>Op. Mem. of the Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter & St. Paul</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Fatima Jong (Get Well)</i>
Wednesday, 19 th November	No Public Mass Today	<i>In Thanksgiving</i>
Thursday, 20 th November	No Public Mass Today	<i>Brendan McNally</i>
Friday, 21 st November <i>Memorial of the Presentation of Our Lady</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>David Robbins (Anniversary)</i>
Saturday, 22 nd November <i>Memorial of St. Cecilia, Martyr</i>	No Morning Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	<i>Helen Towey (Birthday)</i>
Sunday, 23 rd November Solemnity of Christ the King <i>National Youth Sunday</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) 6.00 pm Mass	Private Intention Aida Soares Jeronimo (Anniv.) Ellen Gaughan (Birthday) Michael Cullen

Welcome to Sacred Heart Church for Mass today, especially if you are new to this Parish.

Mission Appeal. This weekend we welcome Brother John from the Sacred Heart Fathers and Brothers of Betharram to make an appeal to help their work.

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	Readers (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers		Flowers
This week	Chris & Edwin		Josh Peter	John Thomas	Jacqui Halliday
Next week	Sally & Phil		Rolly Esteban	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa	Jacqui Halliday

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, Mary Cairns, Lisa Birch, Julio Madeira Cabral Soares, Fatima Jong, John Hudgell and all we know who are sick.

Please pray for Fr. Simon Hall, May Cox, James Thompson and all who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop John McIntyre, Canon Philip Coyne, Frs. Joseph Ryan, James O'Sullivan, Raymund Jones, Bernard Boulton, Sean Turley, Gerry Jackson, David Higham, Deacon Pat Linthwaite, Srs. Margaret Renshaw, Kathleen Jones and Mary Cairns FMA, and also Marjorie Chungtuyco, Roger Afford, Grace Gingell, Patricia Mary King, Bernard Teeling, Brendan McNally and Michael Joseph Anthony Cullen. 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.

Parish Pilgrimage to Rome. This week, as pilgrims have done for centuries, a group from our parish, together with a group from Our Lady's and Corpus Christi parishes, set out as Pilgrims of Hope in this Holy Year. Please pray for us, as we shall pray for you. Please note that there will be no weekday Mass here this week and no Confessions on Thursday or Saturday.

Solemnity of Christ the King. Next Sunday is the last of the year and it is a Day of Prayer for Young People. We celebrate the presence and contribution to our community that is made by our young people. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Youth Services.

The Parish youth group would like to invite all young people of the parish to celebrate Youth Sunday next Sunday, 23rd November, beginning with 9.00 am Mass and refreshment in the hall afterwards. And also Parishioners, please join us to celebrate our young people of the parish and world.

Christmas Concert.



Christmas concert
At Our Lady's church
20th December 2025 at 7pm
A professional Worcester College, Oxford University boys choir will sing for us

This is a real treat in the lead-up to Christmas. On the evening of Saturday, 20th December (7.00-8.30 pm) the boys' choir from Worcester College will sing carols and Christmas songs in Our Lady's church, Cowley. Tickets, £15 per person, available next week from me after Mass.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith: This week there will be a pause in the series of talks on Fridays in Our Lady's Parish Hall, 4.30-5.15 pm. It will re-start on 28th November. Anyone who would like to explore aspects of our Catholic Faith is welcome. When it re-starts we shall be talking about Prayer.

November Prayers for the Dead. You can still add names of your deceased family and friends in the basket in front of the altar and they will be remembered at Mass throughout the month.

Mass Intentions. The 2026 Mass Intentions diary is open. If you would like Mass offered for an intention, please see Joyce or me after Mass. It would help if you give your request in writing. If you want Mass said on a date that is already booked, I shall do it on the nearest available day.



The Sacred Heart Christmas Bazaar will be on Saturday, 29th November. We urgently need new people to take part by running stalls, games, etc. Please don't be backward. Let Jacqui know you are willing to help. Raffle tickets are available after Mass, and please look at the donations board in the porch to see if there is anything you would be willing to donate. Thank you.

Tailpiece: Three sons left home, went out on their own and prospered. Getting back together, they discussed the gifts they were able to give their elderly mother. The first said, "I built a big house for our mother." The second said, "I gave her a Mercedes." The third smiled and said: "I've got you both beat. You remember how Mum enjoys reading the Bible? And you know she can't see very well now. So I sent her a remarkable parrot that recites the whole Bible. It took all the Brothers in a monastery 12 years to teach him. He's one of a kind. Mum just has to name the chapter and verse, and the parrot recites it." Not long after, their mother sent out her letters of thanks: "Milton," she wrote to the first son, "you're an idiot. The house you built is so huge...I live in only one room, but I still have to clean the whole place." "Gerald," she wrote to the second, "You're almost as bad as your brother. I am too old to travel. I stay most of the time at home, so I don't need a car." "Dearest Donald," she wrote to her third son. "You, at least, have the good sense to know what your mother likes. The chicken was delicious."

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