



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

18th January, 2026

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, 18 th January Second Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Peace Day Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday 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>Edmund Griffin (Intentions)</i> <i>Private Intention</i> <i>Brian McCann</i> <i>In Thanksgiving (Joshi Family)</i> <i>Charlie and Megan (Intentions)</i>
Monday, 19 th January Feast of St. Wulstan, Bishop <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's) (2.00 pm Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Sheila Jennings (Special Int.)</i> <i>Sarah McCabe</i>
Tuesday, 20 th January <i>Optional Memorials of St. Fabian, or St. Sebastian, Martyrs</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Perpetua and Gregorio (25th Wedding Anniversary)</i>
Wednesday, 21 st January <i>Memorial of St. Agnes, Martyr</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Thursday, 22 nd January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Vincent, Deacon</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Joseph and Mary McGarry</i>
Friday, 23 rd January <i>Op. Mem. of St. Nicholas Owen</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (9.00 am Mass at Our Lady's School) (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	<i>Aveen Kavanagh (Anniversary)</i> <i>Newton and Clara (Wed. Anniv.)</i>
Saturday, 24 th January <i>Memorial of St. Francis de Sales</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (12.00 noon Mass at Our Lady's) (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	<i>Ena Maguire</i> <i>Venacio Soares (Month Mind)</i> <i>Bernadette Edwards (Intentions)</i>
Sunday, 25 th January Third Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i> <i>Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</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) (1.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	<i>Private Intention</i> <i>Cecilia Michael</i> <i>Jean and Bob (Intentions)</i> <i>Eliza Franuszka Blewaska</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; and Saturday, 10.30 – 11.00 am (And also at Our Lady's, Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)		

Welcome to Sacred Heart Catholic Church 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)

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.

	Readers (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers		Flowers
This Sunday	Priya Chacka & Dom	Josh Peter	Rolly Esteban	Priya & Family
Next Sunday		Pat McGroarty	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa	Ghie & Rocelle

Prayers for the Sick. Please pray for Bridie Barry, 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, John Hudgell, Mary Collins and all we know who are sick.

Please pray for Fr. David Manson, Sr. Esther Murphy FMA, Nicky Clarke, Agustinus Bura, Sarah McCabe and Catherine Webb who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Peter Dao-Duc-Diem, Canons Garry Byrne and Bernard McKenna, Frs. Timothy Dinan, Cecil Keane, Bernard Robertson, Edward Kirner, Michael Walshe, George Jackson, John Tolkien, Joseph McKenna, David Lloyd, Charles Ross, John Garvey and Anthony Timlin, Sr. Helen Carey FMA, and also Margaret Hodson, Johnny Evans, William (Bill) Barber, Marianna Slezak, George Sykes, Michael Grant, Mary Bridget Lillis, Bernadette Gavin, Jimmy Doyle, Mary Cleary, Mary Doyle, Thomas Braiden, Patrick Philbin, Patrick Whelan, and Mary McGarry. May they rest in peace.

Sr. Esther Murphy fma, Sister of Elmthorpe. Funeral Mass at Our Lady's, 10.30 am, Monday, 26th January. All welcome.

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

Peace Sunday. Today is a day of prayer for peace on earth, remembering the announcement of the angels at the birth of Christ, “peace to all people of goodwill”.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity starts today. It traditionally runs from the 18th - 25th January. This year the chosen theme is: *One Body, One Spirit*. Please make sure that this intention is included in your daily prayers.

The Great Awakening - A Catholic Healing and Evangelisation Service. This Saturday, 24th January, 9.00-4.30, at Bethel Convention Centre, West Bromwich (B70 7JW). Awakening is a Catholic Evangelisation and Healing Convention organised by Anointing Fire Catholic Ministries UK. This event is to rekindle the fire of the Holy Spirit and renew our commitment to the mission of the Church. The day includes Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, powerful preaching, praise, worship, and healing service. For more details, please see the leaflets in the porch. If you would like to go, let me know.

World Leprosy Day. Each day 475 people are diagnosed with leprosy, more than 25 of these are children. But it is curable! Lepra works to help. For over 100 years Lepra's research has led to new approaches to healthcare programmes. Lepra seeks to provide better detection, treatment and support mechanisms, to advocate for those without a voice, to challenge prejudice wherever it exists, to strengthen local health systems and to help provide healthcare in partnership with local communities for a future free from the impact of leprosy. The second collection at Mass today will go to support their work.

Crib Offerings. Thank you for your generosity to the Crib Offerings. They came to £325.01 – a magnificent response, thank you – which will be passed on to the Friends of the Holy Land.

Fundraising ideas for 2026. We should like to hear your ideas for events this year that would raise some money for the parish and also help to bring us together as a family. Please share your ideas with Jacqui or me.

Eucharistic Ministers. There has been a request for us at Sacred Heart to re-introduce Communion under Both Kinds (i.e. the Precious Blood as well as the Body of Christ) by Easter. That would be good, but to do that we shall need several more Ministers of Holy Communion. If you feel that God is calling you to serve in this way, please come and see me. I shall arrange a training day soon.

First Holy Communion Lessons. Parents, if your children are aged 8 or over they can receive their First Holy Communion next June. Please complete one of the registration forms that you can find in the porch and return it to me. Lessons will start at Our Lady's on Thursday afternoons (after school) at the end of February.

Oxford Pro-Life Coffee Social. Saturday, 24th January, 2.00 pm, Colombia Coffee Roasters, Summertown (267 Banbury Road, OX2 7HT). Come along and keep connected with the pro-life community in Oxford. Just turn up. Visit <https://oxfordprolife.org.uk/> for more info.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith will continue this week on Friday, 23rd January at 4.30 pm at Our Lady's, in the Don Bosco Centre, with “Baptism and Confirmation”.

Tailpiece: A man went to visit a priest. “Father,” he said in a broken voice, “I wish to draw your attention to the terrible plight of a poor family in this district. The father is dead, the mother is too ill to work, and the nine children are starving. Their landlord is about to turn them out into the cold, empty streets unless someone pays their rent, which amounts to £800.” “How terrible!” exclaimed the priest. “May I ask who you are?” The visitor applied his handkerchief to his eyes. “I’m their landlord,” he sobbed.

May God bless you and all those who are dear to you.
Fr. Harry