



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th February, 2026

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

Parish Priest: Fr. Harry Curtis

(Also serving Our Lady Help of Christians, Cowley)

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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, 15 th February Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	<i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Anthony Raj (Anniversary) Eduardo Esteban Bob Hinchin (Birthday) Felix Saulong (Anniversary)
Monday, 16 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Maria Blanca (Special Intention)
Tuesday, 17 th February <i>Op. Mem. of the Seven Founders of the Order of Servants of the BVM</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Allsworth Family (Intentions)
Wednesday, 18 th February Ash Wednesday THE SEASON OF LENT BEGINS	<i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 7.00 pm Mass	The People of the Parish Vasco Do Rego Martins & Family
Thursday, 19 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Mickey Butler (Get Well)
Friday, 20 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's, with Stations)</i>	Sr Breda (Get Well)
Saturday, 21 st February <i>Commemoration of St. Peter Damian</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass, followed by Stations <i>(12.00 noon Baptisms at Our Lady's)</i> <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	Robert Nunley Mila and Luca Baboo-Burgon Mary Clarke RIP (Birthday)
Sunday, 22 nd February First Sunday of Lent	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(8.45 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Private Intention Ansel Netto Winnie De Souza (Get Well) The People of the Parish
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; and Saturday, 10.30 – 11.00 am <i>(And also at Our Lady's, Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)</i>		

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	Josh Peter	John Thomas/Rolly Esteban	Jacqui Halliday
Next Sunday	Deirdre Wallace	Pat McGroaty	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa	<i>No flowers during Lent</i>

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, John Durkin, Tony Davis, Cathleen Kennedy, Jim Kennedy, Ella Dawson, Mary Barry, Lisa Birch, Julio Madeira Cabral Soares, Mary Cairns, John Hudgell, Mary Collins and all we know who are sick.

Please pray for Nicky Clarke and George (Seamus) Hannon who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Canon Peter W. Lawler, Canons William Roughan and Sean McTernan, Frs. Charles Joseph O'Reilly, William Conefrey, Joseph McEvelly, Timothy Healy, Terence McDonnell, Francis Jordan, Alexander McGavin, Francis Coyle and Sean Farrell, Dcn. Hugh Robinson, and also Francis (Tom) Billington, Reece Knott, Margaret (Peggy) Stone, David Barnes, Paddy Griffin, Jose Ribeiro, Dermot Francis McMahon, Jack McGrath, William Tobin, Henrique Mgunge, Felix Saulong, Jim McNally and Thomas Dermot Moran. May they rest in peace.

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

Lent 2026.

- This Wednesday will be Ash Wednesday, the start of our Lenten journey towards Holy Week and Easter. It is a day of fasting and abstinence.** That means that everyone over the age of 14 should abstain from meat and that those between 18-60 should also fast, taking only one meal and two lighter snacks.
- There will be Mass with the imposition of ashes** at Our Lady's on Wednesday at 9.15 am, and also at Sacred Heart at 7.00 pm. After Mass this weekend (weather permitting) we shall burn palms to make our ashes.
- Stations of the Cross.** Saturday mornings, after Mass.
- Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament,** Thursdays, 6.00–7.00 pm, with the opportunity for Confession.
- "My Day by Day" booklets are available (£1).** They contain the Mass readings for each day of Lent.
- Walk With Me booklets are also available, with Lent calendars.** They are an aid to prayer and reflection.
- CAFOD Lent Fast Day** will be Friday, 27th February
- Penance Service.** Thursday, 19th March, at 6.00 pm.

First Holy Communion Lessons. Lessons will start at Our Lady's at 3.30 pm on Thursday, 26th February.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith. We'll take this week off for half term. We shall restart on Friday, 27th February, at Our Lady's when (appropriately for Lent) the subject will be "Right and Wrong; Confession".

Annual Diocesan Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage. Married couples who are celebrating a milestone anniversary, and couples preparing to marry this year are invited to the Diocesan Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage at St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham on Saturday, 2nd May, at 12.00 noon, followed by light refreshments. For info, and to register please visit www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass

Bishop Richard's Visitation. Bishop Richard will be coming to visit our Parish next weekend. There will be a meeting in the hall here next Sunday afternoon at 4.30 pm. Please try to come to it if you possibly can.

Eucharistic Ministers. We still 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.

Tailpiece: Last week I printed some questions for you to think about. They seem to have attracted a fair bit of head-scratching, and thank you to all who submitted their answers. However, not many got them all right, so here are the answers:

- Some months have 30 days; some months have 31 days. How many months have 28 days? ***They all do!***
- If a doctor gives you 3 pills and tells you to take one pill every half hour, how long will it be before all the pills have been taken? ***One hour. You take the first now, then the second after half an hour and then the third after an hour.***
- Do they have the Fifth of November in Australia? ***Yes, although they might not call it Guy Fawkes' Day.***
- Divide 30 by $\frac{1}{2}$ and add 10. What do you get? ***70 (30 divided by 2 is 15, BUT 30 divided by $\frac{1}{2}$ is 60).***
- A farmer had 17 sheep. All but 9 died. How many did he have left? ***If all but 9 died then he had 9 left.***
- If you had only one match and entered a cold, dark room, where there was an oil heater, an oil lamp and some kindling wood, which would you light first? ***The match!***
- A man builds a house with four sides of rectangular construction, each side having a southern exposure. A big bear comes wandering by. What colour is the bear? ***The only place on earth where you could have a square building with all the sides facing south would be at the North Pole, and any bear wandering by would be a Polar Bear. So the answer is WHITE (alright, cream!).***
- Take 2 apples from 3 apples. What do you have? ***You have the two apples that you have taken.***
- How many animals of each species did Moses take into the Ark? ***None. It was Noah, not Moses, who took the animals into the Ark.***
- If you drove a bus with 42 people on board from Oxford and stopped at Kidlington to pick up 7 more people and drop off 5 passengers, and again at Banbury to drop off 8 passengers and pick up 4 more, and eventually arrive at Edinburgh 20 hours later, what is the driver's name? ***You are the driver, so it's your name.***

It's only for fun (and a box of chocs for the winner). Congratulations to you all.

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