



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th February, 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

(01865) 455182 • sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk • www.sacredheartoxford.com

*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, 8 th February <i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Day for Victims of Human Trafficking</i>	<i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i> 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> 1.00 pm Baptism <i>(2.00 Baptisms at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Fatima Jong <i>Private Intention</i> Cecilia Michael Pauline Morrissey Chelsea Valentin da Conceicao Jerome, Jesse and Jayden McAli Alvin John (Birthday)
Monday, 9 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday, 10 th February <i>Memorial of St. Scholastica</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's, followed by the Rosary)</i>	<i>Marian Boggis (Intentions)</i>
Wednesday, 11 th February <i>Op. Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes</i> <i>World Day for the Sick</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Dermot and Josephine McMahon</i>
Thursday, 12 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Requiem Mass 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Jim (Seamus) Hannon</i> <i>Julia Butler (Intentions)</i>
Friday, 13 th February	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Nossa Senhora de Fatima</i>
Saturday, 14 th February <i>Feast of St. Cyril and St. Methodius, Patrons of Europe</i> <i>Day of Prayer for Europe</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	Fatima Jong Anthony Raj (Anniversary)
Sunday, 15 th February <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Day for the Unemployed</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	Eduardo Esteban Bob Hinchin (Birthday) Felix Saulong Jnr. (Anniversary)
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.

This Sunday is the International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking. It is the feast day of Saint Josephine Bakhita, the patron saint of victims of modern slavery and human trafficking.

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	Daiva Silva & Anyu Elizebeth	Philomena Doherty	Pawel Drozd	Jacqui Halliday
Next Sunday	Priya Chacka	Josh Peter	John Thomas/Rolly Esteban	Jacqui Halliday

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 at this time: Mgrs. John Heslin and Joseph Vincent Healey, Frs. John Watkins, John Gibb, Matthias Brady (Pioneer Priest of Sacred Heart), John Paul O’Sullivan, William Connick and James McGloin, and also Billy Flynn, Nancy McGrath, Bridie Willoughby, Bridget Culhane, Julio Arquimbau and Mary Thompson. May they rest in peace.

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

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith, Friday, 4.30 pm, at Our Lady’s in the Don Bosco Centre. This week’s subject: “Marriage, Ordination, and the Anointing of the Sick”. All welcome.

Bishop Richard’s Visitation. Bishop Richard will be coming to visit Our Lady’s Parish and Sacred Heart Parish on the weekend of 21st/22nd February. There will be a meeting in the hall here on Sunday, 22nd February, at 4.30 pm. Please try to come to it if you possibly can.

Altar Servers. Some new servers came yesterday, and there will be a second training session here at Sacred Heart this Saturday, 14th February, at 11.00 am. You can still come if you missed the first session.

Eucharistic Ministers. We 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. There will be a meeting for parents at 4.00 pm this Thursday, 12th February, in the Don Bosco Centre at Our Lady’s. Lessons for the children will start there at 3.30 pm on Thursday, 26th February.

Ash Wednesday is just one week on Wednesday! If you have any old palms that you no longer want, please bring them in (no later than next Sunday) so that we can burn them after Mass (weather permitting) to make our ashes.

World Day Of Prayer For The Sick. Wednesday, 11th February, the Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes. In his message for this Day, Pope Leo XIV takes up the parable of the Good Samaritan as a central image of Christian charity: to truly love means to stop, to draw near, and to care for those who suffer. Compassion, in fact, is not only a feeling but translates into concrete gestures and shared commitment, particularly towards the sick. In this perspective, caring for the sick and the most fragile is one of the clearest signs of fidelity to the Gospel.

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

40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration will take place in St. John Henry Newman’s Chapel at Littlemore from Friday 13th February to Sunday 15th February. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from Friday, 9:30 am - 9:00 pm, and on Saturday and Sunday from 7:00 am - 9:00 pm. There will be possibilities for Confession.

Tailpiece: For a change this week, here is a sneaky test of intelligence and observation. Give me your answers in writing and I shall draw a winner from a hat. (Prize: a box of chocolates). Answers will be published next week.

- 1) Some months have 30 days; some months have 31 days. How many months have 28 days?
- 2) 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?
- 3) Do they have the Fifth of November in Australia?
- 4) Divide 30 by 1/2 and add 10. What do you get?
- 5) A farmer had 17 sheep. All but 9 died. How many did he have left?
- 6) 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?
- 7) 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?
- 8) Take 2 apples from 3 apples. How many do you have?
- 9) How many animals of each species did Moses take into the Ark?
- 10) 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?

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