



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Fourth Sunday of Lent

15th March, 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, 15 th March Fourth Sunday of Lent <i>Dementia Prayer Week</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> 6.00 pm Mass	Nicolette Clarke Private Intention Cecilia Michael Mary Kate McTague (Anniv.) The People of the Parish
Monday, 16 th March <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Maggie Mooney
Tuesday, 17 th March Feast of St. Patrick, Patron of Ireland <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Granny McTague
Wednesday, 18 th March <i>Commemoration of St. Cyril of Jerusalem, Bishop</i> <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	No Public Mass Today	Nalini and Pawan (Wedding Anniversary)
Thursday, 19 th March Solemnity of St. Joseph <i>Dementia Prayer Week</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Paul Chapman (Get Well)
Friday, 20 th March	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's, with Stations)</i>	Special Intention (NC)
Saturday, 21 st March	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer</i> 10.00 am Mass, followed by Stations <i>(12.30 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i> <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	Fr. A. Timlin (JA) Vicente Da Cruz Soares Daniel Azavedo (Birthday)
Sunday, 22 nd March Fifth 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 Aidan Carey The People of the Parish Joao Cardoso Soares
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm; and Saturday, 10.45 – 11.30 am <i>(And also at Our Lady's, Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm)</i>		

**Welcome to Sacred Heart Catholic Church on the Fourth Sunday of Lent – Laetare Sunday.
Of course, it is also Mothering Sunday.**



Happy Mothering Sunday to all Mums



*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)

	Readers (9.00 Mass)	Eucharistic Ministers		Flowers
This Sunday	Priya Chacka	Josh Peter	Rolly Esteban	<i>No flowers during Lent</i>
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, Tony Davis, Cathleen Kennedy, Jim Kennedy, Ella Dawson, Mary Barry, Lisa Birch, Julio Madeira Cabral Soares, Mary Cairns, John Hudgell and all we know who are sick.

Please pray for Mabel Eghaghe, Sheila Jennings, Julia Scuddy and Anne Rhodes, who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Archbishop Bernard Ullathorne OSB, Frs. Michael Crumpton, William Madden and Andrew Brennan, Deacon Thomas Ashcroft, and also Antonio Iorio, Sissie McMannus, Agustinha Dos Santos, Martin Conroy, Joseph Ahern, Bernard McAndrew, Mary McAndrew, Edward and Eileen James. May they rest in peace.

The Requiem Mass for Anne Rhodes will be at Our Lady's on Tuesday, 24th March, at 10.00 am.

Sheila Jennings will be brought into Our Lady's on Wednesday, 25th March, at 6.30 pm, and her Requiem Mass will be at 11.00 am on Thursday, 26th March.

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



Littleway Healing Ministries is holding a Day of Healing at Our Lady's on Saturday, 18th April, 10.30 am – 4.00 pm, led by Fr. Kevin Dixon, Mrs Helen Callaghan and the Littleway Team. Join us for praise, prayer and testimonies. All are welcome, come for the day, bring a packed lunch, or just pop in. For more: info@littlewayhealingministries.com

Stations of the Cross. Each Saturday, at about 10.30 am.

Enquiries about the Catholic Faith. This Friday we shall meet at 4.30 pm at Our Lady's in the Don Bosco Centre for the final talk in our series about the Catholic Faith. The subject will be "The Last Things: Death, Judgement, Heaven and Hell".

Feast Days. On Tuesday we shall celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick (a very happy Feastday to anyone of Irish descent), and Thursday is the Solemnity of St. Joseph. The Mill Hill Missionaries' Novena to St. Joseph has already started, but you can still join each day [Day 5, Joseph, the Caring, Loving Father; Day 6, Joseph, the Migrant Worker; Day 7, Joseph, The Family Man; Day 8, Joseph, Man of Loving Service; Day 9, Joseph, Patron of a Happy Death].

Eucharistic Ministers. There will be two training sessions for new Eucharistic Ministers. The first will be this Thursday, 19th March, at 5.00 pm. The second will be next week at the same time. Existing Ministers are also welcome.

Parish Penance Service. This Thursday, 19th March, there will be a short service of reflection and prayer at 6.00 pm, followed by the opportunity for Confession.

Readers for Holy Week and Easter. Thank you to all who have agreed to do readings during the most important week of the Church's year. If you can, please come to a practice on Saturday, 28th March at 12.00 noon

Altar Servers. There will be a rehearsal on Monday, 23rd March, at 5.00 pm for all altar servers who will be serving at the Holy Week and Easter services.

Tailpiece: One year, on Palm Sunday, 5-year-old Johnny was ill and stayed at home with a sitter instead of going to church. When the family returned home, they were carrying palm fronds. Johnny asked them what they were for. "People waved them in front of Jesus as He went by," his father told him. "Wouldn't you know it," Johnny fumed. "The one Sunday I don't go and He shows up."

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