

Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Third Sunday of Easter

19th April, 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.*

Happy Easter, everyone.

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!

Sunday, 19 th April Third Sunday of Easter	<i>(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.00 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	Patricia Cuddy Private Intention Cecilia Michael Ann Marie Clark (1 st Anniversary) Maria Auxiliadora do Rego Soriano and Tioborcio Do Rego Soriano
Monday, 20 th April <i>Feria of Easter</i>	<i>(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	Mrs. Maria Debono
Tuesday, 21 st April <i>Op. Mem. of St. Anselm, Bishop</i>	No Public Mass Today	Alan French (Anniversary)
Wednesday, 22 nd April <i>Feria of Easter</i>	No Public Mass Today	Antonio D'Souza (Anniversary)
Thursday, 23 rd April Solemnity of St. George, Martyr, Patron of England	No Public Mass Today	The People of the Parish
Friday, 24 th April <i>Op. Memorial of St. Adalbert or of St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen</i>	No Public Mass Today	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 25 th April Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist	<i>No Public Mass this morning</i> <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	Annie Kennedy
Sunday, 26 th April Fourth Sunday of Easter <i>World Day of Prayer for Vocations</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) 9.00 am Mass <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 6.00 pm Mass	Private Intention Sheila Jennings Josie Coughlan Eva and Maurice Smithson (Wedding Anniversary)

Welcome to Sacred Heart today especially if you are new to the parish.

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.*

This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216

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	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers		Flowers
	9.00 am	9.00 am	6.00 pm	
This Sunday	Priya Chacka and Dom	Josh Peter	John Thomas	Claire Fermin
Next Sunday	Deirdre Wallace	Pat McGroaty	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa	Claire Fermin

Please pray for the sick, especially people we know: Bridie Barry, Josie Griffiths, Claire French, Inna, Jean Carpenter, Beatrice Upham, Terry Jackson, Mary Cross, Sheila Cuddy, Rosa Fernandes, Maggie Durkin, Tony Davis, John Hudgell, Pat Walsh, Doreen Teagle, Mary Barry, Mary Cairns, Lisa Birch and Julio Madeira Cabral Soares, Rodolfo Melo De Sousa.

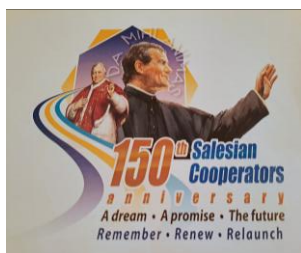
Please pray for Gladys (“Bonnie”) Trowell, Theresa Cahill and Judith Champ who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: His Holiness Pope Francis, Bishop Leo McCarty, Frs. Reginald Slade, Patrick Downey, Antony Conlon, Hugh Griffith, Andrew Kenny, Oswald Joyce, Liam Bouchier, Benjamin Cox, Wilfrid Davenport, Desmond Donnelly and Peter Dennison, Deacon Peter Seeney, and also Bryan Frederick Styles, Esther Masterson, Thomas William White, Alfonso Pereira, Sheila Dempsey, Anne Teresa Delaney, Ellen Bolger, Edward Murphy, Saulius Alminauskas and Eddie Parker. May they rest in peace.

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

Gift Aid Envelopes. If you have not already done so, the new Gift Aid envelopes are available for you to collect from the back of the church if you are signed up for it, please. **We do need more people to be involved in the Gift Aid scheme, please.** If you don't already gift aid your donations to Sacred Heart could we ask you to consider doing so? Please talk to our Gift Aid officer, Lilian Mwawa, after Mass for further information or if you are already a gift-aider and your circumstances (e.g. your address) have changed. If you can't find Lilian, please speak to me.

Easter Duties. Because of the central importance of Easter to the Christian faith, the Church says that all Catholics who have made their First Holy Communion should receive the Holy Eucharist sometime between Ash Wednesday and Pentecost Sunday. They should also take part in the Sacrament of Penance before receiving this Easter Communion.

Cowley Salesian Cooperators warmly invite you to celebrate Holy Mass with them on 23rd May at 12.00 noon in Our Lady's church for the 150th Salesian Cooperators anniversary. Please join us with an open heart to commemorate the dream and work that continues today because of St John Bosco. There will be light refreshments after Mass in the Mornese Centre at Elmthorpe Convent. There is limited parking at the Convent but you can leave cars in Our Lady's church car park and walk down.



Confirmations. Bishop Richard will be with us again on Saturday, 31st October, for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If, for some reason, you do not want to wait that long for the Sacrament, please come and speak to me because there will be Confirmations at Our Lady's in June and you might be able to join that group.

Vocations Sunday. Next Sunday is “Good Shepherd Sunday”, also known as Vocations Sunday. We pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life in our Archdiocese. There will be the annual collection for the Clergy Training Fund at Masses next Sunday. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

Young Discerners' Group. Are you a young man in School Years 9-13 who wants to explore a Vocation to the Catholic priesthood? Come to St. Mary's College, Oscott, in Birmingham on Saturday, 9th May, 10.30-4.00. To find out more, or to book, contact Deacon Owen Gresty, 0121 3215135 or deacon.owen@vocations.org.uk. The day is free, but booking is essential.

Safeguarding Training for Volunteers. Do you volunteer to do anything at Sacred Heart Church (thank you, if you do)? If so, do you know your responsibilities in keeping people safe? Whatever your role, it is essential that you get some training, please. There is FREE training available online, which you can do at your own pace and your own time. It has been put together by the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA). You can get it on the CSSA website at training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk. Please speak to Onyi, our parish safeguarding rep, if you want more info.

Please note that I am having a short break this week and there will be no public Mass and no Confessions here at Sacred Heart on Thursday or Saturday this week.

Tailpiece: A Parish Priest was driving one day when he crashed into another car, driven by the young curate from the neighbouring parish. The Parish Priest, with all his experience, took in the situation with one glance and said, “You look badly shaken up, Father. You should have a drink to calm you down.” So he produced a flask and the curate drank some. The Parish Priest said, “You still look a little rattled, have another sip.” The curate, after taking a drink, said, “But Father, you're probably shaken up too. Why don't you have some?” “I will,” the priest replied, “but I think I'll wait until after the police have come.”

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