



# Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

## Solemnity of Pentecost

24<sup>th</sup> May, 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](mailto:sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) • [www.sacredheartoxford.com](http://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](mailto:sg.sacredheart.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.*

**Happy Easter, everyone.**

**Jesus Christ is risen from the dead. Alleluia!**

Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup> May <b>Solemnity of Pentecost</b> <i>(Eastertide ends this evening)</i>	<i>(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's <b>9.00 am Mass</b> <i>(11.00 am Mass with Baptism at Our Lady's)</i> <i>(2.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's)</i> <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Theodorico De Souza  Private Intention Filomena Camelo Ramona Yazbeck (6-month anniv.) Hugo de Gouveia The People of the Parish
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> May Memorial of Mary, Mother of the Church	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(10.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Kitty Davies (Intentions)
Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> May Memorial of St. Philip Neri	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Camillo De Souza (Birthay)
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> May <b>Feast of St. Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop</b>	<b>No Public Mass Today</b>	Thomas Martin
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> May <b>Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest</b>	<b>6.00 pm Exposition, Rosary, Benediction</b> <b>7.00 pm Mass</b>	Mary Jane and Patrick McGroaty
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> May Op. Memorial of Pope St. Pius VI	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(7.00 pm Mass with Baptisms at Our Lady's)</i>	The Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> May	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <b>10.00 am Mass</b> <i>(5.30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	Julia Valente Deacon Bill Parker (25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary)
Sunday, 31 <sup>st</sup> May <b>Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity</b>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.00 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's <b>9.00 am Mass</b> <i>(11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>  <b>6.00 pm Mass</b>	Private Intention The People of the Parish In Thanksgiving to Our Lady (East Timor) Private Intention

Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm, and Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am. *(And also at Our Lady's: Friday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm.)*

**Welcome to Sacred Heart today, especially if you are new to the parish or visiting for the bank holiday.**

*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

To see the Diocesan Privacy Notice go to <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>

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	Eucharistic Ministers		Flowers
	9.00 am	9.00 am	6.00 pm	
<b>This Sunday</b>	<b>Ewa &amp; Daiva</b>	<b>Rolly Esteban</b>	<b>Lilian Tatenda Mwawa</b>	<b>Ghie &amp; Rocelle</b>
<b>Next Sunday</b>	<b>Deirdre Wallace</b>	<b>Pat McGroaty</b>	<b>Rolly Esteban</b>	<b>Jacqui Halliday</b>

**Please pray for the sick, especially people we know:** Bridie Barry, Josie Griffiths, Claire French, Inna, Jean Carpenter, Terry Jackson, Mary Cross, Sheila Cuddy, 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 Beatrice Upham, Michael Murphy and Patricia Casey** who died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Mgr. Wilfrid Doran, Frs. Michael McKenna, Patrick Taylor, John Kearns, James Francis Ward, Dermot Corcoran, John Baggley, Joseph Lacy, Cornelius Healy, Deacons William Parker and Anthony Hewitt, Sr. Bruna Livieri, and also Ann Mary Newell, Sarah Curtis, Lucia Bianchini, Mary O'Mahoney, Margaret Griffin, Delia Conroy, Maloney Family, Joseph Cleary and Pauline Josephine Ryan. May they rest in peace.

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

**Today is Pentecost Sunday.**

Today is the great Feast of Pentecost when the Coming of the Holy Spirit reversed the curse of Babel and made all peoples able to understand the message of the Gospel. I am hoping that we can reflect that in our 9.00 am Mass by praying together in different languages. We shall also have a "Bring and Share" breakfast/lunch after Mass in the hall.

**The Easter Season, which began on Easter Sunday, ends this evening. It has been a wonderful time in the life of our parish. Thank you to everyone who has helped to make it so special.**

Tomorrow we return to Ordinary Time and the cycle of weekday readings resumes at the 8<sup>th</sup> Week in Year 2.

**Remember, if you have not yet made your Easter Duties you have only until next Sunday to do so.**

**Sacred Heart Youth Group.** There will be the annual outing for young people to the Malvern hills on Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> June. Please speak to Joyce for more information.

**Sacred Heart Parish Day.** Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> July. This looks like being a great day, with games and stalls. There are also some incredible prizes to be won in the raffle, and raffle tickets are on sale at the back of church as you leave today.

**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. You can get it on the Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency website at [training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk](http://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk). Please speak to Onyi, our parish safeguarding rep, if you want more info.

**Trip to Birmingham.** I shall be "installed" as a Canon at St. Chad's Cathedral during the 12.15 pm Mass on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June. The coach will leave here at 8.30 am and return at about 6.00 pm. If you have signed up to go but find that you can't go, please let me know.

**Boars Hill Carmelite Priory.** You may be interested to know that the community of Carmelite friars at Boars Hill has been the subject of a new documentary series for the UK's Channel 5. The programme, called *Trading Places*, follows three young men as they spend a week living alongside the friars, sharing in their daily life of prayer, silence, community, and work. It was filmed at the Priory in October 2025, and it will air on Channel 5 today, Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May, at 9.00 pm.

**Legion of Mary.** A new "Praesidium" has now been established at Our Lady Help of Christians, meeting on Friday evenings, after the 7.00 pm Mass. It is still a small group and they would welcome new members. Just come along and try it.

**Oxford Corpus Christi Procession,** Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> June, at 3.00 pm. Please note the reversal of direction this year. It will begin at Oxford University Catholic Chaplaincy on Rose Place (OC1 1RD) and will conclude at the Oratory Church. See poster at the church porch.

**Tailpiece:** A Parish Priest, with a flair for the dramatic, had the idea one Pentecost Sunday of having a pigeon released from the belfry during his sermon, just at the moment when he said, "Come, Holy Spirit!" Pentecost came, and the sacristan put a pigeon in a bag, went upstairs to the belfry and waited. Unfortunately, the priest went on a bit long in his sermon and then, when he eventually gave the cue, nothing happened. A few seconds later, a voice came from the belfry, "It's just lying here, gasping for air!"

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