



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12th July, 2026

Balfour Road, Blackbird Leys, Oxford, OX4 6BD

Parish Priest: Rev. Canon 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, 12th July <i>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's) 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	Nicky Clarke <i>Private Intention</i> <i>Kathleen McGarry</i> <i>Hugh Allan (Anniversary)</i> <i>The People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 13th July <i>Op. Memorial of St. Henry</i>	<i>(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 9.30 am SJF School Leavers' Mass	<i>John Pill (Anniversary)</i> <i>St. John Fisher School Leavers</i>
Tuesday, 14th July <i>Optional Memorial of St. Camillus de Lellis, Priest</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Agus Alves</i>
Wednesday, 15th July <i>Memorial of St. Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>Kagia's Family</i>
Thursday, 16th July <i>Optional Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel</i>	<i>(1.30 pm Leavers' Mass at Our Lady's School)</i> <i>(5.00 pm Reception of Gerry Doyle at Blessed Dominic Barberi Church)</i> 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Our Lady's School Leavers</i> <i>Jim Maguire</i>
Friday, 17th July <i>Mem. of Bl. John Sugar & Robert Grissold, or St. Kenelm</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(10.30 am Requiem Mass at Bl. Dominic Barberi)</i> <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>James (Gerry) Doyle</i> <i>Francisco's Intentions</i>
Saturday, 18th July	8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>(10.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 3.00 pm Marriage Service 5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday	<i>Dennis McVeigh</i> <i>Marlene and Aldonio</i> <i>Nicky Clarke</i>
Sunday, 19th July <i>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer <i>8.45 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass</i> <i>(9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart)</i> 11.00 am Mass 2.00 pm Baptism <i>(6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)</i>	<i>Private Intention</i> <i>Cecilia Michael</i> <i>Danny Lyons (10th Anniversary)</i> <i>William Gonzalez</i> <i>Edmundo Milagres Albuquerque</i> <i>and Luizinha Dolores Fernandes</i>

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 Church today, especially if you are new to the parish or just visiting.

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)

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>

*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	Eucharistic Ministers		Flowers
	9.00 am	9.00 am	6.00 pm	
This Sunday	Blossom & Priya Chacko	Philomena Doherty & Rolly Esteban	Pawel Drozd & Kim Netto	Priya & Family
Next Sunday	Anyu Elizabeth & Daiva Silva	Josh Peter & Ercia Andrade	John Thomas & Eva Smithson	Priya & Family

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, Rodolfo Melo De Sousa, Dantas Luis Galucho Rosa and Julio Madeira Cabral Soares.

Please pray for James (Gerry) Doyle, Agus Crianto Alves and Josie Griffiths and all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Frs. John Molyneux, Plunkett Shannon, Edmund Whelan, Anthony John Burns, Brian Halton, Arthur Warburton, Philip Cleary, Brendan Carrick and Liam Peter O'Connor, Deacon Brian Cox, and also Hugh McNab Allan, Peter Lynch, John Pill, Catherine Aveyard, James McCormack, Onyema Anyanwu and William Craig. May they rest in peace.

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

Holy Communion under Both Kinds. Before COVID, there was the custom here at Sacred Heart for people to have the opportunity at Mass to receive the Precious Blood from the Chalice as well as the Body of the Lord at Holy Communion. Last week we reintroduced this as an experiment. One person (the priest) gives out the Body of Christ at the front of the church in the centre, and two Eucharistic Ministers, one each side of the priest administer the Chalice. If you wish to receive from the Chalice after you have received the Host, move to one of the Eucharistic Ministers. He or she will offer the Chalice to you with the words, "The Blood of Christ". You reply, "Amen", take the Chalice and carefully take a sip. Then give the Chalice back to the Minister and return to your place in the church.

Sea Sunday. Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There is a second collection at Mass for Stella Maris, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain.

Sacred Heart Parish Day

A big THANK YOU to the many people, wonderfully directed by Jacqui, who gave their time and energy to **our Parish Day** yesterday.

Vocations to the Priesthood. Each Deanery in the Archdiocese is given a month to pray especially intensely for Vocations to the Priesthood. JULY IS OUR MONTH. Please make it your special intention.

Diocesan Prayer for Vocations

Heavenly Father, we ask you to send labourers into your harvest. Inspire, in the hearts of your people, vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. Bless our families with a spirit of generosity, so that those whom you call have the courage to give themselves to your Church in faith. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Forum Meeting. This afternoon, Sunday, 12th July, 4.30 pm, in the parish hall. All invited and welcome.

A Message from the Bishops' Conference.

Act Now: Contact your MP. A Private Members' Bill on assisted suicide – so-called assisted dying – has been reintroduced to the House of Commons. Our clear principled objection to this Bill remains and we renew our call for Catholics and people of goodwill to unite in prayer and compassionate action. Archbishop Richard Moth, president of the Bishops' Conference, explains our opposition to this legislation:

"The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill which aims to legalise assisted suicide has returned to the House of Commons, and Members of Parliament will vote on its Second Reading on 11th September. This bill is wrong in principle. It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. I urge you to write to your Members of Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading."

Our schools reach the end of the academic year this Friday. We keep all the staff and pupils in our prayers, and we thank them for all their hard work and dedication over the last year. We pray also for those pupils and staff who are starting new chapters of their lives in September.

Tailpiece: A priest told his congregation that the church needed money, and he asked them to be generous. As an incentive he said that whoever gave the most money would be able to choose three hymns. After the offertory plates were passed around, the priest glanced down and noticed that someone had put in a wad containing at least £1,000. He was so excited that he immediately shared his joy with the congregation and said he'd like to thank the person personally who had donated such a large amount. A very quiet, elderly, saintly lady in the back of the church shyly raised her hand. The priest asked her to come to the front, so she slowly made her way towards him. The priest thanked her, and asked her to pick her three favourite hymns. Her eyes brightened as she looked over the congregation. She pointed to the three most handsome men in the church and said, "I'll take him and him and him."

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