



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th 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, 19 th July <i>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's 7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer (8.45 am Syro-Malabar Mass at Our Lady's) 9.00 am Mass (11.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) (2.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Nicky Clarke Private Intention Cecilia Michael Danny Lyons (10 th Anniversary) William Gonzalez Edmundo Milagres Albuquerque and Luizinha Dolores Fernandes
Monday, 20 th July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Apollinaris</i>	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer	The People of the Parish
Tuesday, 21 st July <i>Optional Memorial of St. Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest</i>	No Public Mass Today	Fr. John Baggley (JA)
Wednesday, 22 nd July <i>Mem. of St. Mary Magdalene</i>	No Public Mass Today	Camilo and Maria
Thursday, 23 rd July <i>Feast of St. Bridget, Patron of Europe</i>	No Public Mass Today	Fr. Anthony Rohan (JA)
Friday, 24 th July <i>Op. Mem. of St. Sharbel Makhluf</i>	No Public Mass Today	Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 25 th July <i>Feast of St. James, Apostle</i>	No Public Mass this morning (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Nicky Clarke
Sunday, 26 th July <i>Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	7.45 am Office of Readings & Morning Prayer 8.45 am Syro-Malabar Community Mass (9.00 am Mass at Sacred Heart) 11.00 am Mass (6.00 pm Mass at Sacred Heart)	Private Intention Pedro Fernandes Goncalves and Margarida Turquel Jesus Jenelcia Anamaria Andrade Babo (ill) Private Intention

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)

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	Anyu Elizabeth & Daiva Silva	Josh Peter & Ercia Andrade	John Thomas & Eva Smithson	Priya & Family
Next Sunday	Deirdre Wallace & Don	Pat McGroaty & Martin Simmons	Lilian Mwawa & Constantine Renato	Ghie & Rocelle

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, Josie Griffiths, Antonietta Aprea (Salesian Cooperator), and John Batey (former headteacher at Cardinal Newman Middle School) and all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mgr. Peter Joseph Ryall, Canon Laurence Kelly, Frs. Thomas Rock, Anthony Rohan, Albert Leo Kelly, Anthony Owen, Euan Henderson and Joseph Tynan, Deacon Frank Lockett, and also Ellen (Eve) Kelly, John (Danny) Lyons, Margaret McHugh, Noreen Griffin, Valerie Griffiths, Maureen Ann McEneaney, James McVeigh and Patrick Craig. May they rest in peace.

Josie will be received into Our Lady's church at 6.00 pm on Monday, 3rd August, and her funeral will be at 10.00 am on Tuesday, 4th August.

John's funeral Mass will also be on Tuesday, 4th August at 2.00 pm.

Antonietta will be received into Our Lady's church at 6.00 pm, Monday, 10th August, and her funeral will be at 11.00 am, Tuesday, 11th August.

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

Holy Communion under Both Kinds. We have reintroduced the practice of offering the Precious Blood to people coming for Holy Communion, as well as the Body of Christ. 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.

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.

A Message from the Bishops' Conference.

Act Now to prevent the legalising of assisted suicide:

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."



Parish Day Out. On Thursday, 13th August, we are planning an outing by coach to Millets Farm Centre, near Abingdon (10.00 am from Sacred Heart, 10.30 am from Our Lady's, and leave to come back, 4.00 pm). £15 for adults, £5 for children under eleven years old. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult). Millets is a family-oriented farm with plenty to see and do: animal visits, a play-area, places to eat, a farm shop, and more. If you would like to go, places may be limited, so please sign up on the list in the church porch or email Geraldine (olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).



Holiday. I shall be taking a few days' break this week and next, hopefully to re-charge the batteries. There will be no public weekday Mass during that time, but I shall offer Mass each day for the intentions on the list. Next Sunday Fr. Patrick Riordan SJ has agreed to come to celebrate the two Masses here at Sacred Heart.

If you need a priest during that time, please call Canon Mervyn at Corpus Christi (01865 762433, corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk), or the Fathers at St Edmund's (01865 243694, ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).

Tailpiece: A man was thinking about how good his wife was and how fortunate he was to have her. In the happiness of his heart he turned to God and asked, "Lord, why did you make my wife so kind-hearted?" The Lord responded, "So that you could love her, my son." Delighted with this, the man continued, "And why did you make her so beautiful?" "Again, so that you could love her, my son," said the Lord. The man thought about this. Then he said, "I don't mean to seem ungrateful or anything, but ... why did you make her so stupid?" The Lord answered, "So that she could love you, my son."

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