



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

26th 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, 26 th July Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly</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) 6.00 pm Mass	Nicky Clarke Private Intention Pedro Fernandes Goncalves and Margarida Turquel Jesus Jenelcia Anamaria Andrade Babo (ill) Private Intention
Monday, 27 th July <i>Optional Memorial of Blessed Robert Sutton, Martyr</i>	No Public Mass Today	Virginia Philips
Tuesday, 28 th July	No Public Mass Today	Fr. Paul Johnson (JA)
Wednesday, 29 th July <i>Memorial of Ss. Martha, Mary and Lazarus</i>	No Public Mass Today	Fr. Noel Breslin (JA)
Thursday, 30 th July <i>Optional Memorial of St. Peter Chrysologus</i>	No Public Mass Today	Bibiana Hollero
Friday, 31 st July <i>Mem. of St. Ignatius of Loyola</i>	No Public Mass Today	Fr. Simon Hall (JA)
Saturday, 1 st August <i>Memorial of St. Alphonsus Mary de'Ligouri</i>	No Public Mass this morning (11.00 am Baptism at Our Lady's) (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Joao Jaconto Pinto Nicky Clarke
Sunday, 2 nd August Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	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) (1.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Private Intention Angel Antonio and Josefa Antonio Josie Griffiths (Month Mind) Kendrick Onuh John-Paul The People of the Parish

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	Deirdre Wallace & Don	Pat McGroarty & Martin Simmons	Lilian Mwawa & Constantine Renato	Ghie & Rocelle
Next Sunday	Rocelle Galinda & Jocelyn Esteban	Chris Donovan & Ercia Andrade	Anne Marie Sonan & Kim Netto	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 Agus Crianto Alves, Josie Griffiths, Antonietta Aprea, and John Batey (former headteacher at Cardinal Newman Middle School) and all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Frs. Denis O'Shea, Basil Wrighton and Thomas Michael Duffy, Deacon Ernie Titchmarsh, and also Sheila Anne Kelly, Joseph Costa, George Hiran, Padma Don, Maria Mirto, Abie Doherty, Patrick Bailey, Douglas Rothery, Richard Bolton, Jenny Doherty and Bernadette Nolan. 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.

Welcome Fr. Patrick. I am very grateful to Fr. Patrick Riordan SJ who has agreed to come to celebrate the two Masses here at Sacred Heart this weekend. There will be no public weekday Mass this week, but I shall offer Mass each day for the intentions on the list.

If you need a priest during this time, please call St. Edmund's (01865 243694, ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).

Holy Communion under Both Kinds. One person (the priest) will offer 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.

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 walkway, a play-area, places to eat, a farm shop, a garden centre, 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).



Today is the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, to coincide with the Feast of Saints Joachim and Anne, the grandparents of Jesus. This year's theme chosen by Pope Leo is "I will never forget you" (Isaiah 49:15).

Tailpiece: The Pope had just finished a visit to the USA and was being taken in a limousine to the airport. Since he'd never driven a limo, he asked the chauffeur if he could drive for a while. Reluctantly, the chauffeur pulled over and climbed into the back while the Pope took the wheel. The Pope merged onto the highway and accelerated to over 90 mph to see what the limo could do. Suddenly, he noticed a flashing blue light in his side mirror, so he pulled over. The trooper approached the limo, peered in through the windows, then said, "Just a moment please, I need to call in." The trooper called in and explained to the chief that he had a very important person pulled over for speeding. "How do I handle this, chief?" asked the trooper. "Is it the Governor?" asked the chief. "No, this guy is more important than the Governor!" "Is it the President?" gasped the chief. "No! Even more important than that!" "Well, who is it?" screamed the chief. "I don't know, sir," said the trooper, "But he's got the Pope as his chauffeur."

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