



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 16th August, 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, 16th August <i>Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i> 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	Filomeno Martins <i>Private Intention</i> <i>Fernando Neves Liu and Luzia Pereira</i> <i>Paul Watts (4th Anniversary)</i> <i>Maggie Durkin's Intentions</i>
Monday, 17th August	<i>(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i> <i>8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer</i>	<i>Michelle (5th Birthday)</i>
Tuesday, 18th August <i>Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer</i> <i>(9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Claire Watts (Intentions)</i>
Wednesday, 19th August <i>Op. Mem. of St. John Eudes, Priest</i> <i>Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi</i>	No Public Mass Today	<i>The People of the Parish</i>
Thursday, 20th August Memorial of St. Bernard <i>Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi</i>	6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	<i>Paul Chapman (Get Well)</i>
Friday, 21st August Memorial of St. Pius X, Pope <i>Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer</i> <i>(7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Elvina D'Souza</i>
Saturday, 22nd August Memorial of the Queenship of Our Lady <i>Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi</i>	<i>8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer</i> <i>(11.00 am Nuptial Mass at Our Lady's)</i> <i>(5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)</i>	<i>Carla and Francisco</i> <i>Kathleen and Mick Mullagh</i>
Sunday, 23rd August <i>Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Diocesan Novena to Bl. Dominic Barberi</i>	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	<i>Private Intention</i> <i>Jaime Luz Pires and Maria Da Costa Freitas</i> <i>Claire French</i> <i>John Barrett</i>
Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm. (And 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 visiting or on holiday. Today we are celebrating the transferred Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Please note: because of the marriage of Carla and Francesco at Our Lady's next Saturday there will be no Mass or Confessions here at Sacred Heart that morning

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	Don & Anyu Elizabeth	Josh Peter & Martin Simmons	John Thomas & Constantine Renato	Jacqui Halliday
Next Sunday	Daiva Silva & Deirdre Wallace	Pat McGroarty & Chris Donovan	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa & Kim Netto	Jocelyn Esteban

Please pray for the sick, especially people we know: Bridie Barry, 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, Julio Madeira Cabral Soares, and Thomas Durkin.

Please pray for Antonietta Aprea, Andrew Scully, Florence McCormack, Sr. Hanora O'Brien and all those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: HE Bernard William Cardinal Griffin, Frs. Kevin Keany, Keith Enston, Terence Smith, Deacon Douglas Taylor, and also Margaret Gleeson, Brenda Browning, Paul Watts, Michael Keane, Joe Barrett, Annie Ryan, Gabrielle, Crawforth, John Joseph Kenny and Seamus Whelan. May they rest in peace.

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

Annual Diocesan Novena to pray for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi, 18th August, until his feast day on 26th August. Blessed Dominic arrived in the Archdiocese from Italy in February, 1842. He was known for holiness of life and for his love for the poor. He received many people into the Catholic Church, the most famous being St John Henry Newman in October 1845.

Novena Prayer for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi

O God, who so lovingly raised Blessed Dominic to the heights of holiness, learning and apostolic zeal and made him a powerful minister of your mercy, listen to our humble request. We pray that you will in your goodness, grant a miracle through the intercession of Blessed Dominic, so that the Church may further honour him on earth and that many more people will come to know and invoke the help of this faithful servant of the Church.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Mary, Mother of Holy Hope, Pray for Us.

Saint John Henry Newman, Pray for Us.

Blessed Dominic Barberi, Pray for Us.

Citizens UK is an organisation that deals with the social welfare of local people. We should like to launch a group in this deanery and we hope to have 2-3 volunteers from each parish to kickstart this project. If you would like to help please come and see me. Thank you.

Kenelm Youth Trust. It is not too late for those aged 18-25 to apply to join the Kenelm Youth Trust Mission Team this year. Whether you are thinking about deferring university, taking a gap year, reconsidering your options after results day, or simply looking for an unforgettable year before moving on to university or employment, joining the Diocesan Mission Team could be the perfect opportunity. They are still accepting applications for this year, so get in touch as soon as possible. Contact Hannah Smith: hannah.smith@kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk 01538 703224.

Assisted Suicide Bill. On Friday, 11th September the House of Commons will debate and vote on a Bill to legalise assisted suicide. We believe this is wrong for many reasons. Please contact your MP, urging him/her to attend the debate and vote against the Bill.

The Season of Creation 2026: "Make Living Water Flow". Each year from 1st September to 4th October, the Christian family unites for this worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home. This year, the theme for the Season is "Living Water", from Ezekiel 47:1-12, which portrays God's life-giving water flowing from the temple of God.

News for Young Parishioners. On Saturday, 26th September, the Kenelm Youth Trust will be taking part in a Pilgrimage Walk from St Michael's Church in Penn, Wolverhampton, to St Francis of Assisi Church, Shelfield, Walsall. The Walk is around a 12-mile route between two diocesan shrines for the Jubilee of St Francis of Assisi. All are welcome to join. Please ask Joyce for more details.

Early notice: a Mass for the Sick, with the Sacrament of Anointing, will be celebrated here on Saturday, 17th October, at 1.00 pm. If you know of anyone who is sick and/or housebound who might like to attend if they are given help with transport, please tell them about it, and let me know about them.

Tailpiece: A surgeon, a civil engineer, and a computer scientist were arguing about which of their three professions was the oldest. The surgeon remarked, 'Well, in the Bible it says that God created Eve from a rib taken from Adam. This clearly required surgery, so I can rightly claim that mine is the oldest profession.' The civil engineer said, 'But even earlier in the book of Genesis, it states that God created the heavens and the earth by bringing order to chaos. This was the first application of civil engineering. Therefore, doctor, you are wrong; mine is the oldest profession.' The computer scientist leaned back, smiled and said, 'Ah, but who do you think created the chaos?'

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