



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd 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, 2 nd August <i>Eighteenth 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) (1.00 pm Baptism at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Mass	Nicky Clarke Private Intention Angel Antonio and Josefa Antonio Josie Griffiths (Month Mind) Kendrick Onuh John-Paul The People of the Paris
Monday, 3 rd August	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (6.00 pm Reception of Josie Griffiths at Our Lady's)	Cornelia Salon (Birthday)
Tuesday, 4 th August Memorial of St. John Mary Vianney, Priest	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (10.00 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (2.00 pm Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)	Josie Griffiths John Batey
Wednesday, 5 th August Op. Mem. of the Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major	No Public Mass Today	In Thanksgiving, and for Clare and Robert Curtis
Thursday, 6 th August <i>Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Brian Noble
Friday, 7 th August Optional Memorial of St. Sixtus II & Companions, or of St. Cajetan	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Abhimanyu Joshi (Anniversary)
Saturday, 8 th August Memorial of St. Dominic, Priest	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Daiva & Gregorio (Wedding Anniv.) Nicky Clarke (Birthday)
Sunday, 9 th August <i>Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	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	Private Intention Cecilia Michael The People of the Parish Rosie Dell Benefactors of the Johnson Association

Confessions: Thursday, 6.00 – 6.45 pm and Saturday, 10.30 – 11.30 am.). (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 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	Rocelle Galinda & Jocelyn Esteban	Chris Donovan & Ercia Andrade	Anne Marie Sonan & Kim Netto	Ghie & Rocelle
Next Sunday	Chacko & Blossom	Phil Doherty & Rolly Esteban	Pawel Drozd & Eva Smithson	Jacqui Halliday

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 (Salesian Cooperator), John Batey (former headteacher at Cardinal Newman Middle School), Andrew Scully, Sr. Hanora O'Brien and all those who have died recently, and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time: Frs. David Ford, Cuthbert Brown and Francis Gwinnett, Deacon John Leach, and also Nora Griffin, John (Sean) O'Meara, Ursula Teresa Lillis, John Hennigan, Mrs Doreen Reilly, Tony Reilly, Brian Nolan, Moran Family and Jimmy Doyle. 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 in Our Lady's church.
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.

This Friday is the First of the Month. We shall say the Novena Prayers to the Sacred Heart during Exposition before Mass on Thursday evening, and offer to God the intentions that have been placed in the basket.

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. The river grows deeper and deeper, restoring barren land, reviving waters, and sustaining flourishing ecosystems.

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.

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."

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, whether a young adult, a youth group or a family, we would love to welcome you. Please let Joyce know if you are interested.



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).



Tailpiece: A man had a habit of grumbling at the food that was put in front of him at family meals. Then he would lead the family in praying the Grace Before Meals. One day his little girl asked, "Daddy, does God hear us when we pray?" "Of course," he replied. "He hears us every time we pray." She thought about this, and then asked, "Does he hear everything we say the rest of the time?" "Yes, dear, every word," he told her. She thought about it a bit more and then asked, "Then which one does God believe?"

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