



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9th 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, 9 th August Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	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 Cecilia Michael The People of the Parish Rosie Dell Benefactors of the Johnson Assoc.
Monday, 10 th August Feast of St. Lawrence, Deacon, Martyr	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (12.00 noon Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) (6.00 pm Reception of Antonietta Aprea at Our Lady's)	Gilbeberto Madeira and Mario Soares Madeira Agus Crianto Alves
Tuesday, 11 th August Memorial of St. Clare	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (11.00 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)	Antonietta Aprea
Wednesday, 12 th August Optional Memorial of St. Jane Frances de Chantal	(1.00 pm Nuptial Mass at Our Lady's)	Aida Guimarraes and Olivio Assuncao
Thursday, 13 th August Op. Mem. of Bl. William Freeman, or St. Pontian & St. Hippolytus	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Michael Cullen (Birthday)
Friday, 14 th August Memorial of St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Herminah Madeira and Martinah Madeira
Saturday, 15 th August	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Special Intention (Daiva) Filomeno Martins
Sunday, 16 th August Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	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	Private Intention Fernando Neves Liu and Luzia Pereira Paul Watts (4 th Anniversary) The People of the Parish

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.

Next Sunday is the transferred Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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	Chacko & Blossom	Phil Doherty & Rolly Esteban	Pawel Drozd & Eva Smithson	Jacqui Halliday
Next Sunday	Don & Anyu Elizabeth	Josh Peter & Martin Simmons	John Thomas & Constantine Renato	Jacqui Halliday

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 Agus Crianto Alves, Josie Griffiths, Antonietta Aprea, John Batey, Andrew Scully, Sr. Hanora O'Brien and all those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Frs. Denis Manion, Thomas Dennison and Michael Francis McGrath, and also Bridget (Bridie) Keane, Eric Charles Williams and Donna Bernadette Vaughan. May they rest in peace.

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

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.

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 to Millett's Farm: this Thursday. The coach is now about full. Thank you to those who have signed up. If you find you can't come with us, please let me know so that I can offer your place to someone else. The coach will leave from Sacred Heart at 10.00 am (10.30 am from Our Lady's),

and leave to come back at 4.00 pm. £15 for adults, £5 for children under eleven years old. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. If you have questions or need to change your arrangements, please email Geraldine (olhoc.oxford@rcaob.org.uk).



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.

Kenelm Youth Trust. With A-Level Results Day fast approaching, many young people will be considering their next steps and thinking about what the future holds. If you are among them, remember 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. If you are looking for a year that will inspire, challenge and equip you for the future, the KYT would love to hear from you. 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.

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.

The Summer holidays are here. Whatever your plans may be, I hope you have a restful time and safe journeys. Whilst away, don't forget to find the nearest Catholic church for Sunday Mass – just because you are on holiday doesn't mean the obligation to attend Mass is on holiday as well.

Tailpiece: One day a zoo-keeper was passing the monkey enclosure when to his surprise he noticed that the gorilla was sitting there, reading. In fact, he was studying two books -- the Bible, and Darwin's 'Origin of Species'. Amazed, the zoo-keeper blurted out: "What on earth are you doing, reading those books?" The gorilla put down the books, looked at him over his reading glasses, and spoke. "It's simple," he said. "I am trying to answer the question, am I my brother's keeper or my keeper's brother."

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