



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

13th September, 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, 13 th September Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Education Day</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	Lucy D'Souza Private Intention Tony Donovan Pat Atherton (Intentions) Adelaide Saldanha Bareto
Monday, 14 th September Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (6.00 pm Reception of Andrew Scully at Our Lady's)	Lulo Vilanova Andrade
Tuesday, 15 th September <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's) (12.00 noon Requiem Mass at Our Lady's)	The People of the Parish Andrew Scully
Wednesday, 16 th September <i>Memorial of St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian</i>	No Public Mass Today	Gerry Doyle
Thursday, 17 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Robert Bellarmine, or of St. Hildegard of Bingen</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (10.30 am Requiem Mass at Our Lady's) 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	Joseph White Stephen Dawson (Intentions)
Friday, 18 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	Josie Griffiths
Saturday, 19 th September <i>Optional Memorial of St. Theodore of Canterbury, or of St. Januarius</i>	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 10.00 am Mass (5.30 pm Vigil Mass for Sunday at Our Lady's)	Cecilia Michael Neil Murphy
Sunday, 20 th September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Evangelii Gaudium Day</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) 6.00 pm Mass	Private Intention Annie O'Neil The People of the Parish Carlos Salsinha
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 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)

Education Sunday. Today is a day of special prayer for our schools and colleges. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Education Service.

*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	Daiva Silva & Blossom	Josh Peter & Martin Simmons	John Thomas & Kim Netto	
Next Sunday	Rocelle Galinda & Priya Chacka	Pat McGroarty & Chris Donovan	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa & Kim Netto	

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, Thomas Durkin and Bogumila (Gina) Dybalski.

Please pray for Andrew Scully, Florence McCormack, Joseph White, Terence Jackson, Jo Barnacle and all those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Archbishop George Patrick Dwyer, Canon Peter McKenna, Frs. Guy Colman, Richard Dinnis, Patrick Meagher, William Alfred Oddie, Alan Leslie Holtham and Peter Lees, and also Baby Oliver Michael Knott, Antonio Abreu, Daniel Lyons, Archie McKenzie Allen, Brian Peter Harper, Mary Manning and Andrew McGregor. May they rest in peace.

Education Sunday: An Invitation from Archbishop Bernard Longley

Today we give thanks for the gift of Catholic education. Our schools have a mission to form Christ-centred pilgrims of hope, with kind hearts, questioning minds, a thirst for knowledge and a hunger for justice.

There is a real need for more foundation directors and governors to help guide our schools and keep Christ at the heart of their mission. This is not simply an administrative role; it is a true vocation and a practical way to serve Christ and His Church.

If you are a practising Catholic, committed to our mission, and willing to share your time, skills and faith, you can make a lasting difference for thousands of children and young people. No prior experience is required, as full training and support are provided. God's unconditional love and readiness to forgive our sins remind us that service is not always easy, but it is always fruitful when rooted in love. Please speak to your parish priest or visit the Diocesan Education Service website for further details and to complete an online application form: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/news/could-you-be-a-foundation-governor-or-director-at-your-local-catholic-school> and <https://www.bdes.org.uk/governor-online-application-forms.html>.

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

Mass for the Sick, with the Sacrament of Anointing, 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.

Newman Night Walk, from Oxford to Littlemore, on Thursday, 8th October, commemorating the arrival of Bl. Dominic Barberi at the College in Littlemore on 8th October, 1845, and the anniversary of the reception of St. John Henry Newman into the Catholic Church. Starts at the Oratory, 25 Woodstock Road at 7.15 pm, with a candle light procession at 9.00 pm from 7 Courtland Rd, Rose Hill. There will be Exposition from 9.00 pm at Bl. Dominic's.

Baby John Kusumalayam and Suvarna Kusumalayam will be leaving us at the end of this month when they move to India. They have both been active and faithful members of our community and we shall miss them. May God bless them and their family.

Harvest Thanksgiving. Sunday, 27th September, is a day of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. If you have any fruit and/or veg that you can bring to decorate the altar it would be welcome. After the morning Mass we shall have a shared breakfast/lunch in the hall. Please bring something to share and enjoy.

The Sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Richard will be coming to Sacred Heart on Saturday, 31st October. If you would like to be prepared for Confirmation, please fill in an application form from the back of church and return it to me by next Sunday. Lessons will be on Thursday afternoons at 4.30 pm, starting on 24th September.

Assisted Suicide Bill. Thank you to everyone who contacted their MP asking them to vote against this Bill.

"The Eucharistic Miracles of the World." From Tuesday, 6th October – Sunday, 11th October, 10.00 am – 5.00 pm, in the Don Bosco Centre at Our Lady's church, we shall have an exhibition, assembled by St. Carlo Acutis, to encourage devotion to the Blessed Sacrament. Entry free, and all welcome. If you can volunteer to welcome visitors, please let me know.

Tailpiece: One Sunday morning, a mother went in to wake her son and tell him it was time to get ready for Mass, to which he replied, "I'm not going today." "Why not?" she asked. "I'll give you three good reasons," he said. "One, no one there likes me. Two, they never pay any attention to me. Three, I'm nice and warm in bed and the church is always cold." His mother replied, "And I'll give you three good reasons why you SHOULD go. One, it's Sunday and we should all give glory and thanks to God. Two, you're 54 years old. And three, you're the parish priest!"

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