



Sacred Heart Church, Oxford

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

20th 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, 20 th September Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Evangelii Gaudium 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	Neil Murphy Private Intention Annie O'Neil The People of the Parish Liu Moe Tjap
Monday, 21 st September Feast of St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist	(7.00 am Mass at Our Lady's) 8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer	Rosario Frayna (Anniv.), and Miguel and Mikee Frayna (Thanksgiving)
Tuesday, 22 nd September	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (9.15 am Mass at Our Lady's)	Shaheen Joshi (In Thanksgiving)
Wednesday, 23 rd September <i>Mem. of St. Pio of Pietrelcina ("Padre Pio")</i>	No Public Mass Today	Eileen Perkins
Thursday, 24 th September Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham	(2.30 pm Mass at Elmthorpe Convent) 6.00 pm Exposition and Benediction 7.00 pm Mass	The Salesian Cooperators John McVeigh
Friday, 25 th September	8.00 am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer (7.00 pm Mass at Our Lady's)	The Souls in Purgatory
Saturday, 26 th September <i>Op. Memorial of Ss. Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs</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)	James McVeigh Antonieta Aprea
Sunday, 27 th September Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Day of Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Harvest</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 Rolando Balbag John Batey 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 visiting.

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday. Today is the day in the Church's calendar when we are encouraged to pray for the work of evangelisation and especially for those we know who are distant from the life of faith. There will be a second collection at Masses today which helps to fund the Church's national work of evangelisation.

Harvest Thanksgiving. Next 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.

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 & Priya Chacka	Pat McGroarty & Chris Donovan	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa & Kim Netto	Priya and Family
Next Sunday	Deirdre Wallace & Anyu Elizabeth	Rolly Esteban & Chris Donovan	Lilian Tatenda Mwawa & AN Other	Priya and Family

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, Joseph White, Terence Jackson, Margaret Dalton and all those who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Mgr. Michael McTernan, Canons David Mellor, Albert JJ Adams and Peter Reilly, Frs. John David Steward, John Roddy, Bernard McAllister, Peter Lloyd, John Bale, Gordon Bancks and Paul Orchard, Deacon Michael McCormack, and also Thomas Bolger, James McVeigh and Rebecca Clarke. May they rest in peace.

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.

Deanery Visitation Feedback. As part of a visitation to the North Oxford Deanery, Bishop Richard came to our parish last February. On Tuesday, 6th October, Archbishop Bernard, Bishop Richard and Canon Jonathan Veasey (the Vicar General) will come for the Closing Meeting. It will be at Blessed Dominic Barberi Church, Littlemore, starting with Evening Prayer at 7.00 pm, followed by the feedback in the parish hall. All welcome.

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.

New rotas available for readers, Eucharistic Ministers, church cleaners and flower arrangers. Thank you very much if you are a reader or a Eucharistic Minister, or if you clean the church or decorate it with flowers. These ministries are very precious for our community and help us in our worship of God. There are new rotas pinned on the notice board and you can also get copies from me. If you would like to join the teams who do these things, please come and see me.

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 as soon as possible – today, if you can! Lessons will begin this Thursday afternoon at 4.30 pm, in the parish hall.

“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 is free, and all are welcome. We need some volunteer welcomers (it's not strenuous – just show a friendly smile). If you can give an hour or two for this, please let me know.

Parish Finance Committee meeting. The next meeting will be on Sunday, 4th October, 4.00 pm in the parish hall.

Kenelm Youth Trust - Programme Leader Vacancies. KYT are seeking enthusiastic and committed individuals to join their team as Programme Leaders. These roles involve delivering engaging retreat and outdoor learning programmes for children and young people. If you are passionate about youth ministry, education, and helping young people grow in faith and confidence, they would love to hear from you. For full details and to apply, please visit: www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/kenelmvacancies

Tailpiece: A woman who had just had twins, a boy and a girl, was in a car accident and she and her husband both fell into a deep coma. Asleep for several months, when she woke up she frantically asked the doctor about her babies. The doctor replied “It's alright, they're fine. Your brother has been looking after them and he arranged for them to be Baptised.” The woman thought to herself, “No, not my brother... he's an idiot!” She asked the doctor, “Well, what's the girl's name?” “Denise,” replied the doctor. “Wow,” she said, “That's actually a good name, I like it! What's the boy's name?” “Denephew.”

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