



**CORPUS CHRISTI, ST. ALPHONSUS AND  
ST. MARGARET CATHOLIC CHURCH  
OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WHEATLEY**



[www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk](http://www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk)  
Birmingham Roman Catholic diocesan trustees, Registered Charity No. 234216

**Corpus Christi Church,  
Margaret Road, Headington, OX3 8AJ**

**Our Lady of Lourdes Church,  
Crown Road, Wheatley, OX33 1UL**

**Parish Priest: The Rev. Canon Mervyn Tower, The Presbytery,  
88 Wharton Road, Headington, Oxford, OX3 8AJ.**

**T: 01865 762433; Email: catholicheadington@gmail.com**

**Deacon The Rev. Michael Walsh; Assistant Priest The Rev. Anthony de Vere**

**Parish schools St Joseph's Primary School. T: 01865 763357**

**St Gregory the Great Secondary School. T: 01865 749933**

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 The Feast of the Holy Family**

**Saturday Our Lady of Lourdes 6.00 pm**

**Sunday Corpus Christi 9.00 am Faith & Hope Intention**

**Corpus Christi 11.00 am Goncalves, Lobato & Santos families**

**4.00pm Baptisms**

**6.30 pm Thanksgiving: University students**

**Feast/Intention**

**Corpus  
Christi**

**The  
Priory**

**Weekday Masses; Cycle: Christmas Season; Breviary Week 1**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 10.00 am Mary the Mother of God. Mary Dore 6.30 pm**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 9.15 am Sts. Basil the Gt. & Gregory Nazianzen. Tony & Christina O'Grady 6.30 pm**

**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 9.00 am Bridie O'Grady 6.30 pm**

**Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> No morning Mass 6.30 pm**

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> 9.00 am Adela Basbars 6.30 pm**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> 10.00 am Delfin Tenorto**

**Next Sunday: Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord**

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Lourdes 6.00 pm For the People of the Parish**

**Corpus Christi 9.00 am Frank Coffey**

**Corpus Christi 11.00 am Anne Coyne**

**Corpus Christi 6.30 pm**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions): Saturday 10.30 to 11.00 am or any time at call.**

**Baptisms by appointment, normally first Sunday of the month at 12.30 pm.**

**Marriages normally require six months' notice.**

## Scripture Reflection

The Holy Family act 'according to the Law of Moses' (mentioned three times) in taking the baby Jesus to be presented in the Temple. The difference from other families is that Simeon & Anna recognize him as the Messiah (Gospel: Luke 2:22-40). At the beginning of the story of salvation God tells Abram that he will have countless descendants through his legitimate heir Isaac (First Reading: Genesis 15:1-6;21:1-3). Abram trusts the Lord as is emphasized in the Letter to the Hebrews (Second Reading:Hebrews 11.8.11-12.17-19).

**Responsorial Psalm meditation:** 'Give thanks to the Lord, tell his name, make known his deeds among all the peoples.' (Psalm 104/105:1).

You may like to say this as a meditation on your Rosary.

### Scripture Readings for the week ahead

Monday	Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:16-21
Tuesday	1 John 2:22-28; John 1:19-28
Wednesday	1 John 2:29-3:6; John 1:29-34
Thursday	1 John 3:7-10; John 1:35-42
Friday	1 John 3:11-21; John 1:43-51
Saturday	1 John 5:5-13; Mark 1:6-11 or Luke 3:23-38

**A Blessed and Holy Christmas and Christmas Feasts to you all. May the Lord be born again in our hearts that we may feel and spread his peace and joy. Fr. Mervyn**

## PARISH NOTICES

**Catholic Quiz:** Last week's answer: Melchior, Caspar and Belshazzar. This week's question: 'In which Cathedral is the shrine of the Wise Men?'

**Please check each week in the Newsletter whether or not there is Mass at the Priory.**

**Thank you for all your cards, presents and offerings. It is most generous of you. A happy New Year full of the blessings of the Lord. Fr. Mervyn**

**Please park legally in the streets around the Church. We have had some complaints recently from our neighbours.**

**Homeless in Winter: The Gatehouse** are appealing for hats, scarves, gloves, socks, vests and women's pants. Donations can be placed in the box under the table at the back of Church. Unfortunately owing to storage limitations the Gatehouse cannot accept any larger items.

[www.virc](http://www.virc) is a website that has the Sunday Scripture Readings in several European languages with a nice little meditation on the Readings.

**Please ensure that your mobile phones are switched off during Mass. They can be a great distraction.**

**Children's Liturgy at the 11.00am Mass:** we need more volunteers to help run this. No special training is required – just a willingness to help. Please see Ruth Kennell or Fr. Mervyn if you are willing. The Children's Liturgy began on the first Sunday after the Summer break.

**Soup Link provides soup for homeless people at Gatehouse in the winter months.** If you are over 25 and could make 4 litres of soup before January 5<sup>th</sup> for this excellent cause, please contact Monika Blackwell – 07880 797009, email [mdblackwell@hotmail.com](mailto:mdblackwell@hotmail.com) Containers and instructions provided.

**World Meeting of Families: 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> August 2018 in Dublin:** if any family would like to go to this event, would they please see Fr. Mervyn for more details.

**Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – August 21<sup>st</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> 2018,** 5 nights in Bethlehem and 3 nights in Tiberius: 4-star hotels, full board, full programme with Mass every day in different Holy Places Cost £1,463. This is a very good price for this full package. We work with local Palestinian Christians for this pilgrimage. Details on sheets at the back of the Churches. Please write your name on the separate sheet if you are interested and take a booking form to be sent directly to Tangney with the £300 deposit.

**Eucharistic Congress ‘Adoremus’ in Liverpool: 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> September 2018.** This is a national event. If you would like to go to it please see Fr. Mervyn for more details.

**The Church Committees respectfully request all tax payers in the Parish if they would sign Gift Aid forms.** This means we receive 25% extra cash from the government at no extra cost to those who gift aid. Gift Aid donators do not have to give any details of their income/accounts etc. – merely sign a form to state they pay tax. It is so simple.

**Sacramental Preparation for children:** would you kindly fill in the registration forms for your child/children if they are to receive the Sacraments of Initiation this next year at Corpus Christi. Normally children in Year 6 receive Confirmation and children in Year 3 the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. Bishop Kenney will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at 6.30pm on Saturday May 12<sup>th</sup> 2018 and First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup> 2018.

**Thursday Lunch Club** would appreciate some raffle prizes – chocolates are well received! Gifts can be left in sacristy labelled TLC. Many thanks for all your support.

**Parish Hall:** if anyone would like to book the Parish Hall, the contact for bookings is Peter Selwood in the Parish Office on 01865 762433 on Monday or Wednesday morning or email any time on [catholicheadington@gmail.com](mailto:catholicheadington@gmail.com).

**More Readers** for the 6.30pm Sunday Mass: if anyone would be willing to be involved in this important ministry for the Parish, would he/she please contact Zenobia [zenobiacarmel@gmail.com](mailto:zenobiacarmel@gmail.com) or Fr. Mervyn.

If you would like to look at some photos of the pilgrimage of the Venerable English College to Turkey, then please go to [vecrome.org/events](http://vecrome.org/events)

**Catholic Schools:** Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for ‘Catholic Education’ in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

**There is tea and coffee** every other week after the 9.00 am Mass and every week after the 6.00 pm Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes and after the 11.00am and 6.30 pm Mass at Corpus Christi. All are welcome.

**Offertories : 24<sup>th</sup> December £529.80 Gift Aid £188.25**

**Please pray for**

The sick and the housebound: Archie Allen, Carol Ayrton, Fr. John Baggley, Patricia Barfield, Margaret Bond, Rita Booker, Christopher Browne, Pedro Busette, John Claydon, Nicholas Coote, June Dewhurst, David Diggins, Michael Dolan, Maureen Felix, Philomena Garvey, Dominic Gondreau, Yvonne Goonesekara, Mario Kim (Fr Paul Kim's father), Joan Knatt, Rene Hilland, Theresa Johnson, Cynthia & Colville Lobendhan, Sandra Lockyer, Victoria Maceda, Carmel McGarry, R.J. Matava, Pru Murray, Averil Nathaniels, Ameia Padua, Celine Peiris, Peter Perera, Alba Thorning, Jack Tilley, Ruth Tilley, Arthur Van Cuylenburg, Aileen Vangramberg, Diana Walden, Mary Wallace, Pat Walsh, Liz Ward, Louise Williams. Please pray for Caleb Lewis, John Mongan, Gerard Brady, Vincent Jambrone and for all who have recently died.

**Prayer for the Preparation of Mass**

**God our Father you call us to gather for this Sunday Mass.**

**Help us to draw strength from the Holy Scriptures and from the Holy Eucharist, so that we deepen our love for you.**

**May we be enlivened by the Holy Spirit to mirror the words and actions of your Son Jesus Christ**

**and become more clearly your instruments of mercy to others.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Parish Team Members**

**Parish Safeguarding: Kate Gills**

**Gift Aid: Pat Warnock**

**Health and Safety: John Kelly**

**Eucharistic Ministers Co-ordinators:**

**Finance Committee: Chris Barrie**

**Freda (Wheatley); Another (Corpus Christi)**

**Parish Administrator: Peter Selwood**

**Readers at Corpus Christi: Zenobia**

**Parish Secretary: Freda Duckmanton**

**Readers at Wheatley: Marc Lafferty**

**Altar Servers: Chris Barrie**

**Music: 9.00 am Kate; 11.00 Leo & Randy 6.30 pm  
Clare**

**Parish Hall: Peter Selwood**

**Mosaic: Francesco**

**Lunch Club: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, Anna  
and Richard Brooke 01865 760773**