



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



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

Parish schools St Joseph's Primary School. T: 01865 763357
St Gregory the Great Secondary School. T: 01865 749933

Sunday 23rd December 2018 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday	Our Lady of Lourdes	6.00 pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday	Corpus Christi	9.00 am	Catherine Sothern
	Corpus Christi	11.00 am	Olive & Mathew Landy, Anthony Landy
		6.30 pm	
	Feast/Intention	Corpus Christi	The Priory

Weekday Masses; Cycle C: Breviary Week 4

CHRISTMAS EVE

Monday 24th 10.15am (at St. Luke's)

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

6.00pm (preceded by the Children's Choir carols) FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS

11.30pm VIGIL CAROL SERVICE FOLLOWED BY MIDNIGHT MASS

TUESDAY 25th 9.00am
11.00am
(10.00am Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, Wheatley)

Wednesday 26 th	10.00am St. Stephen. Souls in Purgatory	6.30pm
Thursday 27 th	No Morning Mass St. John the Evangelist	6.30pm
Friday 28 th	10.00am Holy Innocents. Souls of Domingos & Saldanha Families	6.30pm
Saturday 29 th	10.00am St. Thomas Becket	

Feast of the Holy Family of Nazareth

29th Our Lady of Lourdes 6.00 pm

Sunday 30 th	Corpus Christi	9.00 am
	Corpus Christi	11.00 am
	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 Scripture Readings today always focus on Mary as she prepares to give birth to the Messiah. Micah consistently castigates the leaders in the 7th century before Christ for not looking after the poor. He looks forward to ultimate righteous king who comes from Bethlehem because he is a descendant of King David (First Reading: Micah 5:1-4). After the Annunciation, Mary goes quickly to look after her cousin Elizabeth who, filled with the Spirit, greets her (Gospel: Luke 1:39-45). Hebrews contrasts the former offerings of the Temple – the sacrifices – with the obedience of Christ (Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10).

Responsorial Psalm meditation: 'O Lord rouse up your might, O Lord, come to our help.' (Ps 79/80:2)
You may like to say this as a meditation on your Rosary.

Scripture Readings for the week ahead

Monday	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Luke 1:67-79
Tuesday	Isaiah 9:1-7, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14 Isiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18
Wednesday	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22
Thursday	1 John 1:1-4; John 20:2-8
Friday	1 John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 2:13-18
Saturday	Colossians 1:24-29; Luke 22:24-30

PARISH NOTICES

May the love, peace and joy of the newborn Saviour be with you and your families this Christmas and throughout 2019. Fr. Mervyn

The collections on Christmas Eve/Day will be the traditional offerings for the Parish Priest.

Catholic Quiz: Last week's answer: Matthew does not tell us but it is clearly before the death of Herod the Great. This week's question: When does the Christmas season end?

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

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

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

If anyone, or you know of anyone who is thinking about becoming a Catholic please see Fr. Mervyn.

Gift Aid: would you please consider – if you are a tax payer – signing the Gift Aid form and handing it in to the Parish.

The contactless machine takes donations of £2.00, £5.00 and £10.00. It is an easy way to donate to the Parish if you would like to use it.

Action by Christians Against Torture (ACAT) Christmas Greetings Campaign 2018. This Christmas would you like to send a message of hope to prisoners around the world? ACAT provide a list of individuals incarcerated around the world for belonging to human rights organisations, for practising their faith or for taking part in peaceful protest. They also campaign for prisoners on death row. Please take details provided at

the back of the church and read the guidance on what to send, what to write and what not to write on your card. If everyone in the parish could write to one prisoner that would be amazing! For more information on ACAT go to: www.acatuk.org.uk

Parish Website: please send anything of interest to the Parish to the address under Parish News on the website. Please have a look at what is already there, including Sr. Mary Anne's work about the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Saint Aubin.

CAFOD/Live Simply Christmas: It's not too late to write your 'simpler Christmas' promise on a post it and stick it on the Christmas tree in the lobby.

Toys: A big thank you to the Salvation Army for all the lovely toys given to local children in need – see picture on the board and on the website.

Homeless Appeal: This Christmas we are collecting donations for 2 charities which work with the homeless of Oxford. **New items:** men's underwear, socks, gloves (fleece/sturdy gloves) deodorants, razors, shaving cream, shampoo and shower gel. All donations go to the Oxford Gatehouse charity and the Oxford Winter Night Shelter. For more information see: <https://oxfordgatehouse.org> and <https://www.ownsoxford.org.uk>

£70 has been donated from the **9am Mass Coffee takings** to each of CAFOD and The Friends of the Holy Land.

Please remember people in need in Oxfordshire and bring a donation if possible for the Foodbank box at the back of the Churches.

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School: require a new Deputy Headteacher. Please see notice at back of Church.

Christmas CD of Corpus Christi Children's Choir: this sold out like hot cakes! There is an extract on the Parish website and on you tube (corpuschristichildrenschoir witney) Thank you to Lizel and all the children for their huge effort in producing this fine CD!

Catholic Bibles: there are many versions in English. Of these, the RSV is the most accurate. The NRSV is gender inclusive but unfortunately is often not so faithful to the original languages. The NJB is similarly not so accurate. But the most important issue is that we have a Catholic Bible at home This is not being 'sectarian' but acknowledging the correct text of the Catholic Church which defined (de fide definita) at the Council of Trent the number of 46 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament.

Children's safety: the Parish Council is concerned that for their safety children are not allowed to run freely around during Mass. Please also be careful about children going outside the Church and Hall and running into the road.

Journey in Faith: if anyone would like to know more about the Church or is thinking of becoming a Catholic, then please contact Fr. Mervyn.

Confirmation June 1st 2019: if your child is in Year 6 then would you please complete the registration form for Confirmation. If anyone else needs to be Confirmed then would he/she also fill in a form. Confirmation is not an optional Sacrament - it is required to be a full member of the Church. Forms for registration for **First Holy Communion** (Year 3 children or above) are also available. First Holy Communion will be on Sunday June 16th 2019.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: I have arranged a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land for September 3rd – 11th 2019. It will officially be a Diocesan pilgrimage and Bishop Robert Byrne will be coming. But we could have a substantial number from Corpus Christi and Oxford if we start to book early enough. The itinerary and price are the same as last year: all inclusive for £1496.00 (+ £355 for single room). This is a very good price for 5 nights in Bethlehem and 3 nights in Tiberius. Posters and booking forms are at the entrance to the Churches. Join us before you are too old or dead for the experience of a life-time!!

House/cleaner/lauderer required: 8 hours a week for the Presbytery and Parish Hall. Please see Peter Selwood or Fr. Mervyn for rates of pay, terms and conditions.

Data Protection: Would you please inform us if you do not wish your data that we have collected through Census Forms or other means to be used to contact you. It is now a requirement that everyone whose name is

on the parish sick list actively agrees that it is there. Would you please help to ensure that a relative/friend on the list is informed about this.

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.

Thursday Lunch Club would welcome prizes for the Christmas Raffle. Your gifts can be left in the sacristy after Mass. Thank you for your continued support.

Sub tuum praesidium: We fly to thy patronage, O Holy Mother of God. Despise not our petitions in our necessities, but deliver us always from all dangers, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel: St. Michael, the Archangel, defend us in the day of battle; be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the other evil spirits who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Coffee after 9am Sunday Mass: Thank you to all who have offered to help. We can now offer coffee after every 9.00 Sunday Mass. Please do stay and chat if you can!

Offertories : 16th December: Loose: £648.33 Gift Aid: £214.50

With thanks for all your generosity to the Parish and to charity.

There is 24/7 Live Internet Camera operating in Corpus Christi Church.

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, Nicholas Coote, Diana Diamond, 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, Francis Lucraft, Victoria Maceda, Carmel McGarry, R. J. Matava, Averil Nathaniels, Ameia Padua, Anna Panter, Celine Peiris, Peter Perera, Alba Thorning, Jack Tilley, Ruth Tilley, Aileen Vangramberg, Diana Walden, Mary Wallace, Pat Walsh, Liz Ward, Louise Williams.

Please pray for all who have recently died, especially Philippa Smith, Sandra Lockyer, Mary Todd, Gisa Knight, Irene Harrison, Rose Gobles and John Bullivant.

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); Various (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, Katya

Drummond 01865 763161

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.

