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# CORPUS CHRISTI

ST. ALPHONSUS AND ST. MARGARET RC CHURCH

Margaret Road, Headington, OX3 8AJ

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

Crown Road, Wheatley, OX33 1UL

[www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk](http://www.corpuschristiheadington.co.uk)

Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees, Registered Charity No. 234216

*Message from Fr Mervyn*  
"You must come away all by yourselves  
and rest for a while" (Mark 6:31).  
I hope that if we are going away for  
a few days, or even on a staycation,  
we obey the command of the Lord  
over the next  
few weeks!

Live-Stream Masses; Public Worship

Year B SUNDAY  
29 August 2021

Parish Priest: Rev. Canon Mervyn Tower

Parish Administrator: Mrs Leti Gomes

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Kennel

Parish schools:

St Joseph's Primary School; 01865 763357.

The Presbytery, 88 Wharton Road,  
Oxford, OX3 8AJ. t: 01865 762433

e: [corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

[www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

St Gregory the Great Secondary School; 01865 749933. [www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk)

**TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY**

**29 August 2021**

Saturday 6.00pm at OLL, Wheatley People of the Parish

Sunday 9.00am Sister Marie Ann's Golden Jubilee. Thanksgiving.

11.00am Kate Gills RIP

6.30pm

**Weekday Masses:**

Cycle of the week B; Breviary Week 2

Mon 30 9.15am Dimas Palencia RIP Feria

Tue 31 9.15am Fr Anthony de Vere Feria

Wed 1 **7.30am** Jeanne Croft Feria

Thurs 2 No Mass Feria

Fri 3 9.15am (with St Joseph's School on-line). St Gregory the Great

Sat 4 10.00am Georgekuty RIP Feria

4.00pm Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament by CPC group

**TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY**

**5 September 2021**

Saturday 6.00pm at OLL, Wheatley People of the Parish

Sunday 9.00am

11.00am Chris & Val thanksgiving birthday

6.30pm Michele Alfonso thanksgiving.

**All Polish Masses** in Oxford will now be celebrated at Blessed Dominic Barberi, Littlemore.

**Syro-Malabar Masses** are celebrated at Corpus Christi (normally 3.00pm on Sundays).

**Pope at Audience: Hypocrisy jeopardises the unity of the Church**

Continuing his commentary on St Paul's Letter to the Galatians, Pope Francis highlighted the dangers of a purely formal adherence to the Law, which can lead to hypocrisy, and in turn threaten the unity of the Church.

St Peter himself had shown that Gentile Christians were not bound to observe every aspect of the Jewish Law when he ate with Gentiles, contrary to the prescriptions of the Law, but later he refused to eat with them, for fear of being criticised. St Paul saw that this was a serious fault because St Peter's hypocrisy was causing an "unjust division" in the early Christian community.

Hypocrisy, the Pope said, "can be called the fear of the truth," a feeling that "it is better to pretend than to be yourself". It flourishes "in an environment where interpersonal relations are lived under the banner of formalism." In the New Testament, the Pope noted, Jesus often condemned hypocrites who appeared righteous on the outside, but inwardly were filled with vice. Hypocrites, said Pope Francis, "are people who pretend, flatter, and deceive because they live with a mask over their faces and do not have the courage to face the truth. They are not capable of truly loving." Although hypocrisy is commonplace, "hypocrisy in the Church is particularly detestable." Pope Francis recalled the words of the Lord, "Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil." The Pope said that to act otherwise "means jeopardising the unity of the Church, that unity for which the Lord Himself prayed."



**TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE PARISH, PLEASE CLICK ON THE BUTTON BELOW:**

If you pay tax, please register your card for Gift Aid when you make a donation. Whenever you use the same card to make a donation on the new contactless units in church, it will be automatically gift-aided.



**Golden Jubilee  
Sr Marie Ann**



Today, on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee of Religious Profession, we congratulate and thank God for Sr. Marie Ann and for all she has given and still gives to the life of the Parish. A few days after her profession, 29 August 1971, she began teaching at St Joseph's School and she has been a constant source of love, energy and commitment to school and parish for 50 years. Sr Marie Ann has described her work in the sheet available at all Masses this weekend - and available on the Parish Website ([Click here](#)).

Sr Marie Ann says, "I have seen changes, but ones made with discernment and optimism to move forward together in a changing world. It has been and is such a privilege to worship and journey with my community and the whole Parish: all those in the past and those here in the present. I know God meets me where I am and there is no question that I have met the love of God through this Parish - through you. For that I am so grateful. God is Love and I can confidently offer Him thanksgiving for the last fifty years."

**Click here to email the Editor**

If you have suggestions for improving the newsletter - or items that you think could be included, please send them: [corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com](mailto:corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com)

## Scripture Reflection

We return to reading semi-continuous Gospels from Mark. Jesus urges keeping the more central mitzvot (Commandments) and to recognize that others are merely human traditions (Gospel: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23). It is the laws and the customs that Moses commands his people to observe. They demonstrate the closeness of the Lord to his people (First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8). The Letter of James announces its major theme: faith in the word needs to be lived in action (Second Reading: James 1:17-18,21-22,27).

**Responsorial Psalm meditation: "Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?" (Psalm 14/15:1).**

<b>Scripture Readings</b>	<b>Monday</b>	1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Ps 95; Luke 4:16-30	<b>Thursday</b>	Colossians 1:9-14; Ps 97; Luke 5:1-11
	<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 26; Luke 4:31-37	<b>Friday</b>	1 Thessalonians 2:2-8; Ps 95; Matthew 16:13-19
	<b>Wednesday</b>	Colossians 1:1-8; Ps 51; Luke 4:38-44	<b>Saturday</b>	Colossians 1:21-23; Ps 53; Luke 6:1-5

## 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 news

### Holy See expresses deep concern over crisis in Afghanistan

The Holy See continues to follow the developments in Afghanistan "with great attention and deep concern," and has renewed the appeal launched by Pope Francis on August 15 calling on all people to pray with him "to the God of peace so that the clamour of weapons might cease and solutions can be found at the table of dialogue." Only in this way, he said at the time, "can the battered population of that country – men, women, elderly and children – return to their own homes, and live in peace and security, in total mutual respect."

### Are you celebrating a milestone anniversary this year?

#### Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage

St Chad's Cathedral. Saturday 9 October 2021  
12 noon celebrated by Bishop David Evans.

The search is now on to find the longest married couple in the Archdiocese. All couples celebrating a milestone anniversary, from their 1st and every five years up to 60 years, as well as every married year over 60, will be listed in the commemorative Mass booklet. closing date for registration and inclusion in the booklet: Friday 1 October.

To register your place at the Mass, email your names, anniversary date and year of marriage - [CLICK HERE](#)

### Amoris laetitia: Adoption, a fruitful Christian choice

This month's video on the Encyclical focuses on adoption. Click here for the Pope's thoughts on the family and adoption.

**Extract from the encyclical:** Adoption is a very generous way to become parents. I encourage those who cannot have children to expand their marital love to embrace those who lack a proper family situation. Adopting a child is an act of love, offering the gift of a family to someone who has none. Those who accept the challenge of adopting and accepting someone unconditionally and gratuitously become channels of God's love. For he says, "Even if your mother forgets you, I will not forget you" (Is 49:15).



**Gift Aid** If you need to know the amount you have given to the Church in Gift Aid for tax purposes, please contact the Parish Gift Aid Organiser, Pat Warnock, who will provide the details - pmwarnock@btinternet.com. Please do **NOT** contact the Diocesan Gift Aid Office. [Click here to email Pat Warnock.](#)

### New Gift Aid Parishioners needed

It is now easier than ever to arrange to Gift Aid your donations to the Parish. If you would like to start a new Gift Aid through a standing order at your bank, the whole process can be undertaken on-line.

Very briefly, if you pay tax the parish can claim an additional 25% on all your donations from the Inland Revenue. So for every £4 you donate, the Parish receives an extra £1 from the tax man. If you pay tax through PAYE, you do not have to tell your employer or fill in any special tax forms. To start the process, please [click here](#) to email corpus.standingorder@gmail.com and you will be sent a form to complete on-line and full information on how to start a new standing order on-line at your bank.

## GOOD NEWS!! Collection reinstated in Church The Oxford Community Emergency Foodbank

There is now a box at the back of Church to receive donations of tins of meat, fish, vegetables, soup or puddings, jars of jam or sauce, long life milk or fruit juice, sugar and essential toiletries. Donations at the foodbank:

**Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 11.20am – 1.30pm  
behind St Francis Church, Hollow Way.**

If you would like to make a financial donation, please go to:  
[www.justgiving.com/communityemergency-foodbank](http://www.justgiving.com/communityemergency-foodbank)  
or [click here](#)

## PLEASE PRAY FOR...

**the sick and the housebound:** Archie Allen, Antony Ayton, Fr. John Baggley, Patricia Barfield, Margaret Bond, Alan & Rita Booker, Christopher Browne, Pedro Busette, Kumu de Silva, David Diggins, Michael Dolan, Maureen Felix, Philomena Garvey, Yvonne Goonesekara, Antoinette Harvie, Sue Holbrook, Joanne Kay, Mario Kim, Joan Knatt, Theresa Johnson, Cynthia Lobendhan, Victoria Maceda, Carmel McGarry, R. J. Matava, Averil Nathaniels, Melani Parana, Celine Peiris, Peter Perera, Maxwell Rogers, Angela Scott-Smith, Rachel Smith, Alba Thorning, Aileen Vangramberg, Diana Walden, Mary Wallace, Pat Walsh, Liz Ward, Mai Wick, Louise Williams. Dorren McDonald. Nalen Vuddamalay, Michael Kenworthy-Browne, Fr Timothy Radcliffe.

**those who have died:** Gary Price, Janet Eaglesfield, Veronica Atayi.

**Those whose anniversary occurs this week:** Charlton Evans, Eleonore Higgs, Helen Gaston.

All those in the sick list must actively agree to their inclusion. The prayer list will be reviewed regularly - if names can now come off the list or if new names should be added please send an email to: [corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com](mailto:corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com).

**CAF+D** Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Pope Francis has confirmed that he will attend the COP26 Climate talks in Glasgow in November, a clear signal to the world about how pressing the climate crisis is for the Church.

## Faith in action day

Join the online event on  
11 September!

[CLICK HERE to register](#)

Come along to our Faith in Action Day on Saturday 11 September 11am-4pm and learn more about this year's 'COP26' climate talks, Pope Francis's call to action and learn how you can get involved.

### Ride and Stride is on Saturday 11 September

Can you help raise how to raise funds for the historic churches and the Parish?



Click for further details and sponsorship form; or contact Veronica Cowdrey, Parish Coordinator, through the Parish Office.

## ROOT & BRANCH Inclusive Synod

5-12 September.

[Click here for further details](#)



### Calling all altar servers! Proximity:

**A new annual event for altar servers of all ages.**

Proximity will take place in the inspirational setting of St Mary's College, Oscott, our diocesan seminary, on Saturday 2 October. Cost £5.

[Click here for further details](#)

**Parish Pastoral Council:** If you would be interested and willing to help discern the needs, priorities and mission of our parish by being on the new PPC, please contact Fr. Mervyn.

**School Governors:** if you would be interested and willing to become a school governor – a crucial way to help in any school to further the education and well-being of the staff and students – would please contact Fr. Mervyn.

### Have you registered on DONA yet?

**THANK YOU** to those Parishioners who have registered their card for Gift Aid donations using the new DONA system. It is very simple to do this - and we would like everybody to consider registering their cards so that Gift Aid can be collected from the government.

To register for Gift Aid donations you must first



register your contactless card by making a donation on-line from your computer using the DONA button below.