

We are a
Live
Simply
Parish



... and we are
a Fairtrade
Parish

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

Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees, Registered Charity No. 234216

Pope Francis's Prayer
Intention for December
for those with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their active participation..

Someone is following me... he will
baptise you with the Holy Spirit

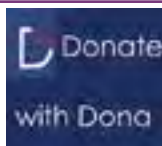


Saint John Baptizing in the River Jordan ca 1630
Nicolas Poussin, 1594 - 1665
Getty Museum, USA

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Nicolas Poussin wrote that he took pleasure in well-ordered things. "I avoid confusion, which is contrary and opposed to my nature, just as light is opposed to the darkness of night," In this painting, St John baptizes the multitudes in an ideal landscape, framed by a tree trunk on each side. Clothed in antique costumes, the orderly followers have arranged themselves into a carefully balanced frieze. As always, Poussin approached this religious work from the tradition of order, clarity, and harmony associated with the art of ancient Greece and Rome. Poussin painted this religious scene for one of his key patrons, Roman antiquarian and scientist Cassiano dal Pozzo. Also in the 1630s, Poussin painted a series of the Seven Sacraments for Cassiano, to which this canvas may be related.



CLICK
LEFT or
use QR
CODE
Right



Masses for week beginning 10 December CYCLE Year B

Parish Priest: Rev. Canon Mervyn Tower 88 Wharton Road, Oxford, OX3 8AJ. 01865 762433
Parish Administrator: Mrs Leti Gomes e: corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Ruth Kennell.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times.

Ruth can be contacted at sg.corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk. Alternatively contact the Diocesan Safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 (safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

St Joseph's Primary School; 01865 763357.

www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Greyfriars Secondary School; 01865 749933.

www.greyfriarsoxford.org.uk

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10 DECEMBER 2023

Saturday 6.00pm @ Our Lady of Lourdes: Mgr. Morgan

Sunday 9.00am Jim O'Leary

11.00am Kurt Marcelle

6.30pm People of the Parish

**Second Collection
Poor Parishes**

Weekdays

Cycle B; Breviary week 2

Mon 11 9.15am Souls in Purgatory

Advent FERIA

10.30am Requiem: Gillain (Nina) Joyce

Tues 12 9.15am Salvador Gomes

Advent FERIA

Wed 13 9.15am Fr. Bassey

St. Lucy

Thur 14 No Mass

St. John of the Cross

Fri 15 9.15am Souls in Purgatory

Advent FERIA

Sat 16 10.00am Fr. Aldo

Advent FERIA

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT GAUDETE SUNDAY 17 December 2023

Saturday 6.00pm @ Our Lady of Lourdes: Fr. Emmanuel

Sunday 9.00am People of the Parish

11.00am Anita de Araujo

6.30pm Special Intention

Pope meets Council of Cardinals to discuss Church's feminine dimension

The Council of Cardinals is focusing its reflections on the "feminine dimension of the Church." "The Church is woman," said Pope Francis on that occasion. "If we do not understand what woman is or what the theology of womanhood is, we will never understand what the Church is." He also described the "masculinizing" of the Church as a "great sin," which has yet to be resolved.



**CLICK
HERE**

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 10.30 am to 11am and on call.

BENEDICTION: most Fridays after Mass.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - SATURDAY 6 January after 10am Mass. First Saturday in the month after morning Mass.

HONOUR OUR LADY: After 9.15am Mass and the Rosary, we pray the Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. This beautiful Novena honours Our Lady in prayer and in songs.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

St. Mark introduces John the Baptist at the very beginning of his narrative. There is a drama and suddenness about this which mirrors the urgency of preaching the Kingdom, following the tradition of previous prophets (Gospel: Mark 1:1-8). The quotation that Mark uses is part of the extract from Isaiah today which looks forward to the return of the Exiles from Babylon (First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11). St. Peter urges watchfulness as we await the coming of the Lord (Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14).

Responsorial Psalm meditation: 'Mercy and faithfulness have met; justice and peace have embraced (Ps 84/85:11)

Scripture Readings
Monday Isaiah 35:1-10; Ps 84; Luke 5:17-26
Tuesday Isaiah 40:1-11; Ps 95; Matthew 18:12-14
Wednesday Isaiah 40:25-31; Ps 102; Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday Isaiah 41:13-20; Ps 114; Matthew 11:11-15
Friday Isaiah 48:17-19; Ps 1; Ephes. 1:3-12; Matthew 11:16-19;
Saturday Sirac 48:1-4,9-11; Ps 79; Matthew 17:10-13

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

Dates for your Diary
[CLICK HERE](#)

Parish Christmas Services

3rd Sunday of Advent; **GAUDETE SUNDAY**; 16/17 December.

Masses as usual; Advent Reflection 4pm

4th Sunday of Advent, 23/24 December

Sat 23 December, 6pm: Vigil Mass, Our Lady of Lourdes

Sun 24 December, Morning Masses at 9am and 11am as usual

Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord

Sunday 24 December 6.00pm First Mass of Christmas

11.30pm Vigil Carol Service followed by Midnight Mass

Monday 25 December, Christmas Day

Corpus Christi: Mass at 9.00am and 11.00am

Our Lady of Lourdes: Mass at 10.00am

Tuesday 26 December Masses at 10.00am

Mass during week: Mass at 9.15am (No Mass Thursday)

Pope Francis has asked...

that this year (Advent 2023 - 2024) be a

Year of Prayer in preparation for the Holy Year (Advent 2024-2025). Hopefully we shall explore ways as a Parish community to deepen our life of prayer.

[Click here for link to Diocese Announcement](#)

Advent Night Prayer by Zoom ALL WELCOME

Tuesdays in Advent at 9.30pm for 20 minutes.

Join us for Compline (the Night Prayer of the Church), via Zoom, on Tuesdays in Advent (5 Dec, 12 Dec & 19 Dec)

**No need to book just
[CLICK HERE to join by Zoom](#)**

Queries to John Kirwan
07985 098544

Salvation Army Christmas Gift Appeal

NEW toys for local children and young people who have little or nothing for Christmas

As a Live Simply Parish we have collected Christmas Presents for the last 5 years.

More families will be in need this year.

Toys need to be new and not gift wrapped.

**Collection boxes at back of Church
until weekend December 9/10**

[CLICK HERE for gift suggestions for different age groups](#)

CORPUS CHRISTI ADVENT REFLECTION

Sunday 17 December, 4pm

Join us for a service of prayer and music and enjoy a moment of peace and preparation in this busy season, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

There will be a collection for the Friends of the Holy Land

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

the sick and the housebound: Anthony Adkins, Archie Allen, Antony Ayton, Fr. John Baggley, Patricia Barfield, Marian & Roger Biss, Margaret Bond, Alan & Rita Booker, Christopher Browne, Pedro Busette, Ranjith Dhan, David Diggins, 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, Eardley Perera, Peter Perera, Maxwell Rogers, Angela Scott-Smith, Rachel Smith, Alba Thorning, Aileen Vangramberg, Diana Walden, Mary Wallace, Liz Ward, Mai Wick, Louise Williams, Dorren McDonald, Nalen Vuddamalay, Anna Lucia Bianchini.

those who have died: Michael Alexander, Salvador Gomes, Nina Joyce
those whose anniversary occurs this week: John Wilkinson, Terence Byrne McDonald

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.

CAFOD's online Advent calendar 2023

Our online Advent calendar of daily prayer and reflection will offer an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Christmas. Join us as we journey through the season of Advent with our global family.

[Click HERE for daily reflection and short prayer](#)

Get your copy before they run out! WIGIG!

Parish Holy Land Calendar

featuring photographs from this year's Parish Pilgrimage.

All proceeds to Friends of the Holy Land.

Now available - Back of Church

Price: £6 (payment also on Dona)



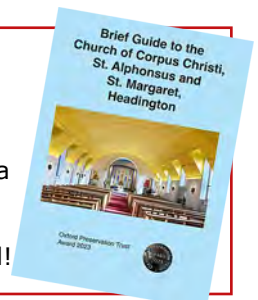
NEXT Journey of Faith meeting

Monday, 11 December at 7.30 pm. at 202 London Road
All are welcome - baptised Catholics who want to develop their faith, those who want to find out about Catholicism or people who just want to explore the idea of faith. The intent is to help our faith grow and develop. For further information you can contact Sharon and Martin at martin.taylor@merton.ox.ac.uk or [CLICK HERE](#)

New!! Please take your copy

Brief Guide to our Award-winning Church

Could you explain the significance of the Hebrew, Greek and Latin texts to a visitor? Do you know who is represented in the Stained Glass? Pick up a guide: Fr Mervyn explains all!



Sacramental Preparation Important - Dates 2024

Confirmation at Corpus Christi (Year 6 and above)

Saturday 18 May, 6.00pm,

First Communion at OLL and Corpus Christi (Yr 3 & above)

Weekend 8/9 June, Vigil and Sunday Masses.

Application forms are available at the back of Church or just email the Parish Office [CLICK HERE](#). Young people or adults wanting to receive the Sacraments are very welcome to contact us as well.

Oxford Community Emergency Foodbank is running out of Food!

There is 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 can also be taken to the foodbank:

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

[Click here to make financial donation](#)