

We are a
Live
Simply
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

Our Parish Vision

**A welcoming and dynamic
Catholic Community,
with the Eucharist at the
centre,
reaching out to all.**



... and we are
a Fairtrade
Parish

Fishing for Souls



Adriaen van de Venne (1589-1662),
Oil on canvas, 1614
Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

From today's Gospel: Mark 1: 14-20

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

Reflection on the painting

This was painted during the Twelve Years Truce (1609-1621) between the Protestant Dutch Republic and Catholic Spain. It depicts the tensions between the two Christian denominations. A river landscape with large numbers of people standing on either side of the river: to the left the Protestants with the Princes of Orange and James I of England; to the right are Catholics with Albert and Isabella.

The rowing boat in the foreground contains Protestant 'fishermen' with fishing nets marked with the words Fides, Spes and Caritas (Faith, Hope and Love). They are fishing a good number of people to bring them to their faith. The Catholic boat, on the right, holds priests who are fishing too, while being overseen by a bishop.

This painting, with plenty to look at, carries some ecumenical lessons for us all as Christians. The rainbow, which is seen touching the heavenly skies, is linking us, bridging us towards ecumenism.

Jesus is asking all of us to be fishers of people. We need to work together, also ecumenically, and we need prayer. Prayer is the only way to find God's guidance for all our fishing expeditions...

Masses for week beginning 21 January 2024

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

3rd Sunday of ordinary time

21 January 2024

Saturday 6.00pm @ Our Lady of Lourdes: People of the Parish

Sunday 9.00am Angela Sloan Clare

11.00am Healy Family

6.30pm Crisostomo Ramos

**THIS IS THE WEEK
OF CHRISTIAN UNITY**

Weekdays

Cycle B; Breviary week 3

Mon 22	8.00am	Carmelito de Jesus	Feria
	7.00pm	Deanery Talk on Prayer	
Tues 23	9.15am	Sean Gennings	Feria
Wed 24	9.15am	Phil Gardner	St. Francis de Sales
Thur 25	No Mass		Feast of the Conversion of St Paul, the Apostle
Fri 26	9.15am	Mary George	Ss. Timothy and Titus
Sat 27	10.00am	Domingas Amelia	Feria
	12.00noon	Baptism	

4th Sunday of ordinary time

28 January 2024

Saturday 6.00pm @ Our Lady of Lourdes: People of the Parish

Sunday 9.00am Sarah Tierney

11.00am Bridle Nicholson

6.30pm Enya Conway



Pope at Audience: Beware of the vice of lust, embrace pure love

Embrace the purity of love, and resist lust, which leads to emptiness and enslaves, urged Pope Francis at his weekly General Audience, as he continues his catechesis series of virtues and vices.

The Holy Father recalled that Christian doctrine does not condemn the sexual instinct, saying that falling in love is one of the most beautiful and tender experiences.

CLICK HERE FOR VATICAN VIDEO AND AUDIO



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

BENEDICTION: most Fridays after Mass.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - SATURDAY 2 February 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

This year we read on the Sundays of the Year from the Gospel of Mark. It is the shortest and most fast moving of the Gospels. There is a sense in which there is not time to lose. There are no infancy narratives - Jesus appears preaching and calling his first disciples (Gospel: Mark 1:14-20). Jonah tries to escape from the command of the Lord to preach repentance to the worst of sinners- the Ninevites. But the Lord prevails and they repent (First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5,10). St Paul urges the Corinthians to keep all in the perspective of eternity (Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31).

Responsorial Psalm meditation: 'Lord make me know your ways. Lord teach me your paths' (Psalm 24/25:4).

Scripture Readings for the week ahead

Monday	2 Samuel 5:1-7,10; Psalm 88; Mark 3:22-30
Tuesday	2 Sam 6:12-15,17-19; Psalm 23; Mark 3:31-35
Wednesday	2 Samuel 7:4-17; Ps 88; Mark 4:1-20
Thursday	Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Ps 116; Mark 16:15-18
Friday	2 Tim 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5; Ps 95; Mark 4:26-34
Saturday	2 Samuel 12:1-7,10-17; Ps 50; Mark 4:35-41



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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](#)

Our Parish and The Year of Prayer 2024

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. Oxford North Deanery is arranging a series of monthly talks on prayer at each of the parishes in the Deanery, beginning at Corpus Christi on Monday 22 January.

Talk on Prayer by Fr Mervyn.
Monday 22 January;
7pm - 8pm in the Church
Also available on live-streaming through the website.

Parish Day of Reflection on Prayer
Saturday 24 February in the Priory,
Old High Street, Headington, 11am - 3.30pm

Fr Mervyn will lead this day. It will begin with the Saturday Mass at 10am held in the Priory Chapel, followed by coffee before the day of reflection then begins. A simple soup lunch will be available, so nearer the time we will need to know numbers attending.

The second Deanery talk on Prayer will be at Our Lady Help of Christians

on **Tuesday February 5 February** led by **Fr. Harry Curtis**. More details will follow as more dates are confirmed (see Dates for your Diary).

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Diocesan Guide to Personal Prayer.

Advance Notice

Archbishop Bernard to visit the Parish, Sunday 10 March.

Archbishop Bernard will celebrate the 11am Mass on Sunday 10 March and bless the new Icon of St. Frideswide, the Patron of the City and University of Oxford, written by Sister Felicity of Baddesley Clinton.

Pope at Angelus: Rediscover the joy of Jesus' disciples



At the Angelus prayer last Sunday, Pope Francis encouraged us to renew our joy as disciples of the Lord, and recalled how the first apostles went out looking for the Lord and upon finding Him shared their joy with others.

[CLICK HERE FOR REPORT](#)

Oxford Community Emergency Foodbank

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.

or take direct to Food Bank **Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays**
from 11.20am - 1.30pm, behind St Francis Church, Hollow Way.

[Click here to make financial donation](#)

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.

those who have died: Anna Lucia Bianchini, Bridie Nicholson, Thommas Cleary, Anthony Murphy.

those whose anniversary occurs this week: Anna Donald, Bernadette Devenport, Hilary Hannaford, Joseph Finlay, Vita Granelli.

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.

OXFORDSHIRE **TOGETHER FOR HUMANITY**

Sunday 21 January,
3pm-5pm,
Oxford Town Hall

The Oxfordshire Civic, Community and Faith Leaders Group is calling for people of all faiths and none to stand together, as citizens / residents of Oxfordshire and the United Kingdom, in solidarity and commitment to work to build relationships between all our communities.

All those lost to the conflict in Israel and Palestine and other conflicts across the world will be remembered.

The event will include short prayers including non-faith readings, silence, song and music delivered by Oxfordshire's diverse communities.

It follows the November peace vigil held in Oxford's city centre when all of Oxford's faith and civic leaders came together in a joint cry for peace.

[CLICK HERE FOR TICKETS TO JOIN THE GATHERING.](#)

This is the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024 **18 - 25 January**



The chosen theme is 'You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself' (Lk 10:27). Brothers and sisters from the Catholic Archdiocese of Ouagadougou, Protestant Churches, ecumenical bodies and the CCN in Burkina Faso collaborated generously in drafting the prayers and reflections. They experienced their work together as a real path of ecumenical conversion. [Click for Resource Booklet](#)

Wheatley Area Churches Service for Christian Unity

10.30am Sunday 21 January, 10.30am
Wheatley Primary School

DONA COLLECTIONS

The Parish has received a letter of congratulations from DONA for its successful use of the electronic system.

In 2023, 2269 donations were made totalling £28,687. 36% of donations were gift-aided. **Thank you all!**

Rediscover
**GOD'S
LOVE**

**CCC COUPLES FOR CHRIST
SOUTH CHAPTER**

Invites you to join our
Christian Life Program

Starts: Sunday 4 Feb, 12-5pm

Corpus Christi Parish Hall
Register & more Information
Jan 07880 209224
Jong 07712 474505