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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

Birmingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Trustees, Registered Charity No. 234216

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for
March 2026

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward
effective disarmament, particularly
nuclear disarmament, and that world
leaders choose the path of dialogue
and diplomacy instead of violence.

Jesus cried in a loud voice,
'Lazarus, here! Come out!'



The Resurrection of Lazarus, 1426
Giovanni di Paolo (active ca.1420-1482)

Tempera and gold leaf on panel The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore

From today's Gospel, John 11:1-45

... Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.' When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; so the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' ... Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' ... So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

di Paolo's panel dramatically shows...

... agitated figures positioned on one line, a frieze, all pushing to see up close what is happening. In the Gospels, when Christ heals, the healing is not for the sole sake of the one healed, but for the sake of others and the entire community. Jesus raised Lazarus not just for his friend, but also for Mary and Martha. When we pray and ask to be healed, this healing is never just for me, so that I feel better, and my sufferings go away. Jesus gives us healing for the sake of others too.

For free daily Gospel readings and art reflections visit <https://christian.art/> CLICK HERE

Week beginning

Sunday 22 March 2026

YEAR A

Parish Priest: Very 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 Representatives are Ruth Kennell and Pam Coote.

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

Ruth and Pam 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.

5th Sunday of Lent

22 March 2026

Saturday 6.00pm@ Our Lady of Lourdes; Mary Sheehan

Sunday 9.00am Patrick Quinn RIP

11.00am Victor Manuel Thong RIP

12.15am Baptism

6.30pm Elsa Andrade RIP 1st Anniversary

Weekdays

Breviary week 1

Mon 23 9.15am Bridget Maughan Powery Lent Feria

6.00pm-7.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; Confessions

Tues 24 9.15am Pat Webb RIP (90th Birthday) Lent Feria

Wed 25 7.30am Kazimierz Lukasik (RIP) SOLEMNITY: ANNUNCIATION

10.00am Funeral Service: Professor Sir Nicholas White OF THE LORD

Thurs 26 No Mass Lent Feria

Fri 27 9.15am Thomas John Thomas RIP Lent Feria

6.30pm Stations of the Cross

Sat 28 10.00am Lent Feria

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

29 March 2026

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

Sunday 9.00am Victor Gapay RIP 6th Anniversary

11.00am Bill and Bridget McCarthy RIP

6.30pm Elsa Andrade RIP

SACRED PASCHAL TRIDUUM 2026

HOLY THURSDAY 2 April

8pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by Watching until 11.00pm

11pm Compline

GOOD FRIDAY 3 April

9am Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

10am Children's Stations of the Cross

3pm Solemn Liturgy Passion and Death of the Lord

6.30pm Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY 4 April

9am Morning Prayer

SATURDAY 4 April

8pm The Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY 5 April

Corpus Christi 9am 11am 6.30pm

NB No Mass at OLL on Easter Sunday

The next Bereavement Group meeting is on Saturday 2 May.

Have you said YES to Gift Aid on DONA?

LAST WEEK 43% OF DONORS ON DONA SAID YES TO GIFT AID
Grow the GREEN, let's make it 100%! [CLICK HERE to donate](#)

Gift Aid
WATCH SHORT
VIDEO HERE

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

The third of the great Johannine Lenten Gospels is proclaimed today. The raising of the Lazarus is the seventh sign (Greek: semeion) of John which naturally points to the ultimate triumph of the Lord in His own death and Resurrection (Gospel: John 11:1-145). One of Ezekiel's most dramatic visions is that of the coming to life of the dry bones, a symbol of the resurrection of the whole people (First Reading: Ezekiel 37:12-14). The baptized have the Spirit dwelling in them (Second Reading: Romans 8:8-11).

Responsorial Psalm: 'For with the Lord there is mercy, in him is plentiful redemption' (Ps 130:5).

Scripture Readings for the week ahead

Monday Dan 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62; Ps 22; John 8:1-11
Tuesday Numbers 21:4-9; Ps 101; John 8:21-30
Wednesday Isa 7:10-14, 8:10a, Ps 39; Heb 10:4-10; Luke 1: 26-38
Thursday Genesis 17:3-9; Ps 104; John 8:51-59
Friday Jeremiah 20:10-13; Ps 17; John 10:31-42
Saturday Ezekiel 37:21-28; Jer 31; John 11:45-56

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

Thankyou for listening to our Finance Appeal talk last Sunday. Our Parish needs your help, please do take action.

If you would like to make a new regular monthly contribution: **EITHER** please take the standing order and gift aid declaration forms from the back of church or contact the Parish office for these forms. They can be returned to the Parish office FAO 'The Finance Committee'.

OR if you prefer to set it up on-line, and use your banking app to set up a standing order, please email corpus.standingorder@gmail.com [**CLICK HERE**] and details will be sent to you.

Any questions/queries, please email [Shalini pt.corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:Shalini.pt.corpuschristi.oxford@rcaob.org.uk) Always happy to help.

Thank you for your support, The Finance Committee

How does Gift Aid work? Check out this brief video

How does your pay packet relate to the Taxman and to your donation?

CLICK HERE FOR VIDEO

How you can increase your normal donations to the parish through Gift Aid (at no extra cost to you).

Applies to all UK taxpayers

WATCH
SHORT
VIDEO
HERE

ON DONA, PLEASE SAY YES TO GIFT AID

Last week 50% of parishioners' DONA donations were gift-aided

53 Gift-Aided (50%)

53 Non Gift-Aided (50%)

Help us to grow the Gift Aiders - become one!

Important information for Gift Aid on DONA

- Last Sunday at about 10am, the parish Wi-fi connection crashed so it was not possible to register for new Gift Aid - apologies but beyond our control!
- When off-line, the units can store donations, so payments on Sunday were actioned for payment on Tuesday when parish Wi-fi was restored.
- DONA identifies the donor by the card number you have registered - if you have more than one card, you must use the same card each time you donate on DONA - or you will not be recognised! However, you can register more than card.
- If your card expires and you are sent a new card, it will have a different number so you will need to register the new card on DONA .
- It is easy to register your card(s) when you donate on the webpage (**CLICK HERE**) - it is then remembered if you donate on any DONA unit in Church.

One more informal Café style discussion on aspects of prayer - Thursday 26 March, 7.30pm

Everyone is welcome to join in this engaging session exploring aspects of prayer, using resources from the acclaimed Sycamore programme. The discussions are a great way to explore and deepen your faith, share views and meet others. Just over an hour. Refreshments from 7.15pm.

CLICK HERE for Overview or contact johnkirwan1a@gmail.com

Oxford Interfaith Emerging Scholar Prize.

The Prize will be awarded annually to an emerging scholar for their individual commitment to and involvement in the furtherance of interfaith education and collaboration. For eligibility criteria and other details, **CLICK HERE**. Deadline 22 May 2026.

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

the sick and the housebound: Antony Ayton, Patricia Barfield, Marian & Roger Biss, Margaret Bond, Alan & Rita Booker, Christopher Browne, Pedro Busette, Ranjith Dhan, David Diggens, Maureen Felix, Philomena Garvey, Yvonne Goonesekara, Antoinette Harvie, Sue Holbrook, Mario Kim, Michael and Esther Kuforiji. Theresa Johnson, Cynthia Lobendhan, Victoria Maceda, Carmel McGarry, R.J. Matava, Averil Nathaniels, Melani Parana, Celine Peiris, Eardley Perera, Maxwell Rogers, Angela Scott-Smith, Alba Thorning, Aileen Vangramberg, Diana Walden, Mary Wallace, Liz Ward, Mai Wick, Louise Williams, Dorren McDonald, Nalen Vuddamala, Ramona Brillo.

those who have died: Mary (May) McGarrity, Nicholas John White.

those whose anniversary occurs this week: Julia Bridget Leahy, Margaret Teresa Morley,

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.

Pope at Audience: Every baptized person is an active agent of evangelization

Pope Leo reiterated that through Baptism and by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, the faithful "are consecrated

as a spiritual house and a holy priesthood' so that everyone forms the faithful Holy People of God." "Let us rekindle in ourselves the awareness of and gratitude for having received the gift of being part of God's People, and also the responsibility that this entails."

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HERE
FOR
FULL
ACCOUNT**



Seeking God in prayer and community

**CLICK HERE
for details**

DISCERNMENT RETREAT

For Single Roman Catholic Women aged 18-35

Friday 27 March - Sunday 29 March
also 7-9 August and 9-11 October

Minster Abbey, Church Street, Minster,
Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 4HQ
More Information <https://minsterabbeynuns.org>



Celebrating 25 years!

Day of Healing at Our Lady Help of Christians Church, Holloway, Cowley Saturday 18 April, 10.30am - 4pm

Littleway Healing Ministries is holding the day led by Fr Kevin Dixon, Mrs Helen Callaghan and the Littleway Team. Join us for praise, prayer and testimonies. All are welcome, come for the day, bring a packed lunch, or just pop in. For more: info@littlewayhealingministries.com **CLICK HERE**

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



Car parking: We have had more complaints from neighbours about bad parking and driveways being blocked. Please park legally and courteously.

For items to be included in the newsletter, please email the editor at corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com **BY TUESDAY EVENING** before the weekend. **CLICK HERE**

HAVE YOU SAID YES TO GIFT AID ON DONA?