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Parish**



**... and we are
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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



Archbishop Sarah Mullally and Pope Leo in prayer



*The Peasant Lawyer, ca. 1620
Pieter Breughel the Younger (1564-1638),
Oil on panel
Grohmann Museum at Milwaukee School of Engineering*

From today's Gospel, John 14:15-21
Jesus said to his disciples, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you for ever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. 'I will not leave you as orphans...because I live, you also will live. In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.'

In the lively painting by Pieter Brueghel...
a village lawyer is surrounded by people seeking help. They are bringing what little they have (eggs, fruit, poultry) in exchange for guidance and defence. They bring their offering in exchange for the services of the lawyer. But the Holy Spirit is of course infinitely more than any legal advocate such as the one depicted in the painting. He does not simply defend us; He transforms us. He teaches us how to love, how to live the commandments not as burdens, but as the path to true freedom. Jesus places love and obedience side by side: not as opposites, but as inseparable. Love and obedience are two expressions of the same reality: a heart turned towards God. We are called to will the good of the other, even when it is difficult, even when it costs. And we are not left to do this alone. Jesus promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Advocate, the one who stands beside us. We call the Holy Spirit the Advocate because Jesus uses the Greek word Parakletos, meaning one who is "called alongside" to help, guide, and defend. The Holy Spirit not only defends us, but also comforts, strengthens, and leads us into truth.

CLICK LEFT or use QR CODE Right

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

At the Last Supper Jesus promised His disciples that he will send them another Paraclete (the Greek word translated into Latin as Advocatus the one who called to stand by the side of another). The disciples need to understand that they need to keep Jesus' commandments as a corollary of loving Him (Gospel: John 14:15-21). Philip preaches in Samaria signifying that the Gospel is now extending beyond Jerusalem (First Reading: Act 8:5-8, 14-17). St Peter gives advice about defending Christian hope with gentleness and respect (Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:15-18)

Responsorial Psalm: 'Come and see the works of the God: his wondrous deeds among the children of Adam' (Ps 66:5)

Scripture Readings for the week ahead

Monday	Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149; John 15:26-16:4a
Tuesday	Acts 16:23-24; Ps137; John 16:5-11
Wednesday	Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Ps 148; John 16:12-15
Thursday	Acts 1:1-11; Ps 46; Eph 1:16-23; Matt 28:16-20
Friday	Acts 18:9-18; Ps 46; John 16:20-23a
Saturday	Acts 18:23-28; Ps 46; John16:23b-28

Week beginning Sunday 10 May 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.

6th Sunday of Easter 10 May 2026

Saturday 6.00pm@ Our Lady of Lourdes;
Sunday 9.00am Anne Dolan
11.00am People of the Parish
12.00Noon Baptisms
6.30pm Leila Fatima De Lemos RIP

Today there is a Second Collection on DONA for Poor Parishes of the Diocese
CLICK HERE

Weekdays Breviary Week 2

Mon 11	9.15am Easter Feria	
	11.00am Requiem: Martin Finch	
Tues 12	9.15am Noel Fernandes 2nd Birthday	Easter Feria
Wed 13	9.15am Healing from Inflammation	Easter Feria

Thursday 14 May SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION (Holy Day of Obligation)
Wednesday, Vigil Mass, 6.00pm Our Lady of Lourdes, Wheatley
Thursday, Corpus Christi: Morning 9.15am; Evening 7.00pm

Fri 15	9.15am Domingos Rafael Martins RIP	Easter Feria
Sat 16	10.00am God mercy upon my soul	Easter Feria

7th Sunday of Easter 17 May 2026

Saturday 6.00pm@ Our Lady of Lourdes;
Sunday 9.00am Anne Dolan
11.00am People of the Parish
12.00Noon Victor Manuel Thong RIP
6.30pm Francisco Do Nascimento RIP

Today there will be a Second Collection for Catholic Communications
CLICK HERE

NEXT BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP - Saturday 6 JUNE after 10am Mass and afterwards on the first Saturday in the month after morning Mass.

NEXT PARISH CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP - Friday 5 JUNE, 7.30pm.

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.

Young Adults Group - 1st Sunday of month after 6.30pm Mass

Ecumenical Prayers by Zoom: shared prayers from whoever is there. **Every Monday at 11.00 and 19.00 for 20 minutes.** For zoom link and details, please **CLICK HERE**

Have you said YES to Gift Aid on DONA?

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

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

Next Journey of Faith Meeting

Monday 11 May 7.30pm at 202 London Rd, OX3 9EE

Everyone is welcome, those with no faith, those with a stronger faith, wherever you are with faith. The idea behind it is to increase our faith. The group is small and welcoming. The meeting usually lasts for about one and a quarter hours.

BINGO Night in aid of Catholic Handicapped Fellowship Oxford in aid of Lourdes Pilgrimage Fund

Registered Charity No 1053573

Wednesday 13 May 2026

Headington Conservative Club, Windmill Rd, Oxford OX3 7BZ
Doors Open 7pm Eyes down 8pm 6-book Bingo £6, Flyers £2 each
Winner takes All Flyer at end - £2

Please bring cash for the Bingo, Flyers and Raffle



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 Diggins, 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 Uddamala, Ramona Brillo.

those who have died: Nicholas John White, Mano Chanmugam, Hannah Melhuish

those whose anniversary occurs this week:

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: 'The Church has mission to speak out against all that mortifies life'



[CLICK HERE FOR FULL ACCOUNT](#)

Pope Leo XIV reflected on the eschatological dimension of the Church as presented in 'Lumen gentium,' and in this context, reiterates that Jesus has given the Church the mission of leading the faithful toward salvation, and that accordingly the Church has been 'invested with the mission of speaking clearly to reject everything that mortifies life and prevents its development' and to 'denounce evil in all its forms.'

PARISH NEWSLETTER EDITOR - VACANCY

I have been editing the weekly Parish Newsletter for the past 8 years or so but, reluctantly, ill-health is forcing me to retire. I spend approximately 1 day a week preparing the material and producing the final pdf for printing - and the interactive pdf for the website. I use the Adobe professional suite of programs but packages such as Canva would be perfectly suitable. If you have skills in this area and would like to assist the parish, please contact Fr Mervyn, John Kirwan (johnkirwan1a@gmail.com), or me, John Guy, [CLICK HERE](#) (corpus.OLL.news@gmail.com) for initial discussion.

Corpus Christi for a Fairer World

The Parish Justice & Peace Group are arranging an appeal for the Gatehouse on the weekends of 17 and 24 May to support their work providing a drop in and support service for the homeless in Oxford.

We are appealing on their behalf for the following items

Men's socks Men's clothing Men's boxers Med. & Lrg
Toiletries; Baby wipes Women's underwear sz 12/14
Packets of tissues Crisps Tins of biscuits

Boxes will be provided at the back of Church.

Please become involved if you can.

Finance Appeal - Thank you. We appreciate the positive response to the Finance Appeal and thank those who have collected envelopes containing the Gift Aid declaration and Standing Order mandate forms. **Please remember to return all completed forms to the Parish office.**

For those with existing Standing Orders who wish to increase their monthly contributions, this can be done either through online banking or directly at your bank.

CLICK HERE to request details for setting up a new Standing Order and Gift Aid on line.



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?

Pope: 'If someone criticizes me for proclaiming the Gospel, let him do so truthfully'

Before he returned to Rome from Castel Gandolfo on Tuesday evening, Pope Leo XIV spoke briefly to reporters and responded to the latest critical remarks made about him by US President Donald Trump.

"The mission of the Church is to proclaim the Gospel, to preach peace," he said. "If someone wants to criticize me for proclaiming the Gospel, let him do so truthfully"



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