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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

**And I am no longer in the world,
but they are in the world.**



Holy Spirit, 2022

Yeinier Gonzalez (born 1989),

Acrylic paint with 23K gold leaf on canvas

From today's Gospel, John 17:1-11a

Jesus lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.... All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.'

Yeinier Gonzalez presents a striking depiction... of the Holy Spirit in this beautiful roundel. It feels both ancient and new at the same time. It is firmly rooted in the great traditions of Christian sacred art, yet it possesses a freshness and luminosity that speaks powerfully to the modern eye. Gonzalez sought to create an image that conveys not only the majesty of the Holy Spirit, but also His consoling presence. The gold shimmers like heaven breaking into the world, while the blue suggests depth, silence, and the interior life of the soul. As we stand only days away from the feast of Pentecost, in the liturgy, the readings now begin to speak more insistently about the Spirit, almost as if the Church is gently reminding us not to overlook Him. In this Gospel passage, the Holy Spirit is not named directly, yet the whole prayer of Jesus moves toward the coming of the Spirit... introducing the readings for this coming week.



CLICK LEFT or use QR CODE Right



Week beginning Sunday 17 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.

7th Sunday of Easter 17 May 2026

"Do not renounce your ability to think"

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV FOR THE 60TH WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL COMMUNICATIONS

Click here to read Pope Leo's Letter subtitled "Preserving Human Voices and Faces"

Today there will be a Second Collection for Catholic Communications

Saturday 6.00pm@ Our Lady of Lourdes; Joe Beegan RIP. People of the Parish.

Sunday 9.00am Screeche-Powell's Family

11.00am Victor Manuel Tong & Jose Tong RIP

6.30pm Francisco Do Nascimento RIP

CLICK HERE TO DONATE

Weekdays Breviary Week 3

Mon 18	9.15am	God's blessings upon Agnieszka, Barbara & Iza	Easter Feria
Tues 19	9.15am	God's blessings upon Agnieszka, Barbara & Iza	Easter Feria
Wed 20	9.15am	All Souls in Purgatory	Easter Feria
Thurs 21	No Mass		Easter Feria
Fri 22	9.15am	Davis Mathew RIP	Easter Feria
Sat 23	10.00am	Joseph RIP - Anniversary	Easter Feria
	12 noon	Baptism	

Solemnity of Pentecost 24 May 2026

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

Sunday 9.00am Alexandre Lucas Pajarillo RIP - Anniversary

11.00am

6.30pm Maria Da Cruz Pereira Doutel RIP

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**

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

At the Last Supper Jesus utters what is normally styled the 'Great High Priestly Prayer' to the Father. In this, he prays to the Father for his disciples and reminds them that eternal life - also here and now-is to know God and His Son (Gospel: John 17:1-11). The Acts gives us a beautiful picture of the early Church, gathered together with Mary, united in prayer for the coming of the Holy Spirit (First Reading: Act 1:12-14). St. Peter urges all to rejoice if they suffer for Christ (Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16).

Responsorial Psalm: 'The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?'(Ps 27:1)

Scripture Readings for the week ahead

Monday	Acts 19:1-8; Ps 67 John 16:29-33
Tuesday	Acts 20:17-27; Ps 67; John 17:1-11a;
Wednesday	Acts 20:28-38; Ps 67; John 17:11b-19
Thursday	Acts 22:30; 23: 6-11; Ps15; John 17:20-26
Friday	Act 25: 13b-21; Ps 102; John 21:15-19
Saturday	Acts 28:16-20, 30-31; P 10; John 21: 20-25

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

 Friends of the Holy Land **9am Coffee After Sunday Mass**

We have been able to give a further £80 to Friends of the Holy Land thanks to the donations of 9am Mass coffee drinkers. Great fresh coffee, tea and chat served every week after mass; everyone is welcome.

DO YOU HAVE DESKTOP PUBLISHING SKILLS? GOOD AT SPELLING AND GRAMMAR? 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.

**Collections start this weekend
Please donate if you are able.**

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.

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, John Guy, Michael Earnest.

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

those whose anniversary occurs this week: Bridgette Mary O'Brien, Diana Mary Diamond.

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: Virgin Mary is perfect model of what the Church is called to be



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FOR FULL
ACCOUNT**

On the feast day of Our Lady of Fatima, May 13, Pope Leo highlighted how the Blessed Virgin Mary is a model, member and mother of the ecclesial community and she teaches all the faithful to love and serve the Church.

In emphasizing how Our Lady can be a model for the Church, the Pope called the faithful to "ask Her to help us, through Her intercession, to respond to what is asked of us through Her example."



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DETAILS**

Pope Leo: Truth finds its identity in the person of Jesus Christ

In a letter commemorating the 60th anniversary of the Bolivian Catholic University "San Pablo," Pope Leo reminded the academic institution that truth finds its identity in the person of Jesus Christ. He stressed that a university, in its deepest identity, "is not merely a center for technical training nor a mere space for producing utilitarian knowledge," but above all, "an academic community which, in a rigorous and critical way, contributes to the protection and development of human dignity and cultural heritage..."



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?