

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 24 September 2017: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

6.30pm (Saturday) Kieran Hughes's intention
 9.00am Pauline Vinces's intention
 11.00am Duarte Casimiro Soares, Francisco Amaral & Florentina Caliste
 5.30pm Sisters of Providence—deceased

Monday 25 September

7.30am Friars & Benefactors

Tuesday 26 September

7.30am *St Anthony*

Wed. 27 September *St Vincent de Paul*

7.30am Jose Mendonca RIP

Thursday 28 September

7.30am Sr Jeannine Thebault's intention

Friday 29 September *SS. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael*

7.30am Norah Higgins's intention

Saturday 30 September *St Jerome*

8.00am *In honour of Our Lady*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11.30am-12 noon; 5.30-6.25pm

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick.

Pray, too, for those whose anniversaries occur about this time, including:

Kathleen Brennan, Edith McArdle, Michael Flanagan, Mary Cooper, Helena O'Shea, John Drennan, Ronald Armstrong, Gertrude Wadepohl & Catherine Ley.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

COLLECTIONS:

Second Collection today: Father Hudson's Society

Last week's collections:

Offertory	£503.83	+ Gift-aided	£109.00
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Catholic Evangelisation	£147.10	+ Gift-aided	£37.00
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Second collection next week: Diocesan Schools Fund

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*SS Edmund and Frideswide
 Roman Catholic Church
 Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 1SB*

Parish Priest:

Fr Gordon Pesterfield, OFM Cap.

Tel. No.: 01865 256750 (parish office)

email: ofmcaparish@gmail.com

Website: greyfriarsoxford.weebly.com



Inscrutable

It's hard to figure God out. Looking around creation we see beautiful places alongside areas of devastation. We meet kind people but also those who are unkind. We see the mansions of the rich and streets of the homeless.

What was God thinking by creating such inequality?

Our own lives are also filled with both blessing and sorrow. Momentary incidents have shaped us. Friends have helped us. Death stalks us. It's hard to figure out what God has in mind.

God speaks to Isaiah: "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways." You can say that again!

To accept God's wisdom requires faith and humble admission of our own inability to know God's plan. It also takes trust that God will ultimately bring about the good that awaits all creation.



1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Response: **The Lord is close to all who call him.**

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20-24,27

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

Today is the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A).

This Week:

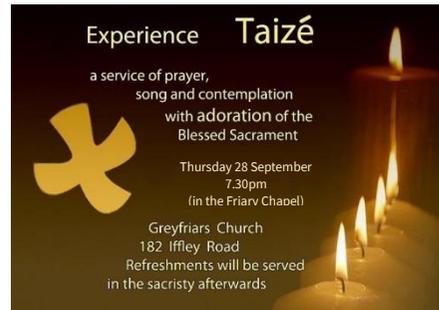
Church Cleaning:

This week is the turn of Group B: Sam/John. Thank you.

Wednesday 27 September: St Vincent de Paul

Born in 1581 in Gascony, France. After completing his studies he was ordained priest and became a parish priest in Paris. He founded the Congregation of the Mission (Vincentians), serving the poor and staffing seminaries. With St Louise de Marillac he also founded the Daughters of Charity. He died in Paris in 1660.

Thursday 28 September: Taizé Prayer



On the last Thursday of each month you are invited to attend a Taizé prayer service at 7.30pm in the Friary Chapel. Taizé-style worship centres on singing, prayer, and readings from Scripture. Brother Alois from Taizé wrote: 'The exchange with God becomes real for us in prayer; by his Holy Spirit God comes to dwell with us. By his Word and by the Sacraments, Christ gives himself to us. In

return, we can surrender everything to him.'

Friday 29 September: SS. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

This feast honours the Archangels mentioned in the Bible by name: Michael, Gabriel and Raphael. These are the great messengers of God to humanity—those heavenly beings who at moments when God's word was vital, acted as mouthpieces for the Almighty, delivering messages of great importance. Of course, Gabriel was the great messenger to Mary, who announced to her the plan of God to bring about the salvation of all people through the fruit of her womb. Gabriel's message of hope was completed by Mary's 'Yes', her acceptance of the message from heaven.

Raphael was the great companion to Tobias, son of Tobit, a wealthy and devout Israelite living in Nineveh. As Tobias laboured to recover his father's fortune, it was Raphael who offered protection, guidance and ultimately the healing of Tobit.

Then there's Michael, the great soldier of God. It is Michael who fights against the Beast in the Book of Revelation and who, tradition tells us, led God's army against the uprising of Lucifer.

Also on Friday: Evening Rosary

Every Friday evening the Holy Rosary is recited in the church at 7pm. All are welcome.

Saturday 30 September: St Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

Born in Dalmatia (present-day Croatia) in 340, Jerome studied in Rome where he was

baptized. He chose monastic life, living in Syria where he was ordained priest. He translated the Bible from Hebrew and Greek into Latin, thereby making it more understandable to people. He said, 'Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.' One of the four great Doctors of the Latin Church, he died in Bethlehem in 420.

Looking further ahead:

For Your Diary: Tuesday 3 October: The 'Transitus' or Passing of St Francis

You are invited to gather for a special celebration of the last moments of St Francis' life, commemorating his *transitus* from earthly life into eternity. In it we recall the time leading up to his death and what he said to the Friars who were with him.

If you've never been to a Transitus before, come along to the celebration at 7pm. Afterwards, refreshments will be served in the Hall.

Tuesday 4 October: Our Holy Father St Francis of Assisi

On Wednesday 4 October, we celebrate the Solemnity of St Francis of Assisi. Mass will be celebrated at the usual time of 7.30am in the Friary Chapel. You are also invited to attend an evening Mass at 7pm in the church.

St Francis of Assisi is one of the most beloved saints. The 'little poor man' is known for his courting of 'Lady Poverty' and founded the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans).



First Reconciliation and Holy Communion Programme 2018

Children applying for First Holy Communion need to be in Year Three (seven years old) and their families need to be part of the Greyfriars parish community. The First Holy Communion programme prepares children for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and for First Holy Communion through a series of sessions which will be held on Sunday mornings at 10am in the Friary Chapel. Children are expected to attend one of the Sunday Masses. Registration forms are available at the back of the church.

Confirmation: Register for the 2018 Confirmation Programme

Registration is now open for the 2018 confirmation programme, which will start in January 2018. The deadline for registration is the end of November. Confirmation candidates need to have finished primary school and be entering, or already in, secondary school.

Interested in becoming Catholic?

Each year the parish runs a course from October to April for adults who have not been baptized and would like to be, as well as for Christians of other denominations who would like to be received into the Roman Catholic Church, and for baptized Catholic adults who have not received the Sacraments of Holy Eucharist or Confirmation. The course is known as the RCIA (which stands for 'Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults').

Registration forms are available at the back of the church.