

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 3 December 2017: 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Domenico Mirto
9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	Raymond Keown RIP
5.30pm	Margaret Mulhorne RIP

Monday 4 December

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Tuesday 5 December *St Birinus, Bishop*

7.30am	<i>St Anthony</i>
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Wednesday 6 December

7.30am	Annie Breen's intention
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Thursday 7 December *St Ambrose, Doctor of The Church*

7.30am	Brenda Moran RIP
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Friday 8 December *Immaculate Conception of Our Lady*

7.30am	George & Mary Brigid O'Malley RIP
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Saturday 9 December

8.00am	<i>In honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>
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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:

Norah Jackson, Dennis Doyle, Patrick O'Callaghan, Celia Jennings, Theresa Brown, Marie Gwynn, Peter Masnyj, Gertrude Albert, Peter McDonagh, Kathleen Bedlington & Patrick Franklin.

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

COLLECTIONS:

No Second Collection today

Last week's collections:

Offertory	£431.29	+ Gift-aided	£88.00
Catholic Youth Service	£106.88	+ Gift-aided	£45.00

Second Collection next week: Poor Parishes Fund

*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



First Sunday of Advent

It must be God's fault. That's the conclusion Isaiah reaches. And who among us hasn't thought the same? If things don't go our way, if someone hurts us, if someone leaves us—even if the mess is our fault—we blame God.

Isaiah asks God, 'Why do you harden our hearts so that we fear you not?' It must be God's fault.

Isaiah's prayer opens the season of Advent because of a specific request it makes: 'Rend the heavens and come down.' When we realize our own strength fails to make life any better, to eliminate hurt we finally turn to God for a solution.

God did just that on the first Christmas Day. As we start Advent, we ask him to do it again. We need God's help to set us free.



1st Reading: Isaiah 63:16-17,64:1,3-8

Response: **Lord of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

Entrance Antiphon: To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Sunday 3 December 2017: 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B)

Today is the 1st Sunday of Advent (Year B).

Today and next Sunday: Christmas Collection for the Gatehouse

Attached to St Giles Church, **the Gatehouse** drop-in centre and café for the homeless and vulnerably housed gives a Christmas present to each guest and is appealing for **new underpants, and for socks, hats, gloves, scarves and bars of chocolate.**

This year we at Greyfriars will again be collecting for this appeal *on the first two Sundays of Advent*. Please bear in mind that 90% of guests at the Gatehouse are male, and that whilst underpants should be new, other clothes could be slightly used but must be clean and of good enough quality to be given as a Christmas gift. Please bring your gifts to the Sacred Heart Chapel.

Advent & Christmastide: WALK WITH ME journey of prayer booklet

Available at the back of the church: **Price £1.**

This Week:

Church Cleaning:

This week is the turn of Group D: Norbert & Leonel. Thank you.

Tuesday 5 December: St Birinus, Bishop

St Birinus was sent to England by Pope Honorius 1, was ordained bishop, and established his See at Dorchester-on-Thames. He died in the year 650.

Thursday 7 December: St Ambrose, Doctor of the Church

A soldier and administrator by profession, Ambrose was still a catechumen (preparing for baptism) in Milan when the people chose him as their new bishop. His influence in the court repressed the spread of Arianism and forced Emperor Theodosius I into public penance for a massacre at Thessalonica. He dies in 397.

Friday 8 December: Immaculate Conception of Our Lady—Solemnity

There are two Masses today, at 7.30am and 7.30pm, both in the church.

The Immaculate Conception refers to the belief that Mary was conceived without stain of original sin. The idea was first expressed in the earliest Christian centuries, and in 1854 Pope Pius IX proclaimed it a dogma.

Also on Friday: Rosary at 7pm

The Holy Rosary is recited in the church at 7pm every Friday. All are welcome.

Looking further ahead:

Next Weekend, 9-10 December: the Archbishop’s Visitation

Next weekend we welcome to our parish His Grace, Archbishop Bernard, on his Deanery Pastoral Visitation, during which he will preach at all the weekend Masses. Please note that after the Sunday Masses tea/coffee will be served in the Hall so that you may meet the Archbishop.

Sunday 10 December: Cake Sale towards Church Hall Refurbishment

Plans are being drawn up for the renovation of our Parish Hall. A committee are in the

process of obtaining grants to pay for the majority of costs. It would be great if the parish can help raise a small proportion. We are holding a **Cake Sale** in the Hall on **Sunday 10 December** after every Mass: 9am, 11am and 5.30pm. We are asking for donations of cakes, biscuits etc. Please drop them off on Saturday 9th to the Friary or on the day to the hall. We hope you will support this event.

Sunday 17 December: A Service of Lessons and Carols

On Sunday 17 December at 3pm, the Greyfriars Choir, under the direction of John Brennan, will be leading a service of lessons and carols in the church. The parish community are warmly invited to attend.

Sunday 24 December: Nativity Play at Children’s Christmas Vigil Mass

If your child would like to take part in the Christmas Vigil Mass Nativity Play at 5.30pm on Sunday 24 December, please leave your name (and your child’s) and a contact number on the the list at the back of the church. Rehearsal times will be announced.



From Archbishop Bernard Longley: Safeguard the Future of Catholic Education

‘Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard.

The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents some schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it; now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for ‘Catholic Education’ in your browser to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.’



Christmas Tree Star

For a donation of £5, you can have a star put on the Church Christmas Tree in memory of a loved one. Mass will be said for all those whose names are on the tree on Christmas Day. Please complete the form below and return it to Br Gordon with your donation.

CHRISTMAS TREE STAR

Name of person to be remembered.....

(Block Capitals)

Name of donor: Tel. No.: