

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 8 April 2018: 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B (Divine Mercy Sunday)

6.30pm (Saturday) Michael O'Leary RIP
 9.00am Kate Ward's intention
 11.00am Parishioners
 5.30pm Mary O'Shea

Monday 9 April *The Annunciation
 of the Lord*
 7.30am Holy Souls

Tuesday 10 April
 7.30am *St Anthony*

Wednesday 11 April *St Stanislaus,
 Bishop & Martyr*
 7.30am Andy & Julia Scully

Thursday 12 April
 7.30am *In honour of
 Our Lady of Guadalupe*

Friday 13 April
 7.30am Kieran Hughes

Saturday 14 April
 8.00am Franciscan Missionaries
 of Mary RIP

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:

Thomas McGloine, Mary Rea, Patrick Connell, Margaret Zelly, John Madden, Vincent Tighe, Joseph Morrissey, Fernando Arroyave, Catherine Caroline Hogan, Ellen Carney, William John Charlesworth, Ivy Guilfoyle, Roland Badcock & Paul McCartney.

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

COLLECTIONS:

No Second Collection today

Last week's collections:

Easter Offering for the Friars £1660.15 + *Gift-aided* n/a

Holy Places (Good Friday) £373.09 + *Gift-aided* n/a

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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



The Eighth Day

Today is the Octave of Easter, of the Resurrection of Christ. Recall that 'the eighth day' was an image used by the early Church to speak about the eternal day that Christ will establish when he returns in glory at the end of time.

It is this image from early Christianity that the Church uses to talk about Easter and the Resurrection. In our celebration of the Paschal Mystery, we experience a foretaste of that final day on which God's great love will establish his Kingdom for ever.

In the context of this day and its celebration, our late Holy Father, St Pope John Paul II, called the Church to remember the Mercy of God through which Christ was raised from death. Divine Mercy Sunday, then, reminds us that it is because of God's great eternal mercy that he has promised a day of new creation, a final forever-Sunday. It is a day in which the Divine Mercy will wipe away for ever all sin, all suffering, all sadness, all illness. As a celebration of Easter St Pope John Paul reminded us that this day recalls God's great love, which is stronger than sin and death.



1st Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Response: **Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.**

2nd Reading: 1 John 5:1-6

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Entrance Antiphon: Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Today is the 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B (Divine Mercy Sunday).

This afternoon: Come to the Feast of Divine Mercy.

Our church is celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday this afternoon, starting at 2pm with the blessing of the Divine Mercy picture, devotions, Holy Hour, Confessions, veneration of the Divine Mercy picture, and finishing with Mass at 5.30pm. All are invited to attend.

The Image of Jesus of Divine Mercy

On February 22, 1930, Jesus, for the first time, shows Sr Faustina how he would like to have his graceful image painted. She writes in her diary: "In the evening when I was in my cell, I saw Jesus, the Lord, clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in the gesture of blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast. From beneath the garment, slightly drawn aside from the breast, there were emanating two large rays, one red, the other pale... After a while Jesus said to me, "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in you."

Sr Faustina attempts to paint an image herself according to the Lord's instruction, but her artistic abilities are not sufficient. After a lot of suffering she finds the painter Eugene Kasimierowski with her confessor's help. In the year 1934, under her guidance, the first image of the merciful Jesus is made in Vilna, Lithuania. When Sr Faustina sees the finished picture, she is sad, because the artist didn't manage to portray the Lord as beautifully as he had appeared to her in the vision.

Renovation of the Church Hall: Fundraising

The cake and book sale last Sunday raised over £400. Thank you for your support, and a special appreciation for all those who helped to plan the event.

This week:

Church Cleaning:

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

Monday 9 April: Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

This celebration, which the Church normally observes exactly nine months before Christmas, commemorates the angel's Annunciation to Mary and the conception of the Saviour in her womb. This feast celebrates the beginning of the Son of God's incarnate life.

Luke's beautiful account of Mary's meeting with the angel Gabriel captures both her innocent wonder and the grandeur of God's plan. Mary does not ask for a sign (that would betoken a lack of faith), but is given one by the angel. Her word of assent is brief but secure: "Let what you have said be done to me."

Wednesday 11 April: St Stanislaus, Bishop & Martyr

St Stanislaus (1030–1079) was Bishop of Kraków, Poland. A champion of the liberty of the church and of the dignity of all people, he defended the lonely and the poor. When

he reproached King Boleslaw II for his immoral life, the King himself killed him while St Stanislaus was celebrating Mass. He is the patron saint of Poland.

Friday 13 April: Holy Rosary

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

Looking further ahead:

Anežka's Helen & Douglas House Charity 21st Birthday London Marathon

Anežka is one of our senior altar servers. Currently at University in London, she still serves when she comes home. Please support her running the 2018 London Marathon on Sunday 22 April in aid of Helen & Douglas House Hospice, Oxford. Visit

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/anezkashdbirthdaylondonmarathon2018>

Weddings 2018/19

If you are planning to get married in the next year or so, please contact Br Gordon as soon as possible to make the necessary arrangements.

The Diocese requires at least six months notice, which is essential in cases where the marriage is taking place abroad, when a good deal of administrative work has to be completed. Marriage preparation is also a requirement, whether or not both partners are Catholic.



Register as a New Parishioner

Welcome to St Edmund & St Frideswide Catholic Church! If you are new to the parish and would like to register as a member, please complete a registration form, which can be found at the back of the church.

Tea/Coffee after the 11am Sunday Mass

Please note that after the 11am Sunday Mass tea and coffee are served in the Parish Hall—a time to relax and take the chance to get to know each other.



My Brothers and Sisters, do you Hunger for the Eucharist?

The Holy Eucharist is Jesus' great gift to each one of us, and the fulfilment of his promise to be with us always, till the end of time. It is a central part of God's saving plan of infinite love for you and for me.

My brothers and sisters, sometimes we take the gift of Sunday Mass for granted; so many Catholics choose to be absent from Mass. Going back to the early Church, in about the year 304, forty-nine Christians suffered torture and martyrdom in a village in present-day Tunisia because they defied the Emperor Diocletian's order not to celebrate the Eucharist on Sunday. When asked why they had disobeyed the Emperor, one of them said, "Without Sunday we cannot live."

Is this true for us?