

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 24 June 2018: The Nativity of St John the Baptist

6.30pm (Saturday)	Andrew Moran RIP
9.00am	Parishioners
11.00am	Eza L. Moore
5.30pm	O.F.S.

Monday 25 June

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Tuesday 26 June

7.30am	Munerire intention
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Wednesday 27 June

7.30am	Pious Union
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Thursday 28 June *St Irenaeus,*

7.30am	<i>Bishop & Martyr</i>	Ray Lisk RIP
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Friday 29 June *St Peter & St Paul,*

7.30am	<i>Apostles</i>	Kieran Hughes
7.30pm		Parishioners

Saturday 30 June

8.00am	Johnny Connors RIP
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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:

Camarao, John Leahy, John Cullen, Sister Mary James, Catherine O'Dwyer, Jonathan Diliberto, Carey Carter, Thomas Conway, Audrey Etherington, Angelina Montgomery, Mary Murphy & Matthew Etherington.

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

COLLECTIONS:

Second Collection today: Peter's Pence

Last week's collection:

<i>Offertory</i>	£473.41	+ <i>Gift-aided</i>	£144.00
<i>Day for Life</i>	£166.60	+ <i>Gift-aided</i>	£34.77

No second collection next week

SS Edmund and Frideswide Roman Catholic Church

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Special Birthdays

Since the early Church John the Baptist has been revered as one of the greatest of saints. He is the one who is the precursor of the Word made flesh. Jesus calls him the greatest person born. John's birth is one of three that are honoured and celebrated by the Church. The other two are the birth of the Lord and the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We have always seen in John a model of discipleship and of what it means to make Christ the centre of one's life. In addition to celebrating the birth of John the Baptist, the Church also celebrates his martyrdom—his beheading.

It is no accident that the summer and winter solstices take place just before the Church celebrates the births of John and Christ. On 21 June, the sun's course changes and the natural light begins to decrease. On 21 December, it changes again, and from that point on the light increases.



1st Reading: Isaiah 49:1-6

Response: **I thank you for the wonder of my being.**

2nd Reading: Acts 13:22-26

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66,80

Entrance Antiphon: A man was sent from God, whose name was John. He came to testify to the light, to prepare a people fit for the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! As for you, little child, you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High. You shall go ahead of the Lord to prepare his ways before him. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Through the tender mercy of our God, the Dawn from on high will visit us.

Sunday 24 June 2018: The Nativity of St John the Baptist

Today we celebrate the Nativity of St John the Baptist.

At the 11am Mass today: Eucharistic Ministers' Commitment

All the parish's Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are asked to attend this Mass to renew their commitment to this ministry. These lay ministers of the Eucharist assist the priest at Mass in the distribution of Holy Communion. They may also be asked to take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound.

This afternoon: Parish BBQ

Do you have your tickets? Come and join us!

Today, from 12 noon to 4pm, we have our parish BBQ, with afternoon teas, strawberries & cream, cake stall, book and plant stalls, hook-a-duck, and face painting for the children. Tickets will entitle you to a burger or hotdog & salad. *Tickets will be on sale after Masses.* Tickets in advance: £3 per adult; £1.50 per child. Afterwards on the gate: £4 per adult; £2 per child. Preschool children go free. (Bring your own wine or beer.) Let's come together as a parish community and enjoy the afternoon and raise funds for the development of the parish hall.

This week:

Church Cleaning:

Groups of dedicated volunteers keep the church clean and tidy. This week is the turn of Group A: Mary Joyce & family. Thank you.

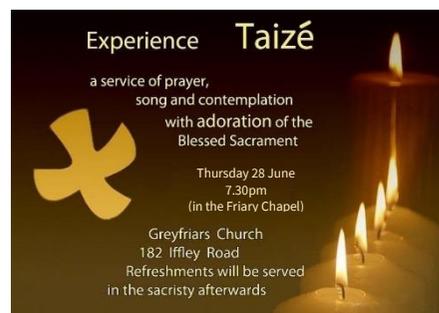
Tuesday 26 June: Bible Study Group

The Bible Study Group meets this Tuesday at 7.30pm in the Friary (182 Iffley Road). Please read beforehand Chapters 3 & 4 of St Mark's Gospel. The group provides a place to unfold Scripture: you are welcome to attend.

Thursday 28 June: St Irenaeus, Bishop & Martyr (c.130-c.200)

Irenaeus was a disciple of St Polycarp, himself a disciple of John the Apostle. He studied in Rome and became Bishop of Lyons. In his writings he sought to defend the Catholic faith against the errors of the Gnostics. He was martyred about the year 200.

Thursday 28 June: Taizé Prayer



return, we can surrender everything to him.'

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

Friday 29 June: St Peter & St Paul, Apostles—Holy Day of Obligation

This Solemnity holds such importance in the church. Tradition holds that on this day Peter and Paul met and embraced before marching off to their deaths—Peter on the Vatican Hill, Paul outside the city of Rome. They suffered at the hands of Nero, who persecuted Christians to distract the population from the sorrows attendant on the Great Fire of Rome (in the year 64). Together these two apostles represent the early evangelization of Jews and Gentiles. This Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation.

Masses in the church at 7.30am and 7.30pm.

Every Friday: Holy Rosary at 7pm

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

Also this Friday: St Gregory the Great School Garden Party, 6-9pm.

Saturday 30 June: Memorial for Catherine Godfrey

Catherine's family write:

Thank you for your kind thoughts and sympathy on our recent loss.

We invite you to join us at our service and gathering to remember and share memories of our quirky and much loved daughter and sister, Catherine Róisín Cecilia, at St Gregory the Great School, Cricket Road OX4 3DR on Saturday 30 June at 3pm.

Céilí to follow at 6pm.

Donations welcome to:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaigns/charity/stgregsprimary/catherine>



Catholics Come Home

The author G. K. Chesterton once wrote: "The difficulty in explaining 'why I am a Catholic' is that there are ten thousand reasons all amounting to one reason: that Catholicism is true." Nearly 2000 years ago, Jesus Christ founded the Catholic Church to preserve the truth he gave us and hand it down through the centuries, helping people all round the world encounter the love of God in every age in every corner of the earth.

The Lord wants us all to know and understand His truth, so that we can embrace it wholeheartedly and live by it. Christ reminds us, "The truth will make you free" (Jn 8:32).

Visit www.catholicscomehome.org.

New Altar Servers

Altar serving is an important ministry in the Church, and the priest relies on having a team of dedicated, well-trained and committed altar servers available for every Mass. If you would like to become an altar server, registration forms are available from the back of the church. Altar servers must have made their first Holy Communion.