

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 9 December 2018: 2nd Sunday of Advent (Year C)

6.30pm (Saturday)	Martin Reilly RIP
9.00am	Jane Brown RIP
11.00am	Parishioners
5.30pm	Linda Holden (special intention)

Monday 10 December

7.30am	Friars & Benefactors
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Tuesday 11 December

7.30am	Vocations
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Wednesday 12 December *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

7.30am	<i>In honour of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>
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Thursday 13 December *St Lucy*

7.30am	Pereira family
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Friday 14 December *St John of the Cross*

7.30am	Kieran Hughes
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Saturday 15 December

8.00am	Holy Souls
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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:

Josephine Matthew, Ivy Hodgkinson, Ruby Olive Baker, Michael Cahill, Walenty Brzozowski, Robert Marriott, Alice Ferrett, Josephine Crockett, Elsie Stone, Edith Pearson-Walker, Petronella Cobb, Michael Smith, Patrick Cummins, Molly O'Connor & Josephine Strange.

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

COLLECTIONS:

Second Collection today: Poor Parishes Fund

Last week's collection:

Offertory	£586.61	+ Gift-aided	£91.45
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No Second Collection next week

*SS Edmund and Frideswide
Roman Catholic Church*

Iffley Road, Oxford OX4 1SB

Parish Priest:

Br. Paul Coleman, OFM Cap.

Tel. No.: 01865 256750 (parish office)

email: ofmcaparish@gmail.com

Website: greyfriarsoxford.weebly.com



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A straight path

A straight line is defined as the shortest distance between two points. So when Isaiah tells us that we are to make straight paths for God, this is to make sure that they are as short as possible. The valleys and mountains are to be levelled out. God is coming: let's not make it difficult for Him to reach us.



1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Response: **What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.**

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:4-6,8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Entrance Antiphon: O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon. Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Today, Sunday 9 December: Christmas Collection for the homeless

The Gatehouse, which is attached to St Giles Church, and the Porch, which is in our parish, are drop-in centres which support the homeless and vulnerably housed. The Greyfriars Justice and Peace group is again organising a Christmas collection of items to help these charities offer food, help, and support to those in need.

We are collecting food and clothing, etc., that the charities have told us that they need. Items they would like to receive are: hot chocolate/drinking chocolate; mayonnaise/salad cream; chocolate bars; crackers; Marmite; Branston pickle; sugar; peanut butter; socks—male and female (but more for men); women's pants (medium); men's pants/boxer shorts (medium); thermals and long johns; gloves; hats; and scarves. (All underwear should be brand new; but clean, slightly used gloves/hats/scarves are welcome.) There are boxes in front of the Sacred Heart Altar for your donations.

Walk With Me Booklets for Advent

As an aid to your journey through Advent, please pick up a 'Walk With Me' booklet from the back of church. It contains daily reflections on the Gospel readings and suggestions for prayer. There are also some Advent & Christmas calendars for children.

Christmas Cards

There are some packs of Christmas cards in the porch, on sale in support of *Aid to the Church in Need*, which helps persecuted Christians around the world. Please pay for them in the CTS box.

Autumn Fair Raffle

The winning tickets from the Autumn Fair are as follows: 1st prize – 108; 2nd prize – 48; 3rd prize – 78; 4th prize – 45; 5th prize – 141. Thank you to everyone who took part, and thank you to those who donated the prizes.



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.

Wednesday 12 December: Our Lady of Guadalupe

In 1531 the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared four times to Juan Diego, a native Mexican convert to Christianity. After the fourth appearance, an image of her was found on Juan Diego's cloak, depicting her like a pregnant Aztec princess clothed with the stars and standing on the moon with the sun behind her. In this form Our Lady has been adopted as the patron saint of unborn children and of those who work to protect them.

Thursday 13 December: St Lucy

Lucy was a young lady of Syracuse in Sicily. She died a martyr's death in one of the last persecutions of Christians in the Roman Empire.

Friday 14 December: St John of the Cross

A Carmelite friar who engaged in the reform of the Order along with St Teresa of Avila, John was also a mystic and a poet.

Also on Friday 14 December: Holy Rosary

Every Friday evening we pray the Holy Rosary in the church at 7pm. All are welcome.



Looking further ahead:

Next Sunday: First Holy Communions 2019 Applications Deadline

The deadline for applications is **next Sunday, 16 December**. Application forms are available at the back of the church. Preparation classes will begin in the New Year.

Sunday 23 December: A Service of Lessons and Carols

On the Sunday before Christmas at 3pm, the Greyfriars Choir, under the direction of John Brennan, will lead a service of lessons and carols in the church. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

Christmas Vigil Mass for children and their families

As in previous years, we are inviting children to take part in a short Nativity at the 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve, which is the first Mass of Christmas. A sign-up sheet is available at the back of church for children who would like to play a role. There will be a rehearsal sometime on the weekend before Christmas.



Welcome to St Edmund & St Frideswide Catholic Church!

If you are new to the parish and would like to register as a member—whether or not you are a Catholic—please complete a registration form, which can be found at the back of the church. We look forward to getting to know you better. May the Lord bless you and your family.



Vacancy for Deputy Headteacher at St Joseph's Primary School

St Joseph's is a thriving, well-respected Catholic primary school located in a popular residential area of Oxford. The Governors are seeking to appoint a practising Catholic Deputy Head with a clear vision and a strong commitment to the Catholic ethos and needs of a high achieving school in a 21st-century setting. The Deputy Head does not have a class responsibility. The successful candidate will be well supported in fulfilling future aspirations for Headship; the previous deputy left to take up a Catholic Headship. Application packs are available from the school website or school office. Contact admin.3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk or phone 01865 763357.