

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 24 March 2019: 3rd Sunday of Lent (Year C)

6.30pm (Saturday) Martin Keane RIP
 9.00am Br Ade's intentions
 11.00am Parishioners
 5.30pm Secular Franciscan Order

Monday 25 March *The Annunciation*

7.30am Friars & Benefactors

Tuesday 26 March

7.30am *In honour of St Anthony*

Wednesday 27 March

7.30am Louis Campbell RIP

Thursday 28 March

7.30am Pious Union

Friday 29 March

7.30am Kieran Hughes

Saturday 30 March

8.00am Elizabeth & Kieron J. Hughes

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:

Peter Conroy, Dhanti Lal, Francis Hunt, Frances Hemmings, Thomas Penders, Christopher Clarkson & Jozeph Korobiecki.

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

COLLECTIONS:

No second collection today

Last week's collections:

Offertory £475.87 + Gift-aided £161.00

CAFOD Family Fast Day £562.90 + Gift-aided n/a

Second collection next week: Aid to the Church in Need

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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The Water of Life

Water is essential for life. This seems to be true not only for life on this planet, but also for any physical life elsewhere in this universe. Liquid water is the only substance that we know of that can support the complex and delicate chemical reactions required for life.

The water that Jesus gives us is not only essential for life, but is also actually living. The Holy Spirit is the 'giver of life', as we say in the Creed, because He is Life Itself. He alone can enable the relationship with God that we need for our souls to live.



Using the option of the Year A readings etc.:

1st Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Response: **O that today you would listen to his voice!**

Harden not your hearts.

2nd Reading: Romans 5:1-2,5-8

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Lord, you are really the saviour of the world: give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Communion Antiphon: For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

St Oscar Romero

If today, 24 March, were not a Sunday, we would be celebrating the recently-canonised Oscar Romero. He was the Archbishop of San Salvador and was outspoken against the violent oppression of the people, for which he was assassinated on 24 March 1980.

Continuing today, Sunday 24 March: Alpha Course

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that freely explore the basic questions about the Christian faith. They are in the church hall at 10am on Sundays, between the 9am and 11am Masses. This week, the question is, “Why and How Should I Tell Others?”

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NB. Monday 25–Friday 29 March: Parish office closed

During this coming week Brother Paul will be on retreat and there will be no one to answer emails and phone calls to the parish office.

Also this week:

Church Cleaning:

Groups of dedicated volunteers keep the church clean and tidy. This week is the turn of Group D: Norbert & Leonel. Thank you.

Monday 25 March: The Annunciation of the Lord

Our big celebration of the Incarnation is at Christmas; but of course the history of the Word-made-flesh really begins 9 months earlier, when the young maiden Mary conceived the Son of God by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Also on Monday 25 March: Legion of Mary

At 7.30pm every Monday, the local branch of the Legion of Mary gather to pray and to organise works of mercy. If you would like to join a meeting and find out more, come to the door of the sacristy (at the side of the church).

Oxford Winter Night Shelter

This year our church hall has been one of the venues for the Oxford Winter Night Shelter (OWNS). The project only runs during the months January, February, and March, so this Tuesday will be the last time this year that rough sleepers can bed down in our hall. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this project.

Thursday 28 March: Taizé Prayer

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. The service takes about an hour and is followed by light refreshments.

Friday 29 March: Holy Rosary, followed by Stations of the Cross

Every Friday evening we pray the Holy Rosary in the church at 7pm. All are welcome. On most Fridays in Lent we will also commemorate the sufferings and death of Jesus with the prayers and reflections of the Stations of the Cross, at 7.30pm.

Saturday 30–Sunday 31 March: Aid To The Church In Need

Next weekend there will be a *second collection* to support the work of Aid To The Church In Need (ACN), which helps persecuted Christians throughout the world.

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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 in the porch. May the Lord bless you and your family.

Tea/Coffee after the 11am Sunday Mass

Coffee/tea and light refreshments are served in the Parish Hall after the 11am Sunday Mass. It is a great opportunity to come after Mass and have a drink and chat, meet friends and make new ones. All are welcome.

Getting the Elderly to Mass

There are some people in our parish who are prevented by infirmity from coming to church, but could manage it if they had transport. If you have a suitable vehicle and would be willing to take someone to Mass with you on Sundays, please speak to Br. Paul or contact the parish office.

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Diocesan Newsletter

Our parish community is part of the extended family that we call the Archdiocese of Birmingham (which in turn is part of the worldwide family that is the Catholic Church). A regular diocesan newsletter, containing information about past and future happenings in the Archdiocese, is available by email. Just sign up on the diocesan website: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/News/Default.aspx>.

The Real Easter Egg

Out of the 80 million chocolate Easter eggs sold each year, ‘The Real Easter Egg’ is the only Fairtrade one with the Easter story in the box. You can order online or find out where to buy them by following this link: www.realeasteregg.co.uk.

CAFOD Family Fast Day

Last week’s collection for the work of CAFOD (the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development) raised £562.90. Thank you for your generosity.

Cyclone Idai

A cyclone swept through Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe, leaving behind a trail of destruction. Hundreds have been killed and 2.6 million are affected. The Disasters Emergency committee, an umbrella organisation of 14 UK-based aid organisations, is raising money to help all these people. You can donate here: <https://www.dec.org.uk/>.