



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
Greyfriars, Iffley Road, Oxford, OX4 1SB
Parish Priest: Br. Martin Mikuskiewicz OFM Cap
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First Sunday of Advent (Year B) 3rd December 2023

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

Psalm – God 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

Year of Prayer - In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a **Year of Prayer** by Pope Francis and it starts now. The links below will take you to some great resources that you can make use of throughout the year. These resources have been produced by Fr. Rob Taylerson, a Diocesan Priest and Spiritual Director at St. Mary's College, Oscott.

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=d88fed60-f246-43dc-ab7d-06c23408159f>

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=084a0ba5-85ca-41ca-acd7-6490028f9025>

Advent Walk with me booklets are now available in the Church porch. The theme this year comes from the prayers of Mary, Zechariah, Simeon and Anna and the example of St John the Baptist. Thank you.

Cake Sale - Sunday 3rd December - There will be a cake sale together with refreshments after the 9am and 11am Masses. All donations of homemade or

shop bought cakes gratefully received. Monies raised go to the refurbishment of the church hall. Many thanks Helen, Claudia and Lourdes.

A Service of Lessons and Carols by candlelight, sung by Greyfriars Choir at 3pm on Sunday 17th December in Greyfriars Church, followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Hall. Please come along and enjoy a very festive afternoon!

Nativity Mass on Christmas Eve at 5.30pm – If your child/children would like to take part in this Mass, please put your name and contact number or email on the sign-up sheet in the Church porch. Sarah, the organiser will be in touch with a date for a rehearsal. We will need a Joseph, Mary and Angel Gabriel plus lots of shepherds and angels!

First Holy Communion – There will be a meeting with parents of children preparing for their 1st Holy Communion Saturday 9th December at 9.30am. The course itself will begin in January. The course is for children who attend year 3, 4, 5, or 6 of primary school. Please fill in the form which you can find on the website on the Sacraments page, or speak to Br. Martin after Mass.

Confirmation – There will be a meeting with parents of children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 9th December at 10.30am. The course will begin in January. It is for children who attend year 6 of primary school or are in secondary school. Please fill in the form which you can find on the website on the Sacraments page, or speak to Br. Martin after Mass.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service will be held at 2pm on Sunday 21st January at the Christadelphian Church, and Rev Canon Dr Geoff Bayliss will be preaching. It will be preceded by a bring and share lunch at 1pm. If anyone would like to read at the service please contact them directly and see more details are on the attached poster in the Church porch.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent

humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.”

Tea and Coffee – After 9am Mass on 1st Sunday of each month – Sunday 3rd December. After 11am Mass every week.

Intercessory Prayers - If you would like us to pray for somebody or for anything else, please email GreyfriarsIntercessoryPrayer@gmail.com or phone 07384 116920. All requests will be treated in strictest confidence.

Cleaning team: If you would like to join the team who keep the Church and Sacristy clean and tidy please email the parish email: ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk.

Parish Donations

Collection Last Week: £401.44 Gift Aid: £49

Catholic Youth Service: 173.40 Gift Aid: £13

Thank you for your generosity and support of our parish, also to those of you who also contribute on-line and via the contactless payment machine.

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially Therese O’Malley, Aline Beaupiere, Margaret Corcoran, Oonagh Clarkson, Albert Paintin, Gillian Mellor, Br. Michael Hargan, Ewan Williams, Anne Wilkinson. If you are aware of somebody in our community who is sick and in need of our prayers, please ask them to contact the parish or let us have their contact details.

Sacrament of Penance (Confession): Saturdays 11am-12noon, 5.30pm-6.15pm and by appointment.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Geraldine Coggins, Michael Curran, Anne Harpin. They can be contacted at: sg.ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Mass Times

Sunday 3rd December 2023 First Sunday of Advent (Year B)		
6.30 p.m. (Sat)	Parishioners	
9.00 a.m.	For The Souls in Purgatory	
11.00 a.m.	Margaret Stevens	
5.30 p.m.	Joyce Helne R.I.P.	
Monday 4th		
7.30 a.m.	1) Maria Pereira's Int. 2) Friars and Benefactors	
Tuesday 5th		
		<i>Feast of St. Birinus</i>
7.30 a.m.	1) Br. Lucjan's Int. 2) John Bowen's Int.	
Wednesday 6th		
		<i>St. Nicholas</i>
7.30 a.m.	1) Michael Molloy R.I.P. 2) Vocations	
Thursday 7th		
		<i>St. Ambrose</i>
7.30 a.m.	1) Natasha, John Joyce and family 2) Kieron Hughes	
Friday 8th		
		<i>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
7.30 a.m.	1) St Anthony of Padua 2) Br. Martin Sanderson Int.	
Saturday 9th		
8.00 a.m.	Michael and Margaret Joyce and family	
6.30 p.m. (Vigil)	Nabby Joyce and family	