



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church  
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## **Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading – Isaiah 50:5-9

Psalm – I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading – James 2:14-18

Gospel – Mark 8:27-35

The way we relate with others reveals who we believe in and how spiritual we are. The Lord will not judge us by how many prayers we said, or how many novenas we made, or how much we know, how many certificates or degrees we acquired, but He will remind us about the times we have visited the sick, consoled those in need, and in general bring life to those who needed it. Small gestures but done out of love for God and with love.

For our faith to be alive, it needs to permeate our whole being and influence all we do and how we think. The very fact of calling God our Father entails a real relationship between me and every other living creature in this world. God is not just my Father, but ours. Everyone and everything in its own way is an image, a reflection, a likeness of God. If we want to say we believe that, then we need to treasure what God has created, appreciate it, look after it, support it, be thankful. To be like this will result in our hearts being open to the other, in other words, we will become like our Father who is love and the source of all life.

This is why it is important for us to keep on answering the question found in today's Gospel: 'who do you say I am?'. Everything depends on the answer. If Jesus is the beloved Son of the Father, if He is the Saviour who has come to set us free from our sins, if He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life – then my life needs to make it clear to others.

This is the warning from St. James. Faith without good deeds is of no use. It is in his words quite dead. Let us pray for one another this week that the Lord will bring us back to life again, that the Spirit of the Risen Lord lead us day after day and enable us to be true witnesses to His Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

**House Visits / Blessings** – An important part of my service to you as your parish priest is to come to know you, pray with you, and bless you. That is why I would like to invite myself into your homes! – not for a 3-course meal, not even a cup of tea required, but to meet you, chat, and pray. Don't be afraid – I won't turn up uninvited. If you'd like a visit, just get in touch in any way you can – speak to me after Mass in the sacristy, email, phone, fill out the form on the website, or fill in a card that should be available at the back of the church.

**Baptism Preparation Talk** – If you would like to have your child baptized then please attend our next baptism preparation talk on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 3.00pm in the church. If you could, please sign up for the talk via our website appointments page. All relevant information will be provided to you on that day.

**1st Holy Communion / Confirmation 2022** – If you would like your child to receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation, please get in touch in order to sign your child for the relevant course. All classes will begin from January, but the sooner you let us know the better. Please fill in the relevant form on the website or speak to me in person. You have until mid-December to ensure your child is signed up.

**R.C.I.A. 2022** – If you are a Catholic who has never received the Sacrament of Confirmation, or you are interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church, then this course is for you. Please fill in the relevant form as soon as possible on our website or speak to one of the friars. Classes will commence in mid-October.

**Parish Renovations** – Those of you who look around our parish church building and the parish hall might have noticed that they require a lot of work to maintain them and renovate them. The first thing we are addressing is the number of leaks that cause damage to both buildings. The work has begun and we hope it will proceed successfully so that we maintain the sacred space in good order and make a good start towards renovating our parish hall. To do this essential work of preventing further water damage to our buildings will cost us in the region of £10,000. I will update you with details as we go along. In the meantime, I would like to thank you for your generosity towards the upkeep of the parish, and invite your prayer that Our Lord would open the hearts of further benefactors to support us.

**Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage 2021** - The annual diocesan Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage will take place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 12noon at St Chad's Cathedral.

If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary during 2021 (from your 1<sup>st</sup> up to 60<sup>th</sup> (every 5 years), and every year over 60) please email Lianne Pap (Marriage and Family Life Co-ordinator) [marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk) for your names to be listed in the Mass booklet.

You can also send in 'then & now' photos to be part of the video compilation. We are looking to find the longest married couple in the diocese, so if you think you, your parents or grandparents could be it then let Lianne know!

The Mass is open to all married couples, as well as those preparing to marry in 2021 but you will need to register a place via email

– [marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:marriage.mass@rcaob.org.uk)

Closing date to register for the Mass is 1<sup>st</sup> October.

**CAFOD Emergencies** – We are faced with three emergencies at once. The most immediate is the crisis in Afghanistan, not just for refugees but for the communities who are suffering from the crisis. There is also the crisis following the earthquake in Haiti as well as a crisis of food shortages in Ethiopia, South Sudan and Northeast Nigeria.

CAFOD have launched a webpage on what they are doing to help in each of these emergencies and are appealing for donations to support the work. You can learn about this if you go to [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) or click on the [Emergency News Page](#)

**Parish Council** – The Parish Council meets on a regular basis throughout the year to ensure we work together as a community of our Lord's disciples and address any aspects of our life together to support everyone in our life of faith. If you would like to contribute to our parish life in anyway, or feel we could be doing something more and you'd like to get involved, or have some constructive suggestions, feel free to get in touch with them, please send your e-mail to [pct.ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:pct.ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk)

### **Intercessory Prayer Group**

If you would like us to pray for somebody or for anything else, please email [GreyfriarsIntercessoryPrayer@gmail.com](mailto:GreyfriarsIntercessoryPrayer@gmail.com) or phone 07384 116920. All requests will be treated in strictest confidence.

**Mass Times and Intentions**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2021 Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

6.30 p.m. (Sat) Sabrina Collins R.I.P.  
9.00 a.m. Parishioners  
11.00 a.m. Valentin Alves R.I.P.  
5.30 p.m. In Thanksgiving

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup>**

***St. John Chrysostom***

7.30 a.m. Vocations

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>**

***The Exaltation of the Cross***

7.30 a.m. Holy Souls

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**

***Our Lady of Sorrows***

7.30 a.m. Br. Ambrose

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>**

***Sts. Cornelius & Cyprian***

7.30 a.m. Br. Charles

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup>**

***The Stigmata of Our Holy  
Father Francis***

7.30 a.m. Br. Lucjan

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>**

***St. Joseph of Cupertino***

8.00 a.m. Fr. Yamai  
6.30 p.m. Mary Gaffey R.I.P.

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially **Therese O'Malley, Linda Parrott**. 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.