

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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Twenty Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C – 16th October 2022

1st Reading – Exodus 17:8-13
Psalm – Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

2nd Reading – 2 Timothy 3:14-14:2

Gospel – Luke 18:1-8

The Word of God has one simple message for each of us this Sunday – keep going. There will be challenging times, difficulties, distractions, illnesses, wars, famines, disasters, betrayals, sin in its multitude of forms – keep praying and keep going. Many things are beyond our control and the sooner we realize that simple truth the sooner we will learn to do what Moses did – raise our arms to God in prayer. As soon as he stopped doing that he was on the losing side. That continuous prayer was too much for him at times and too difficult, and so others around him supported him and raised his arms to heaven. If prayer needs to be learnt, then we need guides and those who support us in this task. Aaron and Hur were creative in the way they helped Moses and we also need to be creative and use whatever means we can to learn to persevere in prayer. There are many ways to pray and each of us have to find a way to follow apart from our communal, more formal times of prayer. As we strive to find the way suited to us at this particular time, remember that prayer is also a gift of God (a crucial point so we don't end up thinking that it is all to do with our own efforts). Essentially to learn to pray is to learn to wait patiently on God in our daily life and to call on Him with all our heart. During the lifetime of St. Padre Pio there lived in Naples a holy priest called Fr. Dolindo Ruotolo. He famously prayed: "Jesus, you deal with it". We could copy his example and make it our prayer for the Lord to help us deal with whatever we have to face today. Let us pray for the gift of perseverance.

Brother Stephen peacefully passed away on Thursday 13th October at Sobell House. He made his first profession as a friar on 8th September 1963. He was ordained on the 7th March 1970 by Bishop David Cashman at Crawley. He fulfilled many roles over the years, including many years as an OFS National Spiritual Assistant. We pray for the repose of his soul. We will notify when his funeral will take place.

Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers a training session for existing and new ministers will be held on <u>Saturday 22nd October</u> at 12noon in the church. If you are unable to attend please let Brother Martin know.

The next Taizé will be on Thursday 27 October in the Friary Chapel at 7.30 pm, for 1 hour. Taizé is a monastic community located in Taizé, France, founded in the 1940s. A Taizé worship service involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation, a period of silence, liturgical readings, and icons. Refreshments are provided afterwards and is an opportunity to build ecumenical friendship.

Christian meditation continues this October: *Reflecting on Sacred Scripture* using both *Apophatic* and *Imaginative* methods. To be held in Greyfriars Friary, Wednesdays at 7pm. To book your place or check availability, please email iffleycross@gmail.com.

First Holy Communion – there will be a meeting with parents on Saturday 10th December at 9am in the parish hall. The course itself will begin mid January. The course is for children who attend year 3 to 6 of primary school. Please fill in the form which you can find on the website or speak to Br. Martin.

Confirmation – the course will begin in January. It is for children who attend year 6 primary school onwards. Please fill in the form which you can find on the website or speak to Br. Martin.

Academic Mass – will be held at Oxford University Catholic Chaplaincy on 23rd October at 11am. All are welcome.

Cost of Living Crisis – For those in need of help with rising energy bills, cost of food etc. The following contacts maybe useful: Citizen Advice Oxford 03444 111 444; Rose Hill and Donnington Advice Centre 01865 438634; National Debt line 0808 808 4000.

Parish Office We are pleased to let you know that Sam Keown has kindly volunteered to help in the office. If you need to contact Sam please use the parish

email in the first instance and mark the subject box for her attention and she will get back to you. Email office on: ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk

Diocesan Advert - We are looking to recruit a Secretary/PA to the Vicar General. The appointee will support the operations of the Birmingham Diocesan Trust (The Archdiocese of Birmingham) by acting as the Secretary/PA to the Vicar General. You will need excellent communications skills, the ability to work on your own initiative, experience of working with senior post-holders/officers and be proficient with Microsoft Office. For an informal discussion about this role and further information, please call the Human Resources Officer on 0121 230 6224. Further information will also be on the website.

Intercessory Prayer Group

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.

Parish cleaners - Thank you to those who work tirelessly in keeping our church and sacristy clean and sparkling. This week is the turn of Angelika and Olivia. Thank you.

Parish Donations

Collection Last Week: £477.25 Gift Aid: £91

Cafod Collection: £649.80

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

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Br. Stephen Innes and David Murphy and keep their families also in your prayers.

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially Therese O'Malley, Linda Parrott, Aline Beaupiere, Margaret Corcoran, Oonagh Clarkson, Albert Paintin, Bernadette O'Reilly and Connie Marshall. 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.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 16th October 2022 Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

6.30 p.m. (Sat) Kieron Hughes 9.00 a.m. Thanks giving 11.00 a.m. Parishioners

5.30 p.m. Horacio da costa, Leandro Reis

Amaral, Flaminia Reis Amaral

R.I.P.

Monday 17th St Ignatius of Antioch

7.30 a.m. Br. Antonio Int.

Tuesday 18th St Luke the Evangelist

7.30 a.m. Kieron Hughes

Wednesday 19th St Frideswide

7.30 a.m. Friars and Benefactors

Thursday 20th

7.30 a.m. Anna McDonagh R.I.P. anniv.

Friday 21st

7.30 a.m. Kieron Hughes

Saturday 22nd

8.00 a.m. Nellie Quirke

6.30 p.m. (Vigil) Winnie and Christy Joyce R.I.P.

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