



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
Greyfriars, Iffley Road, Oxford, OX4 1SB
Parish Priest: Br. Martin Mikuskiewicz OFM Cap
Tel. No. 01865 256 750 (Parish), 01865 243694 (Friary)
Email: ofmca.oxford@rcaob.org.uk
Website: www.greyfriarsoxford.uk

Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B) – 17th October 2021

1st Reading – Isaiah 53:10-11

Psalm – May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

2nd Reading – Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel – Mark 10:35-45

Suffering, temptation, service. This is the portrayal of the cost of true discipleship in today's readings. In other words, a reminder that we are all called to service, and in order to fulfil that mission well we need to prepare ourselves realistically to face suffering and temptation that will come our way. Is it possible for this message to become attractive? We cannot simply gloss over it and say to one another that it's just a small part to go through, and in the end, we need to focus on the Resurrection! If we wish jump over the mystery of the Cross too quickly, then as Jesus tells us, we have little to do with Him.

Prophet Isaiah tells us that it is precisely through the suffering of Jesus we have been justified, He took upon Himself our faults. He offered His very life for you and me, and left us an example to follow. Resurrection can only truly be experienced when our lives become selfless offerings after Our Lord's example, lives that are not so much focused on how do I get to heaven, but how can I facilitate that journey for my brothers and sisters. Many things will inevitably flow out of such reflection.

The Pastoral Letter from our Archbishop reminds us that the whole Church has begun a very special time dedicated to reflection on what the Holy Spirit is conveying to the Church at this time. As a parish community we also have a part to play in this whole process, and to use this time of grace to pray for the gift of greater openness to the Spirit of God and to one another. We always need to look forward with hope and trust that God is creating something new, essentially giving us a new heart. When the whole Church is seeking that newness, we may be sure that the Lord would never refuse us the gift of His Spirit. In the weeks to come we will respond more formally to the Church's call, but in the meantime let us continue to pray for the Spirit to be present and at work within us.

Br. Charles Serignat OFM Cap R.I.P. – His body will be received into the church on Sunday at 7p.m. Requiem Mass will be on Monday 25th October at 11a.m. His funeral Mass will be on Tuesday 26th at 10a.m. in Pantasaph. Thank you to all parishioners and others who have been praying for Br. Charles during these last months of his illness.

Anne Sanderson R.I.P. – Br. Martin Sanderson is very grateful for the community's prayers for his mother and his family at this time. Br. Martin Sanderson's mother died last Wednesday evening. May she rest in peace. Amen.

Church Hall Renovations – As you can see we are still awaiting the vital works to be carried out on our parish hall in order to prevent water damaging the building further. We are planning a good clean of the hall in the meantime so that we can start using the space for various parish events and functions. The plan is to have a parish hall we can all be proud of, a warm and welcoming place not just for parishioners, but also for the use of the wider community. All of this will need a lot of financial assistance and I together with the parish committee responsible for the project of renovating the hall will be calling on your support in many ways in the near future. Start thinking about ways in which we can fundraise as a community or you as an individual. We will be presenting our proposals as well as the journey towards achieving our goals through our website and in the porch at the back of the church. I pray we will all engage with the work, even if your contribution would be to pray for its success. It is all deeply appreciated.

Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers – Please inform the parish priest if you are an extraordinary eucharistic minister in the parish and would like to continue with this ministry. So far there has been no response since last week. This service is a vital support to our community in our celebrations of the Eucharist, as well as providing a visible link with our sick parishioners who can no longer join us for the celebration in church for whatever reason.

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.

Rosary Prayer Group Fridays 7.00p.m. – From next Friday we would like to resume our weekly Rosary Prayer Group. We would meet every week in church to ask Our Lady's protection over our parishioners and the whole world. Come and join us.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Just a note to remind all parishioners that our church opens from 5.30 p.m. on Saturday evenings for a time of silent adoration of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. It is a perfect opportunity for some quiet prayer and reflection, which ends at 6.15 p.m. with benediction.

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. – Our course will be starting shortly. I would encourage parishioners to keep in prayer those adults who will be preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation or become a member of the Catholic Church at Easter.

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

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.

Diocesan Newsletter

To keep up-to-date with all the latest news, information and online events from across the Archdiocese and beyond please sign up to the newsletter, issued every few weeks via email.

Please visit www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news to sign up.

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 17th October 2021 Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

6.30 p.m. (Sat) Holy Souls
9.00 a.m. Kieran Hughes
11.00 a.m. Mr. Santana R.I.P.
5.30 p.m. Parishioners

Monday 18th

St. Luke

7.30 a.m. Maria Ceu Bijou Gomes
R.I.P.

Tuesday 19th

St. Frideswide, Solemnity

7.30 a.m. St. Anthony's Guild

Wednesday 20th

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

Thursday 21st

7.30 a.m. C.M.A.

Friday 22nd

St. John Paul II

7.30 a.m. Nellie Quirke

Saturday 23rd

St. John Capistran

8.00 a.m. Maria Pereira
6.30 p.m. Parishioners

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.