



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
Greyfriars, Iffley Road, Oxford, OX4 1SB
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Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19th February 2023

1st Reading – Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18

Psalm – The Lord is compassion and love.

2nd Reading – 1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Gospel – Matthew 5:38-48

Ash Wednesday – This coming Wednesday the season of Lent begins. Apart from our usual morning Mass at 7.30am, there will be an evening Mass at 7.00pm. ‘Ash Wednesday is the doorway into our Lenten season of renewal – a day rich in associations and symbolism. It marks the beginning of Lent – a time for turning again to the practice of our faith, in prayer, self-denial (fasting) and practical generosity (almsgiving). Although it is not a Holy Day of Obligation, many Catholics consider it important to receive ashes on this day. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of a period of 40 days (Sundays excluded) in which Catholics prepare for Eastertide. This period also represents the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert as well as the 40 years that the Israelites spent in exile. The ashes themselves come from the burned palms from last year’s Palm Sunday celebration: thus bringing us full circle to our last celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. On Ash Wednesday, we are reminded that we are called to turn away from sin, to repent and to believe the Good News of our salvation through Jesus Christ. Receiving Ashes (*An outward sign of an inner step*) “As we cross this threshold we customarily receive ashes on our foreheads, in the sign of the cross. This is a public mark of our turning again to God, seeking his mercy, forgiveness and help. “We use these words: ‘Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return’. Yes, we cannot pretend otherwise. Or: ‘Repent, and

believe in the Gospel'. Yes, we seek the one thing that is absolutely necessary: the grace of God.'" (taken from www.cbcew.org.uk)

Taizé Group - The next Taizé will be on Thursday 23 Feb 2023 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.

Stations of the Cross – This Friday 24th February we will meditate on the Stations of the Cross at 7pm in the church. We walk from station to station in order to re-live the mystery of Our Lord's Passion and Death that He has undergone out of love for us and in order to set us free from sin. How do we repay

40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration – On Friday 17th February 9:00am – 9:00pm, Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th February 7:00am – 9:00pm, there is a time of prayer for the repose of the soul of Pope Benedict XVI and all Holy Souls at St. John Henry Newman's Chapel in Littlemore. For times of daily prayer in common check the poster at the back of the church.

Young Adult Group for 18-35s – The group will meet at Holy Rood Church on Abingdon Road. Our next meeting is Monday the 20th of February at 19:30 with Fr Kelvin Ekhoegbe, OCD. Arrive from 19:00 and we will begin the talk at 19:30, have a discussion and end with prayer by 21:00. Contact Kate Preston on 07933765367 if you have any questions. All are welcome.

Refreshments in the hall – Please note refreshments are served after 11am Mass only. Tea, coffee, cake and biscuits. Come along and get to know your fellow parishioners.

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 keep our church and sacristy clean and tidy.

Parish Donations

Collection Last Week: £470.27

Gift Aid: £44

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

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 Gillian Mellor. 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.

Prayer for the Diocesan Vision

Spirit of God,
descend on me this day.
Grant me the Spirit of joy, to lift me,
the Spirit of hope to inspire me,
the Spirit of love to surround me and
the Spirit of truth to enlighten my path.
Holy Spirit,
I pray for a new outpouring of your grace,
so that I may grow in worship of your name
in love of you in my prayer
and in my actions towards others.
Come Holy Spirit into my life to guide me.
Strengthen and defend me,
so that I may be drawn ever closer to you.
Help me this day and always
to be a channel of grace
in all I say and do
and invite others into relationship with you.
Amen

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 19th February 2023 Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)		
6.30 p.m. (Sat)	Johnny & Mary O'Leary R.I.P.	
9.00 a.m.	Joe Irene	
11.00 a.m.	Parishioners	
5.30 p.m.	Paula Um Lam Han	
Monday 20th		
7.30 a.m.	1) Br. Antonio's Int. 2) Friars & Benefactors	
Tuesday 21st		
7.30 a.m.	1) Margaret & Mary Kate Joyce 2) Marie Simai R.I.P.	
Wednesday 22nd		Ash Wednesday
7.30 a.m.	1) Hilda Garda Nagyova 2) Mag Cawley R.I.P.	
7.00 p.m.	Parishioners	
Thursday 23rd		
7.30 a.m.	1) Padre Pio Prayer Group Int. 2) Tomboy Maughan R.I.P.	
Friday 24th		
7.30 a.m.	1) Joe Joyce & family 2) Mary Maughan Int.	
Saturday 25th		
8.00 a.m.	1) Maria C. C. Pereira Int.	
6.30 p.m. (Vigil)	Parishioners	