



St. Edmund and St. Frideswide R.C. Church
Greyfriars, Iffley Road, Oxford, OX4 1SB
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Fifth Sunday of Easter Year C – 15th May 2022

1st Reading – Acts 14:21-27

Psalm – I will bless your name for ever, O God my King.

2nd Reading – Revelation 21:1-5

Gospel – John 13:31-35

Statement from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales:

'A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity - "The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist." It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as "the Sunday Obligation." Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply. We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation. Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. "Virtual viewing" of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual

comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound. We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence. In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord's Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person. As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.'

Taizé Group - The next meeting will be on **Thursday 26 May 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 friendships.

Taizé Prayer for Peace – On Sunday 29th May at 3.30pm there will be a Taizé prayer for peace taking place at the Oxford University Church. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Parish Social – On **Saturday 25th June starting at 12noon** we will be holding our parish social. Please put the date in your diary and pray for good weather. Details of the event will be made known soon.

On Fire! Evangelisation Conference – Young Catholic Adult Network in collaboration with Durham University (Centre for Catholic Studies) will be hosting this conference **9 – 11 September 2022**. You can register for it now, please look at the poster at the back of the church for details.

Coffee mornings – A chance to catch up with your fellow parishioners is there every Sunday morning after our 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m. Masses. Everyone is welcome.

Inspire Younger Generations - Do you enjoy working with children and young people? If so, you are invited to be part of CAFOD's education programme which inspires students to act on their sense of justice. A background in education is not necessary. We are looking for people with good interpersonal skills, an interest in CAFOD's work and who can connect well with young people. You will be asked to go into Catholic schools in the locality to deliver prepared assemblies and/or workshops about once a term. All necessary training, travel expenses and resources will be provided and you will have the ongoing friendship and support of a local team. Please get in touch with Deborah to know more about this amazing role: northampton@cafod.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to our wonderful team.

Rosary Prayer Group – We continue to say the rosary together in the parish on Fridays at 7.00 p.m. Join us when you can.

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.

Altar Servers – If your child would like to serve at the altar during Mass, or you would like them to do so, please get in touch with the parish priest. All relevant training will be provided.

Parish Hall – If you would like to make a specific donation towards the renovation of the parish hall, please specify that you wish that donation to go for that purpose. You can write a cheque made out to Capuchin Oxford Parish, or donate via bank transfer to the Capuchin Oxford Parish Account (Acc. No. 50154109 Sort Code 60-70-03). Thank you for your support and generosity.

Church cleaning – This week we thank Michael and Isobel for coming to clean the church. If you would like to lend a helping hand and join the rota to clean the church please get in touch.

Collection Last Week: £379.14

Gift Aid: £ 65

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

Mass Times and Intentions

Sunday 15th May 2022 Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year C)

6.30 p.m. (Sat) Minino Pereira R.I.P.
9.00 a.m. Lucas Tilman R.I.P.
11.00 a.m. Mary Gaffey R.I.P.
5.30 p.m. Angelina Soares, Deolinda
 Barbosa, Domingas Soares,
 Fernando Maia, Bakhita Maia

Monday 16th

St. Margaret of Cortona

7.30 a.m. Christy & Winnie Joyce R.I.P.

Tuesday 17th

St. Paschal Baylon

7.30 a.m. David Collins

Wednesday 18th

St. Felix of Cantalice

7.30 a.m. Br. Martin Sanderson's Int.

Thursday 19th

St. Crispin of Viterbo

7.30 a.m. Charley & Elizabeth Lee & Ginny
& Susie Cole & family

Friday 20th

St. Bernardine of Siena

7.30 a.m. Bartolomeo and Palma R.I.P.

Saturday 21st

8.00 a.m. Anne & Paddy & Nico & family
6.30 p.m. (Vigil) Parishioners

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

Please pray for those members of our community who are sick, especially **Therese O'Malley, Linda Parrott, Aline Beaupiere, Margaret Corcoran, Oonagh Clarkson**. 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.