

Teams for :	14/12	21/12	28/12	4/1	11/1
Children lit.	none	none	none	none	
Coffee 9am (11)	5	6	7	8	9
Coffee 11am (9)8	6	7	9	1	2
Flowers	none	All	All	All	All to dismantle

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND
We include those in hospitals, nursing homes and their own homes: Mary Lynch, K Cashman, Jean McIntosh, Gerry Wright, Paul Chrisp.
ROSARY: Daily 25 minutes before Mass starts. DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Every Tuesday at 2.00pm in Church. BAPTISMS/WEDDINGS: Please contact the Parish Office through email or phone. CONFESSIONS: <i>Saturday Bicester: 10.30am-11.30am</i> <i>Hethe: 3.15pm-3.50 pm (Sacristy)</i> URSULINE LAY ASSOCIATION: Every 2nd Wednesday of the month @ 2pm Ursuline Convent. EAST TIMOR COMMUNITY PRAYER: First Sunday of the month at 5.00pm. Various locations. PARISH OUTREACH GROUP: Contact the Office if you need some form of practical help. PIETY SHOP: Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday around Masses.

COFFEE MORNING £183.51 was raised at last week. Thank you to the organisers and supporters for their continued enthusiasm and willingness. Please note that the team will be taking a well earned rest in January therefore, the next Coffee Morning will be on Friday, 6th February 2026 at the usual time of 10am. The team look forward to seeing you all then!
THE BGN SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE will be held at St John's The Evangelist Catholic Church in Banbury on Tuesday, 16th December at 7:00pm. Everyone is welcome.

YOU ARE INVITED TO ST MARY’S SCHOOL All parishioners are warmly invited to the **Key Stage 2 Carol Concert** on Thursday, 18 December at 9.00am, to be held in the School Hall. Please do come along!

ADVENT MASSES AT ST MARYS SCHOOL The final Advent Mass held at school, will be on Friday, 19th December at 8am. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES Bicester: Monday, 15th December at 7pm. St John’s, Banbury: Friday, 19th December at 7pm. A number of priests will be available to hear confessions at both services, please make every effort to attend one of these.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE Please remember to return any raffle ticket stubbs and payments in good time for the draw to Sr Molly or the parish office. Payments can be made buy card under Christmas Raffle/Stars. £1 per ticket or £10 per book. The draw will take place on Sunday, 21st December during coffee after the 11am Mass.

CHRISTMAS TREE STARS Forms are available for stars that will adorn our Christmas trees. These can be bought in remembrance or for the intentions of loved ones. 1 star for £3, 2 for £5 or 4 for £10. Payments in cash or by card machine accepted option ‘Raffle/Stars’. Please deliver by 21st Dec.

QR CODE Payments for stars and raffle tickets, mass offerings, all payments and donations can be made from the comfort of your home by scanning the QR code with your phone, please remember to select the correct option.

COULD YOU BE A HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEER IN LOURDES? Are you a doctor, nurse or carer? Would you consider donating your time and expertise on next year’s Lourdes Pilgrimage? Every year sick pilgrims are able to make the journey to Lourdes thanks to the support of a dedicated Healthcare Team. Without their expertise many pilgrims would not be

able to go. If you are a healthcare professional and would like to try something new please consider joining us. You will make a real difference. For more information, and to access the Volunteer Pilgrimage Pack and an application form, please visit <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage> or scan the QR code.

MASS INTENTIONS Availability is now from January 2026. Please give plenty of notice if a specific date is to be requested. If a funeral takes place on the requested date, then it take precedence and the requested mass intention will be moved the nearest available date. Please continue to use the Mass Offering envelopes even if you pay by card. If paying by card please remember to add at least the surname of the person/s mass is to be said for when asked for a message. Thank you.

JOIN US ON THE WHATS APP COMMUNITY CATHOLIC BICESTER GROUP FOR TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH PARISH INFORMATION & NEWS. THERE ARE ALSO SEPARATE GROUPS FOR CHURCH GROUPS CREATED WITHIN THE APP. SCAN THE QR CODE AND FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS.



JUBILEE YEAR 2025

“Pilgrims of Hope”



To find out more, visit: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year or scan:

MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER There will be no masses on this day. There will, however be Mass at 9.30am on Wednesday 24th. Any volunteers to help clean the church on 22nd or 23rd would be much appreciated.

Christmas Mass times for Bicester and Hethe

Christmas Eve
9.30am Bicester
2pm Bicester
6pm Bicester
8pm Hethe
11.30pm Carols & Midnight Mass – Bicester

Christmas Day
9am and 11am - Bicester

St Stephen’s Day
12 noon – Bicester followed by Pizza lunch for Altar Servers

Please find attached to the bulletin offering envelopes for our Parish Priest, our traditional offerings to him at Christmas time.



DIARY DATES:
Coffee Mornings Every first Friday of the month from 10-11.45am.
Diocesan Intercultural Mass and Social Saturday 21st February 2026.
Mass of Confirmation Friday 20th March 2026 at 7pm.
Baptism Course - Saturday 31st January 10am-12 noon.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CANDLE MONEY Please place money into wall collection box at the back of church near the piety shop. Alternatively pay by card ‘Sanctuary lamps & votives.’


DECEMBER 14th/21st/28th Parish Maintenance.
24th/25th Christmas Offerings to Parish Priest.

PARISH GIVING

BICESTER LINK TO DONATE:
<https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=528>
Standing Orders/Donations/Payments/100 Club
Bicester: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02342731
Hethe: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02301466

Mass intentions offerings: By cash in offering envelopes from the back of church or option ‘mass offerings’ on card machine, please enter surname when prompted.

CONTACTLESS You can also donate by scanning the QR code with your phone or by card at the machine in the church porch. If you pay tax, please consider Gift Aiding your donation. Each time you make a subsequent donation using the same card, Gift Aid will be collected automatically. Gift Aid it!! You could add 25% to the value of your donation. Contact Sr Sani the Parish Gift Aid Co-ordinator. For details email: bicester@rcaob.org.uk




An Induction Loop system is provided. Please switch Hearing Aid to ‘T’

This church live streams Mass and other events. Parish YouTube ‘Bicester Catholic Church’ Channel

Go to the website or follow this link
<https://camstreamer.com/redirect/SfORcspHjzNr8niFC4Is5oJQBgc37B8YBCjKVpC>

Follow the readings at Mass: <https://universalis.com/mass.htm>
A CCTV System operates 24 hours a day. This is in place for the safety of people, protection of property and crime prevention.



The Catholic Parishes of

Immaculate Conception @BICESTER

And Holy Trinity @


Hardwick Rd, HETHE OX27 8AW

Henley House, 12 Causeway, Bicester, OX26 6AW

Parish website: <https://www.immaculate-conception.org.uk>

Archdiocesan : <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk> Deanery: <https://banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk>

The Parishes of the Immaculate Conception & Holy Trinity are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No: 234216




THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday Cycle A - Psalter Week 3


Month of December is dedicated to The Immaculate Conception

Pope’s Prayer Intention - For Christians in areas of conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, may be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.



DATE	TIME	INTENTIONS	FEASTS	LECTORS	E O MINISTERS	WELCOMERS
SAT 13th Vigil Mass	10am - 4.00pm 4.00 pm Hethe 6.00pm	Day of Prayer @ Hethe People of the Parish Ints of Margaret Woodford	Mem of St Lucy, V, M	Volunteer C McArdle/H King	B Santiago/ M Doherty	B McFall/volunteer
SUN 14th	9.00am 11.00am 6.00pm 6.30pm (IC)	Bernadette James (RIP) Ints of Alan Marshall (80th Birthday) Carol Service at Holy Trinity, Hethe Ukrainian Divine Liturgy	Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday	H Gerrow/ S McCarthy R Evans/J Hurst	A Hall/M Kelly J & J Kokore	A & R Parati Rowena Elgado & Friends
MON 15th	9.30am 12 noon (Chu) 7.00pm	Melanie Mulheron (RIP) Pat & Alice Beggs (RIP) Penance Service	Advent Feria	M Daniel		
TUE 16th	9.30am	Ints of Leonard Henaway & Refaat El-Malki	Advent Feria	H King		
WED 17th	7.30pm-8.30pm	RCIA in the Centre No Mass today	Advent Feria			
THU 18th	9.30am	Jose Magelo (RIP)	Advent Feria	L Cleeve		
FRI 19th	8.00am (Sch) 12 noon	Advent School Mass —Holy Souls Ken Babington (RIP)	Advent Feria	E King		
SAT 20th Vigil Mass	10.00am 10.30am-11.30am 4.00pm @ Hethe 6.00pm	Silveriand & Teresita Anddy (RIP) Exposition, Benediction & Confessions People of the Parish Don Burton (RIP)	Mem of Our Lady	Volunteer P & K Kallay	Sr Sani/Sr Rose	B & L Hattam
SUN 21st	9.00am 11.00am 12.30pm	Abilio Soares (RIP) Florencio B Liporada Snr (RIP) Coffee & Christmas Raffle Draw in the Centre	Fourth Sunday of Advent Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers	C Moyse/C St John J Franta/ A Kearsley	Volunteer/ J Hartley J Marshall/ Sr Sani	Sr Molly / C Cleeve Kokore Family

Bambenelli Sunday—Bring your ‘Baby Jesus’ from your nativity sets to be blessed at Mass next weekend ready for Christmas Day.



Fairtrade tea & coffee in the centre after the 9am and 11am Masses every weekend & monthly on Fridays throughout the year - come along for a chat and meet your fellow parishioners. Donations can now be made by card—option ‘Coffee Mornings’




This week we pray for...

SANCTUARY LIGHT: Job Prospects (N Li)
OUR LADY’S CHAPEL: Grandmother Ho Faying (sick)

If you wish to sponsor one of the sanctuary lamps which perpetually burn in the Church, please complete and return a slip to the parish office or sisters.

Safeguarding: Both our Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding. Guidance & the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parishes Safeguarding Representatives are:
Elizabeth Green: sg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk &
Les Cleeve: sg.holytrinity.hethe@rcaob.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Team 0121 2306240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.



Holy Trinity Hethe

Church	First Collection	Second Collection	Poor Parishes	Standing Orders	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£836.99	£206.09		£1122	484
Hethe	£84.54	£20		£198	41

Parish Priest: Father Craig Davies BA (hons) STB fr.craig.davies@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Deacons:
Rev Mr Michael Panejko MA 01869 246 459
Altar Servers: dce.michael.panejko@rcaob.org.uk
Rev Mr Nick St John: 01869 246 787 /**Parish Youth:** yth.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
Retired Priest: Rev. Fr. Pat Armstrong
Parish Sisters: Ursuline Convent - Sr Rose Mathew - 01869 327 689
Parish Office/Secretary: Lucia Hattam Wednesday & Friday 9am–4pm
01869 253277 / tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
St John Paul II Centre Bookings: Srs Sani & Molly Monday-Friday 10am-4pm
01869 324 307 / office@johnpaulcentre.co.uk
Gift Aid - Sr Sani Vijayan ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Sacramental Programme - Clare St John psc.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
Go to contacts page on website for parish group contacts.

Archdiocese of Birmingham: “Our Vision is to be a Catholic Diocese which is faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour”.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entrance Antiphon: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.

First reading
Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
‘God himself will come and save you.’

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who have an anxious heart, ‘Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you.’ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Sion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm Come, Lord, and save us.

Second reading
James 5:7-10
‘Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.’

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not grumble against one another, brothers and sisters, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor
Alleluia.

Gospel
Matthew 11:2-11
‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’

At that time: When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’
And Jesus answered them, ‘Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.’
As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: ‘What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ‘What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written, “Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.” Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.’

The Gospel of the Lord
All: Praise to you Lord, Jesus Christ

ORDER OF MASS DURING ADVENT

Priest: In the name of the Father
People: Amen
Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.
Penitential Act
Everyone: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.



After the first and second readings
Reader: The Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God
Gospel acclamation
Reader: Alleluia... (a few words)
People: Alleluia.

Before the Gospel reading
Priest/Deacon: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit.
Priest/Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to...
People: Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel reading
Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Homily

The Nicene Creed

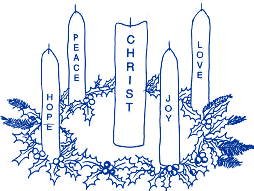
Everyone: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (all bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Bidding Prayers

All: Hear our Prayer or Lord, graciously hear us.



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: The Lord be with you. People: And with your spirit.
Priest: Lift up your hearts. People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. People: It is right and just.

Everyone: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

Priest: The mystery of faith.

People: ONE OF THESE:

- A We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.
- B When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.
- C Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Doxology

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

People: Amen
Priest: At the Saviour’s command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say: Our Father....
Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every
People: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: And with your spirit.
Priest/Deacon: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.
To each other: Peace be with you

Lamb of God

People: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (2)
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.
Priest: Behold the Lamb of God,

People: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Concluding Rites

Priest: The Lord be with you.
People: And with your spirit
Priest: May almighty God.....
All: Amen
Priest/Deacon: Go forth the Mass is ended.
All: Thanks be to God.