

Teams for :	21/12	28/12	4/1	11/1	18/1	25/1
Children lit.	none	none	none			
Coffee 9am (11)	6	7	8	9	10	11
Coffee 11am (9)	7	9	1	2	3	4
Flowers	All	All	All	All dismantle	Portia/Adelia	Jan/Sally

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: Saturday Bicester: 10.30am-11.30am Hethe: 3.15pm-3.50 pm (Sacristy)

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.

WELCOMERS—CHRISTMAS MASSES As usual we will expect a lot of visitors to pass through our doors over Christmas. Because of family obligations many of our usual welcomers are unable to minister. If you are able to help with giving out hymn books or service sheets and help with collections please let the sisters or clergy know, alternatively add your names to the list on the notice board in advance. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE The draw will take place this Sunday, 21st December during coffee after the 11am Mass. Winners will be posted on the notice board and on Whats App. Please collect prizes promptly from the sacristy. Thank you for all your support in selling and buying tickets!

CHRISTMAS TREE STARS Please deliver all forms by this weekend.

QR CODE Payments for stars and raffle tickets, mass offerings, crib collection, 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.



ST STEPHEN'S DAY Mass will be held at 12 noon on Friday, 26th December. Some of our altar servers will be receiving medals, for service to the Guild of St Stephen. All altar servers and their families are invited for a pizza lunch in the centre afterwards.

PIETY SHOP Diocesan Directories 2026 are available at £5 per copy along with a small selection of 2026 calendars and also some Christmas gifts and beautiful handmade cards.

NO MASSES Please note that there will be no Masses on weekdays in the week commencing 29th December, nor on Saturday 3rd January at 10am. Masses at 4pm at Hethe and 6pm in Bicester will take place as usual on 3rd January and thereafter.

PARISH OFFICE Please note that the office will be closed from Wednesday, 24th December and reopen on Friday, 2nd January at 10am.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY The Solemnity of the Epiphany will be celebrated on Tuesday, 6th January. Masses will be held at 10am here in church, with St Mary's School attending, at 2pm at Hethe and at 7pm again here in Bicester.

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation The next RCIA session will be in the new year on Wednesday, 7th January at 7.30pm in the centre.

POLISH CAROL SERVICE & SOCIAL This will take place on Sunday, 11th January from 4pm in church followed by social in the centre. All welcome.

UKRAINIAN LITURGY Ukrainian Divine Liturgy with Fr Taras Dovbaniuk from Coventry, will take place on every second Sunday of the month at 6.30pm, here in church for all our Ukrainian parishioners and anyone who wishes to attend.

100 CLUB NOVEMBER WINNERS £100 K Cashman—40, £50 M Smith—47, £25 E Penhallow - 16. An extra Christmas prize of £100 will be drawn in the December draw—good luck! Please collect winnings from Sr Sani.

COFFEE MORNING 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!

DIARY DATE: PARISH PILGRIMAGE A pilgrimage to Fatima will take place from Friday, 7th August — Tuesday, 11th August 2026. Price: £695 sharing, £795 single room. Flights from Bristol airport. Optional insurance £55 pp. More details to follow in the new year.

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:



CRIB COLLECTION

The crib collection this year will go towards Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) Sans Frontières / Doctors Without Borders (MSF). Their teams act fast to save people's lives in conflict zones, natural disasters and epidemics.

Charity Reg. No. 1026588. Please go to <https://msf.org.uk/> to find out more information on the work they do.

Thank you in advance for your donations.

The church will be open daily for you to visit between 9-3pm.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS Our traditional Christmas offerings for our Parish Priest will be taken on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Envelopes are available at the back of church.

Card offerings under option 'Christmas—Parish Priest'

I pray that the peace and joy of Christ may fill our hearts and homes anew this year. I pray also that the New Year may bring many blessings upon our parish as we grow together in the service of the Lord.

Fr Craig Davies.



We are grateful to Bruern Abbey School, Chesterton and to Finders Keepers Estate Agents, Bicester for sponsoring our Christmas trees this year.

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 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

HETHE BICESTER



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/>

[SfORcspHizNr8niFC4Is5oJQBgoc37B8YBCjKvPc](https://www.facebook.com/SfORcspHizNr8niFC4Is5oJQBgoc37B8YBCjKvPc)

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



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday Cycle A - Psalter Week 4

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 20th Vigil Mass	4.00pm @ Hethe 6.00pm	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
MON 22nd		No Masses	Advent Feria			
TUE 23rd	9.30am	In Thanksgiving - 60th Birthday - J Kokore	Advent Feria	J Kokore		
WED 24th	9.30 am 2.00pm 6.00pm 8.00pm@Hethe 11.30pm 12 midnight	Ints of Brendan Duggan (RIP) In thanksgiving—Jiminez family Bill & Kitty Hornby, Angela Nelson & Hilda McNicholl (RIP) People of the Parish Carols Fiona Mary Beasley & Eithne McDonagh (RIP)	VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY	Volunteer P Sims S McCarthy / C Moyse H King	Sr Sani/volunteer D Gunaratna/ Volunteer Volunteers	J Marshall S & M Doherty Volunteers Volunteers
THU 25th	9.00am 11.00am	Mike Gosling (RIP) Ints of Ho Fa Ying (sick)	Solemnity of The Nativity of the Lord	A Mutton/C Moyse H King	C Hartley/volunteer J Marshall	C St John Kokore Family
FRI 26th	12 noon	Holy Souls followed by Alter Servers Social in the Centre	Feast of St Stephen, First Martyr	J Marshall	Volunteer	Kokore Family
SAT 27th Vigil Mass	10.00am 10.30am-11.30am 4.00pm @ Hethe 6.00pm	Joan Burns (RIP) Exposition, Benediction & Confessions People of the Parish Lisa King & Maurice Purtik (RIP)	Feast of St John, A, E	Volunteer B McFall /Sr Molly	S & M Doherty	M Marrs/P Behan
SUN 28th	9.00am 11.00am 1.00pm	Igor Piskowski (RIP) Birthday In Thanksgiving—Franklin Family Baptism - Baby Schlich	Feast of The Holy family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	L & S Taylor T Lane/ N Ward	Volunteer/C Hartley U Edwards/ Sister	C St John/A Mutton Franta Family

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: Jim & Joan Bridle (RIP)
OUR LADY'S CHAPEL: Sister Anne-Marie Frearson
 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.

Church	First Collection	Second Collection	Standing Orders	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£796.56	£140.38	£1122	467
Hethe	£40		£198	26

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".

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Entrance Antiphon: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First reading

Isaiah 7:10-14

‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive.’

In those days: The LORD spoke to Ahaz: ‘Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.’ But Ahaz said, ‘I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.’ And Isaiah said, ‘Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel.’

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm *Let the LORD enter; he is the king of glory.*

Second reading

Romans 1:1-7

Jesus Christ, descended from David, Son of God.

Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an Apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel — which means, God with us. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 1:18-24

Jesus was born of Mary, who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to send her away quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.’

All this took place to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

‘Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel’ — which means, God with us.

When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife.

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

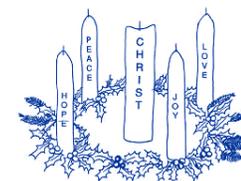
Everyone: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial 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.**