

Teams for	25/2	3/3	10/3	17/3	24/3	31/3	7/4
Children lit. (4)	4	1	2	none	3	none	none
Coffee 9am (10)	9	10	1	2	3	4	5
Coffee 11am (9)	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
Flowers	Lent	Lent	Lent	Jo	Sisters	All	All

**LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:**  
Mary Lynch, Victor Francis, K Cashman, Tim Charles, Helena Nowak & Jean McIntosh.

**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:** Hethe: **Saturday from 3.15pm - 3.50 pm (in the Sacristy)** Bicester: 5.15 pm - 5.45pm  
**EAST TIMOR COMMUNITY PRAYER:** First Sunday of the month at 5.00pm @ Ursuline Convent  
**HOLY HOUR:** Every First Friday from 6.00pm to 7.00pm (Not during Lent)  
**PARISH OUTREACH GROUP:** Please contact the Office if you need some form of practical help -252 277.  
**PIETY SHOP:** Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday around Masses.  
**URSULINE LAY ASSOCIATES MEETING:** 2nd Wednesday of every month at 2pm @ Ursuline Convent.

**CAFOD LENTEN FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL** Your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools & training to feed their families for good. Give using the gift aid envelope or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) or via our card machine under option '2nd Collections' and please join us praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

**SYMPATHY** Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of **Theresa Robertson**, of Wyndham Hall. A service for Theresa will be held at North Oxford Crematorium on Wednesday, 6th March at 12 noon.  
**Mee Yung, SZE (Simon)** Simon's body will be received into church on Wednesday, 6th March at 6pm and a Requiem Mass will be held on Thursday, 7th March at 10.30am. Simon's ashes will be interred into the Foynes Memorial Garden at a later date. *May they rest in peace.*

**FEBRUARY COFFEE MORNING:** Total raised £188. A big thank you to all supporters and organisers. The next Coffee Morning with Bingo at 11.30am, will take place on Friday, 1st March from 10am. I look forward to welcoming you all.

**SAFEGUARDING IN ACTION:** The Diocesan Safeguarding team are visiting us here at Immaculate Conception Parish on Saturday, 2nd March, from 10am—2pm for a 'Walk In' session. They will be available for discussion, questions and information sharing related to Safeguarding. Drop in any time and have a chat. Talk/presentation at 12 noon.

**TALK** An excellent opportunity to hear the American Catholic Evangelist **Jimmy Mitchell** give a talk on the evening of Sunday, 3rd March at 6.30pm at St Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Edmunds Rd, Banbury OX16 0PP **All welcome to attend.**

**PARISH VISITATION:** Canon Paul Fitzpatrick will be visiting our parish over the weekend of 16th and 17th March. During his stay, he will be meeting with both our Deacons, Parish Community, Parish Sisters, Head Teacher, Chair of Governors of our parish school, couple of sick parishioners and with me. On Sunday, after 11 am Mass we will have a Bring and Share Lunch celebration.

**CHURCH GROUNDS SPRING CLEAN** Volunteers are needed to help tidy up the church grounds, ideally a dozen volunteers! If you can help on Saturday, 23rd March from 2-4pm please speak to Lucia or email the Parish Office. Sweeping, tidying, and general gardening.

**PILGRIMS CROSS** Invite new pilgrims to join them in their Pilgrimage from Oxford to Walsingham (they visit us annually on route and attend the Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday), 104 miles over 7 days. If you are interested please see more information on the church notice board.

**COMMISSIONING OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS** This will take place during Holy Thursday evening Mass. All ministers are asked to attend to be commissioned for this role. If you would like to become an Extraordinary Minister please speak to me (Canon John).

**LILIES IN REMEMBRANCE** If you would like to contribute towards the Easter flowers then please complete and return a form which can be found at the back of church. All loved ones will also be remembered during the Easter Vigil Mass. Payments can be made by card option 'Easter Flowers.'

**PIETY SHOP** Has now got new items in stock for St Patrick's Day, Easter, Confirmation and Mothers Day. Come and have a browse!

**SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES** If anyone speaks Turkish and would like to assist a new Turkish speaking family please contact Janet Marshall. Many thanks to all who kindly donated items. No more items are needed.

**PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP** have published a Lenten Challenge to Reduce our Carbon Footprint leaflet which is available at the back of church and on our website. Please take time to read it and take action to help reduce the effects of climate change.



### DURING LENT

#### What Do We Do during Lent?

Lent is a time when participants can carry out a three-fold mission, with the key pillars being fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. Certainly, these components are not new within our Catholic teachings nor are they reserved only for Lent, as we are encouraged to practice them regularly throughout the year. However, a special and renewed focus on each of them during Lent can foster growth and appreciation within our collective faith and respective spiritual journeys.

**HOLY HOUR AND MASS FOR VOCATIONS:** On Thursday, 21st from 6 pm to 7pm Holy Hour followed by Mass at 7pm.

**THE CHOSEN SEASON2 'The Chosen'** will continue on Thursdays on the following dates at the St John Paul II Centre at 7pm. February 29th, March 7th & 14th.

**GROW YOUR FAITH:** Scriptural reflections on how one can "Grow their Faith", is on Wednesday, 28th February at 7pm in JP II Centre.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday at 7pm during Lent.

**LENTEN MASSES AT SCHOOL** These will take place on Thursdays at 8am during Lent. All Welcome.

**HOLY TRINITY, HETHE** Monday films resume after the 9.30am Mass on Mondays. All Welcome. During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9.30am at Hethe.

#### Dates to remember in 2024

Saturday 16th March- Confirmations in both Parishes  
Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th March - Parish Visitations (Both Parishes)  
Saturday 11th May - First Holy Communion (St Mary's) at 11am  
Saturday 18th May - First Holy Communion (non St Mary's) at 11am  
Sunday 2nd June - Corpus Christi Procession after 11 am Mass  
Saturday 22nd June - Parish Forum Meeting 10am-12 noon  
Sunday 7th July - Family Festival & Presentation of Certificates (11am Mass)  
**COFFEE MORNINGS 2024** Dates are now on the notice board.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**  
25th February: Lenten Fast - CAFOD

**PARISH GIVING**

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

**MASS STIPENDS/OFFERINGS:**  
Canon John Y Batthula: Sort code: 60-08-40 Acc. No. 75459760

**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 or speak to me. (Canon John)

**HETHE**

**BICESTER**

Church	First Collection	Second Collection	Standing Orders	Tap & Go Donations	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£407.22	£ 147.82	£1165	£ 240	523
Hethe	£45		£170		29

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

**We use live streaming** Go to the website and/or follow this link <https://mcnmedia.tv/iframe/e8896647923e089406131a3b96e45994de4a89c4> OR <https://www.mcn.live/Camera/church-of-the-immaculate-conception-bicester>



# The Catholic Parishes of Immaculate Conception @BICESTER

And **Holy Trinity @** Hardwick Rd, HETHE OX27 8AW

Henley House, 12 Causeway, Bicester OX26 6AW

[www.immaculate-conception.org.uk](http://www.immaculate-conception.org.uk)

Deanery website: [banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk)

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



**Second Sunday of Lent**  
Sunday Cycle B - Weekdays - Lenten Readings  
Week beginning 25th February - 3rd March 2024 Psalter Week 2

Pope's Prayer Intention for February: We pray that those with a terminal illness, & their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.



## MONTH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

JANUARY	TIME	INTENTIONS	FEASTS	LECTORS	E O MINISTERS	STEWARDS
SAT 24th	4.00 pm @Hethe	People of the Parish	2nd Sunday of Lent			
	6.00 pm	Felipe Teng (RIP)		T Nugent/P Cousins	Sr Rose/Sr Sani	S & M Doherty
Vigil Mass	9.00 am	Confirmation Sponsors Commitment Mass Tony Howington (RIP)		C St John/C Moyse	C Drew/C St John	L & C Cleeve
SUN 25th	11.00 am	Angela Nelson (RIP)		A Kearsley/E Green	D Gunaratna/ J Marshall	Kokore Family
MON 26th	9.30am@ Hethe	Holy Souls	Lent Feria	R Deane		
	12 noon	Mairaid Dwyer (Sick)		M Daniel	J Kokore	
TUE 27th	9.30 am	Intentions of Vincent Muldoon (Sick)	Lent Feria	J Kokore	Sr Sani	
WED 28th	9.30 am	James McDonagh (RIP)	Lent Feria	L Cleeve	J Kokore	
THU 29th	8.00am @Sch	Holy Souls	Lent Feria			
	12 noon	Norma Jean Baker (RIP)		H King	Frankie	
	7.00 pm	"The Chosen" Video				JP II Centre
FRI 1st	10.00 am	MONTHLY COFFEE MORNING				JP II Centre
March	12 noon	Jim Bridle (RIP)	Feast of St David, B	E King	Sr Rose	
	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross				
SAT 2nd	10am - 2.00pm	Deanery Safeguarding Day				JP II Centre
	4.00 pm @Hethe	People of the Parish	Feast of St Chad, B			R Deane
Vigil	6.00 pm	Mike Knibbs (RIP)		Sr Rose/P Sims	O Panejko/B Santiago	B & K McFall
SUN 3rd	9.00 am	Jim Bridle (RIP)	3rd Sunday of Lent	C St John/ C Moyse	P Capretta/ F Ostrowski	C St John/ L Williams
	11.00 am	Int. Paul Bobbet (Sick - for healing)		R Evans/J Hurst	M & J Franta	Jimerez Family

### CAFOD - LENTEN FAMILY FAST DAY - 2nd COLLECTION

**This week we pray for...**  
**SANCTUARY LIGHT: Stan Pachowski RIP**  
**OUR LADY'S LIGHT: D & J Batthula**



**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".

**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](mailto:sg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk) & **Les Cleeve:** [sg.holytrinity.hethe@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.holytrinity.hethe@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Diocesan Safeguarding Team** can be contacted on 0121 2306240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

**Dean of Banbury & Warwick Deanery & Parish Priest**  
Very Rev. Canon John Y Batthula BA, MA, Dip. Cat., MA Ed  
Only for confidential matters: [canonjohn.batthula@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:canonjohn.batthula@rcaob.org.uk)  
Parish Deacons: Rev Mr Michael Panejko MA 01869 246 459  
Rev Mr Nick St John: 01869 246 787  
Retired Priest: Rev. Fr. Pat Armstrong  
Parish Sisters: Ursuline Convent - Sr Rose Mathew - 01869 327 689  
Parish Office: Monday - Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm  
Parish Secretary: Lucia Hattam 01869 253277 / [tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
St John Paul II Centre: Sr Sani Vijayan 01869 324 307 / [office@johnpaulcentre.co.uk](mailto:office@johnpaulcentre.co.uk)  
Gift Aid Email: [ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
St Mary's Catholic School Head Teacher: Mr Daniel O'Connor  
01869 252035 / [office.3824@st-marys-bicester.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3824@st-marys-bicester.oxon.sch.uk)

**Parish Sacramental Programme Coordinator - Clare St John**  
[psc.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:psc.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Parish Children's Liturgy Coordinator - Elspeth Morgan**  
[pclt.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:pclt.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Parish Altar Server's Coordinator - Deacon Michael Panejko**  
[dce.michael.panejko@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dce.michael.panejko@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Parish Youth Coordinator - Deacon Nick St John**  
[yth.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:yth.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
**Parish Environmental & Peace and Justice Group - Janet Marshall**  
[peg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:peg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)



Entrance antiphon: **Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.**

## First Reading

*"The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith."*

Genesis 22: 1-18

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.' When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son. The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Responsorial Psalm

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living ( 3 )**

## Second Reading

*"God did not spare his own Son"*

Romans 8: 31-34

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Glory and Praise to you, O Christ!** From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him.'  
**Glory and Praise to you, O Christ!**

## Gospel

*"This is my Son, the Beloved "*

Mark 9: 2-10

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

The Gospel of the Lord

**All : Praise to you , Lord Jesus Christ.**

## THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

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 Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.....

... (a few words)

People **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

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.**Creed - **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, 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**

## 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 & announce the Gospel of the Lord