



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

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



Holy Trinity Hethe

Archbishop: **The Most Rev Bernard Longley**
 Area Bishop: **Rt. Rev. William Kenney**
 Dean of Banbury Deanery & Parish Priest:
Very Rev. Canon John Y Batthula BA, MA, Dip. Cat., MA Ed
 Assistant Priest: **Fr Robert Carey** STB
 Parish Deacons: **Rev Mr Michael Panajko** MA: 01869 246 459
Rev Mr Nick St John: 01869246 787
 Retired Priest: **Rev. Fr. Pat Armstrong**

Parish Secretary: **Lucia Hattam**
 Gift Aid organiser: **Sr Anu Joseph**
Parish Office: (Monday - Fridays 10am – 3.00pm)
 Email: admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk Parish Phone No: 01869 253277
 St John Paul II Centre: **Sr Sani Vijayan**
 Email: info@johnpaulcentre.co.uk Phone: **01869 324 307**
 Parish Safeguarding: **Elizabeth Green** email: safeguardinbicester@gmail.com
 Head Teacher: **Miss. P. Pickering**
 Tel: 252 035 - St Mary's RC Primary School, Queen's Avenue, Bicester, OX26 2NX
 Parish Sisters: - Superior of the Community **Sr Rose Mathew** - Convent 327 689



1st Sunday of Advent B
29th November 2020 Psalter 1



Dear Parishioners, I am happy to let you know that from Wednesday 2nd December all our Masses are open to the public participation. I look forward to welcoming you all. May I request our volunteers to follow the present rota until 13th December 200. Very soon I will be sending the new rota, which should take us into Lent. May I appeal for more volunteers to come forward to assist us. Let us continue to pray for each other. With many thanks for your co-operation and hard work.

COVID Restrictions Update

As you will be aware the current lockdown is due to end on the 2nd December. I have now received guidelines that confirm that communal worship will be able to restart from the 2nd Dec in all Local Restriction Tiers. I attach a table with the relevant information. Effectively this is a return to the COVID-secure principles that existed in our churches as at the 5th November. A useful link with printable posters representing what can/cannot be done in each tier can be found here:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tier-posters-medium-high-and-very-high?utm_source=3a55a4b5-d043-48b5-86bf-ffa64e5ce602&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate

The decision of the government to allow communal worship in all tiers is in recognition of the importance of what takes place in our churches and of our active collaboration in creating safe environments in our buildings. It is, therefore, important to emphasise that applications of good practice and the encouragement of people to engage fully with what is asked of them must continue. Details of which tier will apply in which area is due to be announced on Thursday of this week.

Government Consultation on Faith Engagement

Individual Catholics have been asked to respond to the following open consultation on the way Government engages with faith communities. The link to the online submission is:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/independent-faith-engagement-review-call-for-evidence>

This call for evidence aims to collect views to underpin a Faith Engagement Review. This call for evidence opened on 13th Nov. and will run for a period of 4 weeks closing at 11:45pm on 11 December 2020. I would like to invite you all to respond to this consultation.

God bless you

Canon John Batthula

NOVEMBER	TIME	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & HOLY TRINITY	FEASTS
SATURDAY 28TH	6.00 PM	Niamh Mooney	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY 29TH	9.30 AM	People of God	
	11.00 AM	Deceased members of French & Hawke family	
	1.30PM-2.30PM	Private Prayer—Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
MONDAY 30TH	9.30 AM	Marysia Gerald (RIP)	Feast of St Andrew, Apostle
TUESDAY 1ST	9.30 AM	Deceased members of Ostrowski family & Pets	Feast of St Edmund Champion PM
WEDNESDAY 2ND	8.00 AM @ School	For the wellbeing of the Staff and their families	Mass for Staff only
	9.30 AM	Holy Souls	Advent feria
THURSDAY 3RD	9.30 AM	Holy Souls	Memorial of St Francis Xavier p
FRIDAY 4TH	9.30 AM at School	Holy Souls	Advent feria
	12 NOON	Bernard Santiago (RIP)	
SATURDAY 5TH	10.00 AM at Hethe	Austin Owens (RIP)	Advent feria
	6.00 PM	James Carey (RIP)	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY 6TH	9.30 AM	People of God	
	11.00 AM	Devere & Ziegart Family (RIP)	
	6.00 PM	Holy Souls	



This week we pray for.....
 Intentions of Joyce Thornley
SANCTUARY LIGHT
 Patrick Woods (Covid: ICU ventilator)
OUR LADY'S LIGHT

Further to the Government announcement regarding lockdown restrictions from Thursday 5th November, we are in the position again, where we unfortunately have to cease celebrating public Masses. Masses will continue online so please join us live stream on:

<https://mcnmedia.tv/iframe/e8896647923e089406131a3b96e45994de4a89c4>

Church will be open for private prayer with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on:

This Sunday from 1.30pm -2.30 pm

Please do wear masks to Mass and sanitise hands on entry and exit. Please do not come to church if you have symptoms.

NHS TRACK AND TRACE APP If you have a smart phone, please register using our QR codes in both of our churches when you attend private prayer. The codes are on display as you enter. Anyone who does not have a smartphone can provide their contact details at the entrance to the stewards.

BAPTISMS: Please contact the Parish Office.

Preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, 1st Holy Communion and Confirmation 2020/21. All children who do not attend St Mary's School please contact Clare St John (Parish Catechist) and Deacon Nick at nick.fstjohn@btinternet.com or the Parish Office.

Confirmation Commitment Masses over the weekend of 22nd and 29th November Saturday 6pm, 9:30am and 6pm Sunday. Due to lockdown these Masses will be rearranged.

Holy Communion Commitment Masses over the weekend of 31st January and 7th February Saturday 6pm, 9:30am and 6pm Sunday.

PARISH GIVING Donations can be made online through the Archdiocesan Website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work. Select either "BICESTER" or "HETHE" on the dropdown menu and follow instructions. Alternatively, Offertory Envelopes can be placed in the donation box in church. Standing order details: NatWest Bank, Account No: 02342731; Sort Code: 51 70 15.

This **Aid to the Church in Need** classic presents key stories from the Bible to children aged six to nine. Around 51 million copies in more than 189 languages have been printed and distributed all over the world. For each Child's Bible you buy, APC are able to send out **three more** to the suffering Church around the world. You too can make more children happy! Polish version available too. Paperback, *A lovely gift for any occasion.*

Perfect stocking filler! £3 each. Online orders: admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk or speak to Sr Sani.

PRODUCE AND CAKE SALE: I would like to thank all those who supported our fundraising efforts. My sincere thanks to Jackie Flynn for working hard in organising and Les Cleeve for his assistance and support. The next Cake and Produce sale will be held on Sunday, 29th November from 1.30 pm - 2.30 pm whilst the Church is open for Private Prayer.

Stall in the Market: Friday 4th Dec; **Outside the Church:** On Sunday 6th Dec and Big Christmas Sale on Sunday 13th Dec. I look forward to your generous support.

CHRISTMAS STARS: Stars that will decorate our Church Christmas tree can be bought for Lost Loved Ones. Cost £2.50 each. Where possible email names and arrange payment via BACS (preferable) use: Surname/Star as reference. Forms can be downloaded from our website these can be placed into offerings box on leaving church.

IN AID OF REFUGE ACTION: Janet Marshall & Sue Wilde have raised more than £600 for the cause. We thank all those who have sponsored them.

CHRISTMAS 2020

If public Masses are able to be celebrated I plan for them to take place at the following times:

Number of places remaining in brackets.

Christmas Eve, Thursday, 24th December

Bicester: 4.00pm(16), 6.00pm(16), 9.00pm(54) and 12 Midnight(41). **Number of places remaining in brackets.**

Hethe: 5.30 pm & 8.00pm.

Christmas Day, Friday, 25th December

Bicester: 8.00am, (79), 9.30am (33)& 11.00am (47)

Number of places remaining in brackets.

Hethe: 10.00am.

However, there is no fair and equitable way of allocating spaces for the Christmas Masses. Therefore, I have decided that if you wish to attend any of them, then please email or telephone the Parish Office. **If you have not reserved a place in advance then unfortunately you will not be allowed entry into Church.** The maximum of 85 people will be allowed per Mass at Bicester & 22 people at Hethe. Please reserve in advance.

MORE STEWARDS REQUIRED FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES:

In order for all the planned Christmas Masses to take place we will require more volunteers to steward. If you would like to assist, please get in touch with me.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL: Parents of children who are due to start primary school in September 2021 are reminded that they must make an online, or paper application through Oxfordshire County Council between 1st Nov 2020 & 15th Jan 2021. Any queries, contact the school office, 252035. For more information, please see a special flyer available on our website. I would like to encourage our catholic parents to send their children to our school.



SPONSORING SANCTUARY LAMPS As you may be aware, there are lamps which burn perpetually on the sanctuary (Blessed Sacrament) and in the Lady Chapel. Would you like one of these to burn in memory of a loved one, or for a particular intention? (Please note: one person/couple/intention per candle) If so, we are asking for a donation of £10 per week, which will go towards the costs of running the sacristy: candles, hosts, wine and other necessities for the celebration of Mass. Please hand in to Parish Clergy, post through Henley House letter box or to Parish Sisters in an envelope marked

'Sanctuary Lamp Donation', together with a note stating your particular intention. The intentions will be published in the weekly bulletin. Intentions will be placed in order as they are received.

CANDLES Advent candle sets available £10 a set and individually dated candles £2. Email parish office to order, or speak to Sr Sani.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

The Mass times:

Bicester- 9.30 am & 12 Noon. Hethe: 9.30 am

Thank you for your ongoing support particularly in these difficult times!

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

K Cashman, Tim Charles, Joyce Thornley, Mary Ashley, John Dunn & Marie Ollive.



Online Webcam

Go the website and follow link

<https://mcnmedia.tv/iframe/e8896647923e089406131a3b96e45994de4a89c4>