



# The Catholic Churches of Immaculate Conception with Holy Trinity



Henley House, 12 Causeway, Bicester OX26 6AW

www.immaculate-conception.org.uk

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No: 234216

**Solemnity of Pentecost (YEAR A)**  
**31st May 2020**

My Dear Friends

Let us continue to learn about Mary the Mother of the Church:

**THE WAY TO JESUS** "Mary does the immense favor of bringing to the cross, of placing face to face with the example of the Son of God, those who come close to her and contemplate her life. It is in this confrontation that Christian life is decided. And here Mary intercedes for us so that our behavior may lead to a reconciliation of the younger brother -- you and me -- with the firstborn Son of the Father. "Many conversions, many decisions to give oneself to the service of God have been preceded by an encounter with Mary. Our Lady has encouraged us to look for God, to desire to change, to lead a new life."

**MOTHER OF FAIR LOVE** "This is what explains Mary's life --her love. A complete love, so complete that she forgets herself and is happy just to be there where God wants her, fulfilling with care what God wants her to do. That is why even her slightest action is never routine or vain but, rather, full of meaning. Mary, our Mother, is for us both an example and a way. In the ordinary circumstances in which God wants us to live, we have to try to be like her."

**THE ASSUMPTION: TAKEN UP TO HEAVEN** "Mary has gone to heaven in both body and soul, and the angels rejoice. I can imagine, too, the delight of St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse, who awaited her in paradise. Yet what of us who remain on earth? Our faith tells us that here below, in our present life, we are pilgrims, wayfarers. Our lot is one of suffering, of sacrifices, and privations. Nonetheless, joy must mark the rhythm of our steps. 'Serve the Lord with joy' -- there is no other way to serve him."

**THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN** "She lives now and is protecting us. She is there [in heaven], body and soul, with the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. She is the same person who was born in Palestine, who gave herself to God while still a child, who received the message from St. Gabriel the Archangel, who gave birth to our Savior, and who stood beside him at the foot of the Cross. In her, all ideals become a reality. But we should never think that this sublime greatness of hers makes her inaccessible to us. She is the one who is full of grace and the sum of all perfections -- and she is also our Mother."

**THE CHANNEL OF GRACE** "Her power before God is such that she can obtain anything that we ask for, and, like any mother, she wants to answer our prayers. Like any mother, also, she knows and understands our weaknesses. She encourages us and makes excuses for us. She makes the way easy for us, and even when we think there is no possible solution for our worry, she always has one ready to offer us."

**THE VISITATION - MARY SINGS OF THE LOVE OF GOD**. God is interested in even the smallest events in the lives of his creatures -- in your affairs and mine -- and he calls each of us by name. This certainty that the faith gives enables us to look at everything in a new light. And everything, while remaining exactly the same, becomes different. (Catholic News Agency)

Dean of Banbury Deanery & Parish Priest:

**Very Rev. Canon John Y Batthula** BA, MA, Dip. Cat., MA Ed

Assistant Priest: **Fr Robert Carey**

Retired Priest: **Rev. Fr. Pat Armstrong**

Parish Deacons:

**Rev Mr Michael Panejko** MA: 01869 246 459

**Rev Mr Nick St John**: 01869 246 787

Parish Sisters: **Sr Rose, Sr Sani & Sr Anu**: 01869 327 689

Parish Safeguarding: **Elizabeth Green**

email: [safeguardingbicester@gmail.com](mailto:safeguardingbicester@gmail.com)

St Mary's RC Primary School, Queen's Avenue, Bicester, OX26 2NX

Head Teacher: **Miss. P. Pickering** Tel: 01869 252 035

**Parish Office**: Monday - Fridays 9am - 4.30pm

[admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk](mailto:admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk) 01869 253277

**St John Paul II Centre** - 01869 324 307 - [info@johnpaulcentre.co.uk](mailto:info@johnpaulcentre.co.uk)

*The Month of June is dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus on the Friday following the second Sunday after Pentecost. In addition to the liturgical celebration, many devotional exercises are connected with the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Of all devotions, devotion to the Sacred Heart was, and remains, one of the most widespread and popular in the Church. Understood in the light of the Scriptures, the term "Sacred Heart of Jesus" denotes the entire mystery of Christ, the totality of his being, and his person considered in its most intimate essential: Son of God, uncreated wisdom; infinite charity, principal of the salvation and sanctification of mankind. The "Sacred Heart" is Christ, the Word Incarnate, Saviour, intrinsically containing, in the Spirit, an infinite divine-human love for the Father and for his brothers. (Excerpted from the Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy)*



**Canon John Y Batthula**  
Parish Priest & Dean



MAY	TIME	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & HOLY TRINITY	INFORMATION
SUNDAY 31ST	9.30 am	Protection of Pupils on their return to School	Solemnity of Pentecost
	11.00 AM	People of God	
MONDAY 1ST JUNE	9.30 AM	Philomena Gardner (RIP) (Today is her Funeral)	Mem. May Mother of the Church
TUESDAY 2ND	9.30 AM		
	12 NOON	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayers	
WEDNESDAY 3RD	9.30 AM		Mem. Ss Charles Lwanga & Comp M
	12 NOON	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayers	
THURSDAY 4TH	9.30 AM	Special Intention of Jackie Flynn Peter Flynn (RIP) 60th Wedding anniversary	Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest
	6.30 PM	Scripture Group meets—ZOOM app	
FRIDAY 5TH	9.30 AM		St Boniface BM
	6 PM - 7 PM	Holy Hour ( service of Reconciliation)	
SATURDAY 6TH	10.00 AM		
	10.20 —11.00 AM	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	
	6.00 PM	Rosary Group - ZOOM app	
SUNDAY 7TH	9.30 AM	Bill & Kitty Homby (RIP) & Angela Nelson (RIP)	Solemnity of the Holy Trinity
	11.00 AM	People of God	

**Today's Liturgy of the Word:** This is the day when Jesus, true to his promise, sent his Spirit on the apostles. The coming of the Spirit resulted in changed people and saw the launching of the new community (the Church). This great day renews the gift of the Spirit in each of us and in the Church as a whole.

**First Reading** (Acts 2: 1-11). This describes the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles and the effect of this on them.

**Second Reading** (I Cor 12:3-7,12-13). Paul says that each of us has been given different gifts by the Holy Spirit. These gifts are given, not just for our own good, but for the good of the Church, the I Body of Christ.

**Gospel** (John 20: 19-23). On Easter Day the risen Jesus came to his disciples, breathed the Holy Spirit upon them, and then commissioned them as messengers of God's peace and forgiveness.



**Parish Helpers:** Ring this number **07387 281 861** and leave a message if you need assistance and we will try our best to assist.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS:** I would like to let the parents know that First Holy Communion will be taking place when our Churches are opened for the public and when Mass can be celebrated with your participation, until then, please pray for each other and hope that day will be very soon.

**SCRIPTURE AND ROSARY GROUPS:** Every Thursday evening at 6.30 pm our Parish Scripture group meets via Zoom. And every Saturday evening at 6.00pm our Parish Rosary group prays via Zoom/WhatsApp. Both groups are being guided by Deacon Nick. Please try to participate.

**MASS INTENTIONS** that have already been requested are being offered as arranged. Any further mass intentions can be posted through the front door of the presbytery.

**REOPENING OF OUR PARISH SCHOOL:** On behalf of the Parish Community, Father Robert, Deacons and myself, I would like to assure the Staff and Pupils of our prayers as everyone will be having some reservations and fears in coming back to school and maintain the social distance as required by the Government. Let us hope and pray that the Staff and Pupils will be safe and well.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY – May 31<sup>st</sup> 2020 - National Rosary Rally 9am to 9pm – England, Wales, Scotland:** Pope Francis is encouraging Catholics to pray the Rosary in their family homes during the month of May, especially when the Pandemic is making us aware of the value of our families and making it possible for us to pray together in lockdown at home. He encourages simple Rosaries and joining online Rosary initiatives to pray to Our Lady for deliverance from Covid-19 and he has composed two prayers for this intention. You are invited to join in an initiative that follows from the Pope's request, **National Rosary Rally**, for our Diocese 10 am is designated and I would like to encourage you all to say the Rosary as a family. Information please go to <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/2020/05/20/pentecost-sunday-national-rosary-rally/>

**WINNERS 100 CLUB DRAW:** those of you who have been winners of 100 Club, please let me know whether you would like me to post your winnings (Cheque)? If you wish to do so, please email me with your address. Thank you all for renewing your subscription for another year. Your support is much appreciated. Very grateful to Paul Cousins for all his hard work.

**PARISH WEBCAM LINK:** Please note that our Parish webcam link has changed. From now please follow this link: <https://watchmcnmedia.tv/camera/church-of-the-immaculate-conception-bicester>

**OPENING OF OUR PARISH CHURCH:** I would suggest that we wait for the guidance from our National Government and Bishop's Conference. Let us continue to pray that the places of worship will be opened very soon if not for Community worship but atleast for private prayer.

**REFLECTIONS FOR COUPLES** - The Spirit works in all sorts of different ways: Years ago, on a Marriage Encounter weekend, we had a real experience of the Spirit working "in all sorts of different ways in different people", not in Church documents, but in real life. We were like the disciples at Pentecost, "filled with joy when they saw the Lord", and we heard our own native language, deep inside each of us.

**VERY SOON OUR PARISH EMAILS WILL BE CHANGING**  
(Office, Gift Aid, Safeguarding Rep., Health & Safety, Priests of the Parish.)

**canon.john.bathhula@rcaob.org.uk**  
**tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk (Office)**  
**ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk (Gift Aid)**

**LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:**

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



**Online Webcam**

Go the website and follow link  
<https://watchmcnmedia.tv/camera/church-of-the-immaculate-conception-bicester>



**PARISH OFFERINGS**

*With thanks for all your generosity to the Parish and to charity.*