



# THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

**Dean of Banbury Deanery & Parish Priest:** Rev. Fr. John Y Batthula BA, MA, Dip. Cat., MA Ed  
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**Parish Office:** Tel: 01869 253 277. Phone prior to visiting. Email: [admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk](mailto:admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk)  
**Marriages & Baptisms - contact Parish Office.**

**Parish Safeguarding:** Elizabeth Green email: [safeguarding@immaculate-conception.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@immaculate-conception.org.uk)  
**Pope JOHN PAUL II CENTRE:** Tel: 01869 324 307 - email: [info@johnpaulcentre.co.uk](mailto:info@johnpaulcentre.co.uk)  
**The Presentation Sisters:** Tel: 01869 323 660

**Parish School:** St Mary's RC Primary School, Queen's Avenue, Bicester, OX26 2NX  
**Head Teacher:** Miss. P. Pickering Tel: 01869 252 035 - [st-marys-bicester.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:st-marys-bicester.oxon.sch.uk)



## SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

BREVIARY: WEEK 1 OF PSALTER (YEAR A)  
Saturday 24th December 2016 to Sunday 1st January 2017

### Masses & Events During This Week

Times	Intentions	Feasts
<b>Saturday 24th December</b>		<i>Advent FERIA</i>
5.15 pm	Rosary, Litany and Angelus	
6.00 pm	Danny, Rita & Peter Egan (RIP), Ints of Pat Garforth	
11.30 pm	Carols	
12 Midnight	Bill and Kitty Hornby (RIP), Fiona Beasley (RIP)	
<b>Sunday 25th December</b>		<i>Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord</i>
9.00 am	The People of the Parish & Garrison	
11.00 am	Norma Santiago (RIP), World Peace	
<b>Monday 26th December</b>		<i>Feast of St Stephen</i>
<b>ALL ALTAR SERVERS WILL RENEW THEIR COMMITMENT AT</b>		
12 noon	Jackie & Jacob Kokore - Wedding Anniversary followed by Baptism	
<b>Tuesday 27th December</b>		<i>Feast of St John, AE</i>
10.00 am	Elizabeth Marie Constantine (RIP)	
2.00 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet	
<b>Wednesday 28th December</b>		<i>Feast of the Holy Innocents, M</i>
9.30 am	Lily & Tommy Thompson (RIP)	
<b>Thursday 29th December</b>		<i>Feast of St Thomas Becket BM</i>
9.30 am	Angela Shanahan (RIP)	
<b>Friday 30th December</b>		<i>Feast of the Holy Family</i>
12 noon	Pauline Coughlan (RIP)	
<b>Saturday 31st December</b>		<i>Christmas Octave</i>
8.30 am (BP)	Welfare of the Prisoners families	
5.00 pm - 5.45 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Prayers of thanksgiving	
6.00 pm	The People of the Parish & Garrison	
<b>Sunday 1st January</b>		<i>Solemnity of the Mary, mother of God</i>
9.00 am	Cristina Milia (RIP)	
11.00 am	Collison family: Past & Present.	

#### Dear Parishioners and Visitors

*"Christ is being born every day in the most unexpected places, as was the case in Bethlehem & in human lives, be they Christian or non-Christian. The message of justice and peace tries to make its way into hearts & minds of human souls."*

On behalf of the Parish Clergy, I would like to wish you all a very happy and joyful Christmas and a prosperous Happy New Year.

Fr. John Y Batthula  
Parish Priest



#### Reflections briefly on this weekend's Word of God'

'Behold, I bring you news of great joy for all the people. Today a Saviour has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.' This was the message the angels brought to the shepherds. Today, through the voice of the Church, this marvelous message is announced to us too. Let us open our minds and hearts to receive the 'great joy'.

#### Midnight Mass

**First Reading:** (Isaiah 9: 1 -7) This reading looks forward to the coming of a Saviour-child who will rescue his people from darkness and oppression, and enable them to live in security and peace.

**Second Reading:** (Titus 2:11-14) St Paul reminds us of what is expected of us if we are to enjoy the salvation won for us by Christ.

**Gospel:** (Luke 2: 1-4) This tells about the birth of Christ in a manger and how the news of his birth was brought to simple shepherds by angels.

#### Dawn Mass

**First Reading:** (Isaiah 62: 11-12) With the birth of our Lord the Christian people can taste the joy of the exiles returning from Babylon.

**Second Reading:** (Titus 3:4-7) We ourselves did nothing to merit the birth of Christ; rather, God sent his Son out of compassion for us.

**Gospel:** (Luke 2:15-20) With Mary we are invited to ponder on the deep meaning of the birth of Christ so that, with the shepherds, we may be moved to glorify and praise God.

#### Day Mass

**First Reading:** (Isaiah 52:7-10) This great hymn of exultation at the return of the exiles from Babylon is also a poem of joy for our redemption.

**Second Reading:** (Hebrews 1:1-6) The whole history of God's dealings with his people in the past was a preparation for the coming of his Son at a particular moment in history.

**Gospel:** (John 1: 1-18) This is a great hymn to the Word of God, the source of all life, whose coming among us makes us children of God.

Fr John Y Batthula Parish Priest

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Parish Web Site: <http://www.immaculate-conception.org.uk>

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

**CHRISTMAS BUFFET:** I would like to express my sincere thanks to Jackie, Lucia, Cath, Frankie & the Cousins family for all their hard work. It was a wonderful lunch and I hope that they will do the same next year! May God bless them.

**RCIA ~ Seeker:** Returns on 10<sup>th</sup> January using the Sycamore Programme to explore Life and Faith. It consists of ten films that examine some of the core questions; Can I find happiness; Does God exist; Who is Jesus Christ and topics such as the Holy Spirit, the Church, the Bible, Christian Tradition, faith, love and prayer. For more information see the notice board or contact the office, Ron Weaver or Janet Marshall.

**CHURCH VOLUNTEERS** We are extremely grateful to everyone who helps maintain our church. We are very lucky to have such dedicated reliable parishioners who regularly help with daily chores. We are currently seeking some new helpers to help with the following: Brass cleaning - weekly/fortnightly, Church Cleaners—team of 4 is needed. Flower arrangers - once every 8 weeks. Counters—every 7 weeks. If you would like further information please contact Lucia at the Parish office: [lucia@immaculate-conception.org.uk](mailto:lucia@immaculate-conception.org.uk)

**MONTHLY LUNCHES IN 2017:** We will need more volunteers, and if you can assist us, contact the Parish Office: Our Monthly Lunch commence on Tuesdays on the following dates: **17th January;** 21st February; 28th March; 25th April; 23rd May; 27th June; 25th July; 22nd August; 26th September; 24th October; 28th November. Thank you.

**UBI CARITAS MEDAL:** Jackie Flynn will be presented with Ubi Caritas Medal today at 9.00 am Mass. I would like to thank her for all her hard work and support in raising funds for the Parish. May God continue to bless her with good health, peace and happiness.

**SOCIAL EVENTS IN 2017 SHEET:** This weekend newcomers will be giving away our Social and fundraising events dates. Please note those dates in your diaries.

**MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS IN 2017:** Please note these dates in your diaries: **13th January,** 3rd February, 3rd March, 7th April; 5th May, 2nd June, 7th July, 4th August, 1st September, 6th October, 3rd November, 1st December.

**FLOWER FESTIVAL ON 23rd, 24th, 25th SEPTEMBER :** More information to follow. I'm looking for sponsors, contact Jackie Flynn or Parish Office.

**Winners 100 club for December 2016:** drawn on Sun 18 December 2016 Special Christmas £100 prize-£100 No 79 A Marrs. Monthly Prizes £100 No86 A & J O'Rourke, £50 No8 J Nelson, £25 No27 D Carey.

**Bullingdon Prison Chaplaincy Duty:** Thurs & Fri 8.30 am - 5.30 pm  
Sat 8.30 am - 3.00 pm.

**Sunday Masses** can be viewed live on **YouTube**, go to: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuZ6QPQg\\_yS\\_grbqgt7fzjg/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCuZ6QPQg_yS_grbqgt7fzjg/live) to subscribe and view.

Teams For	25/12	1/1	8/1	15/1
<b>Sunday the:</b>				
Counting (8) No 7	none	8	1	2
Cleaning (7) no 5	4	Volunteers	6	7
Children lit. (5)	none	none	tbc	Tbc
Coffee 9am (14)	None	5	6	7
Coffee 11am (8)	None	2	3	4
Flowers	all	Anne	all	Carolynne
Tradecraft				Open

## DIARY DATES

**Cake and Produce Sale** - First Sunday of the month.

**TRADECRAFT** Stall open every 3rd weekend of the month.

**YOUTH GROUP**—2nd,3rd,4th, Mondays month. 7.15 pm—8.30 pm Term time only.

**BABY AND TODDLER** Term time Thursday 9.15-10.45am at Presentation Convent.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY**- Sunday at 9.00 am Mass.

**PRESENTATION ASSOC.** Monthly meetings first Wednesday of month.

**100 CLUB DRAW** After 9.00am Mass last Sunday of the month.

**11th February:** Charity Ball

**4th March 2017:** Confirmations

**30th March:** Closing celebrations of Deanery Parish Visitations at 7pm

## Charity Valentine's Ball



Saturday February 11th 2017

7-7.30pm arrival for pre-dinner drinks

and raffle

at John Paul II Centre

£50 per ticket

3 course meal & musical entertainment.

Tickets available from parish office or by calling:

Helen Johnson – 07879 632737 □ Katy Gore –

07810 718989 □ Ellen Conway – 07867 987985

All proceeds going to Parish and donations to

Seesaw

**LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:** M Smyth, T Kirby, B Hunt, C Whitehead, B Shepard, Sr Alma, P Harris, J Chapman, G Newton, C Busby, E Browne, E Cotter, N Cahill, F Ostrowski, S Clarke, J Fowler, J James, P Mears, B & D Weaver, S Sidston, N Southey, E Stonell, A McCambridge, J Calver, J James, J O'Rourke, M Lewandowski, M May, A Davies, Mis Curzon, M Kilby, J Cahnan, C Brown, M Starrett, K Cashman, J Hurst, P Dean, L Lambert, R Admans, Sr. Mary Humbert, C B Corpus, M Delos Santos, A Blakeley, W Babington, J Wickens, A Doniselli Morgan, W Stonell, I Cook, M Smith, T Kirby, D De'e, M Wallace, J Busby, J Knox, M Last, P O' Brian.  
**Please contact the parish office if you wish your name to be added or taken off the sick list.**

## BATTHULA CARE TRUST

This Christmas would you like to support a family suffering with leprosy?

You can help a family to celebrate Christmas with joy and happiness?

You really can make a difference. Barclays Bank: Sort Code: 200898

Account No: 23669386. So please join in this noble cause. Thank you.

### Collections

The both collections this weekend will be for **Priests of the Parish.**

The 2nd collections next weekend will be for the **Parish Maintenance**



### PARISH OFFERINGS

1<sup>st</sup> GA £

1<sup>st</sup> Loose £

2<sup>nd</sup> GA £

2<sup>nd</sup> Loose £

Total:

*In thanksgiving to God and for the work of His Church.*

25th December	Extraordinary Min	Extraordinary Min	Extraordinary Min	Extraordinary Min	Lector	Lector	Welcomer	Welcomer
Saturday 6pm	J Marshall	S Haydon	L Hook	M Kelly	<b>H Lawlor</b>	<b>A Nelson</b>	Sue	Cathy
Midnight	R Lee-Heung	H King	Clergy	Clergy	<b>S Grose</b>	<b>H King</b>	B & L Hattam	Teni & Fred
Sunday 9am	A Mutton	C Conlon	K Riley	Clergy	<b>M Daniel</b>	<b>E Mander</b>	Cath M	C Conlon
Sunday 11am	F Thornley	O Panejko	F Ostrowski	J Hanna	<b>M Lawrence</b>	<b>H King</b>	Mary	
<b>1st January</b>								
Saturday 6pm	M Mellett	M Mellett	M Kelly	H Johnson	<b>J Vaughan</b>	<b>P Sims</b>	Teni	Fred
Sunday 9am	C St John	F Ostrowski	clergy	volunteer	<b>C Moyses</b>	<b>J Nugent</b>	Conway family	Dona
Sunday 11am	J Kokore	J Kokore	N St John	clergy	<b>R Evans</b>	<b>I Cook</b>	Ruuben	Shetin

**MASS ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND: Saturday 6.00 pm: 126, Sunday 9.00 am: 131, 11.00 am: 140 Total: 397**