



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



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: 246 459

Rev Mr Nick St John: 246 787

Parish Sisters: Srs Rose, Sani & Anu: 327 689

ST JOHN PAUL II CENTRE

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Parish Office: Tuesdays and Fridays 9am – 4.30pm

admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk 01869 253277

For Sacraments - contact Parish Office.

Parish Safeguarding: Elizabeth Green

email: safeguardingbicester@gmail.com

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

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

BREVIARY: WEEK 1 OF PSALTER (YEAR A)
SUNDAY 19TH TO SUNDAY 26TH APRIL 2020

All the Masses & Expositions below can be viewed live

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

Dear Parishioners

I hope and pray that you all are well and safe.

As people of faith we are called to face the fears of this moment with a courage not our own and with a generous heart. God is with his people in good times and bad. Like believers in every age we say: *'If I should walk in The Valley of Darkness no evil would I fear for You are there'*.

As anxiety and concerns about the spread of COVID-19 takes root throughout this land and so much of the world, the Lord is speaking to us, calling us to a deeper relationship with him. This age may seem to be a time of fear and isolation, but we have an opportunity to see it in a new light, as a retreat into this Easter Season with Our Lord and to encounter God in solitude and prayer. As Psalm 91 says: *"You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the plague that prowls in the darkness, nor the scourge that lays waste at noon. A thousand may fall at our side, ten thousand fall at your right, you it will never approach; his faithfulness is buckler and shield."*

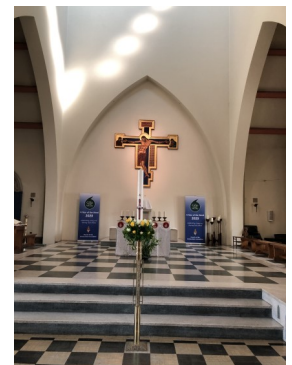
A number of people have asked about the Offertory collections. If you wish to make a payment to the parish to help us through this time, you could email: admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk for our bank details. Or you could post us a cheque made payable to "Immaculate Conception Parish".

We offer our prayers to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and ask the intercession of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. May we know the depths of the Lord's merciful love and may Our Lady keep us in the mantle of her protection to intercede for us in our time of need.

It is not possible to come to Mass, but you can take part through our Webcam.

Canon John Y Batthula
Parish Priest & Dean

APRIL	TIME	IMMACULATE CONCEPTION & HOLY TRINITY	INFORMATION
SUNDAY 19TH	9.30 am	People of the Parish	Divine Mercy Sunday
	11.00 AM	Intentions of Jiri & Maricel	
	3pm - 4pm	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament	Divine Mercy devotions
MONDAY 20TH	9.30 AM	Emy Barnes (RIP)	Easter feria
TUESDAY 21ST	9.30 AM	Sister Teresita of Jesus (RIP)	Easter feria
	12 NOON	Funeral service at Banbury Crematorium Terence Thompson (RIP)	
WEDNESDAY 22ND	9.30 AM	Sister Teresita of Jesus (RIP)	Easter feria
	12 NOON	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayers	
THURSDAY 23RD	9.30 AM	Leo Hurst (Special Birthday)	St George
	12 NOON	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Midday Prayers	
FRIDAY 24TH	9.30 AM	Simon Payet (RIP)	Easter feria
	6 pm—7pm	Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Vespers	
SATURDAY 25TH	10.00 AM 10.20 - 11 am	Intentions of Kathleen O'Grady Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Rosary	Easter feria
SUNDAY 26TH	9.30 AM	Katie Conlon - 18th Birthday	3rd Sunday of Easter
	11.00 AM	Leo Hurst & People of the Parish	



Today's Liturgy of the Word:

In today's Gospel we meet Doubting Thomas. Each of us has something in common with him, for at times our minds are darkened by doubt. The risen Jesus is with us now, and he says to us what he said to Thomas: 'Cease doubting and believe.'

First Reading (Acts 2:42-47). Jesus said: 'By their fruits you shall know them'. The first Christians showed the depth of their faith by the fruits they produced in their lives.

Second Reading (1 Peter 1 :3-9). We base our hope of eternal glory on the resurrection of Christ from the dead. This hope helps us to bear patiently the trials of life.

Gospel (John 20:19-31). By touching the wounds of the risen Jesus, Thomas' doubt was turned into faith.



Parish Helpers If anyone is willing to join a What's App group to help our elderly and more vulnerable parishioners in these unprecedented times with doorstep deliveries of essential items or 'Phone For a Chat' calls, then please email the parish office with your mobile number. Please ring this number **07387 281 861** and leave a message if you need assistance and we will try our best to assist.

Winners 100 club draw on Sun 29 March 2020, witnessed at a distance by Mrs M. Mellett. **£100 Eleanor King 70; £50 Hilary King 42; £25 Honor Hollis 58;**

Please pay online if you can. Email paulcous@yahoo.com for details. The remaining numbers are: 30, 39, 43, 61, 94, 96 -

SYMPATHY We extend our very deepest sympathy and the assurance of our prayers to the family of Margaret MacSweeney who passed away on Monday 13th April 2020, aged 93 years. Funeral Service will be taking place on Friday 1st May at Bicester Cemetery at 1.00pm(Graveside service). *May she rest in peace. Pray for all those who have died and for all who mourn.*

CHILDREN: For next few days, we would like to start a competition for our children. They can make a Christian Easter Garden, an Easter Bonnet or paint an Egg. We will have prizes for under 7s, 7 - 11 and 11+. Fr Robert will judge the competition and you can send your entries over the next couple of weeks to admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk Entries in by this coming Saturday please. We will award Easter prizes to the winners in all of the categories when all could join us at Mass.

WEEKLY OFFERINGS these are difficult and worrying days, financially, for so many of us and I want to reassure you that you need not worry about your contribution to the Church. For many, however, I know that you are really worried about how you can continue to support the parish. You can email us in the office and we can send you the bank details to make an online donation, you can set up a standing order, you can simply put the money to one side. Whatever you do, please do not come to the church or presbytery to bring your weekly donations. Stay home, stay safe. Gift Aid can all be sorted out once we're up and running again. I'm absolutely sure that this will be in the mind of HMRC and there will be any number of further instructions in the fullness of time. Right now, follow all government advice and look after the most vulnerable. The Diocesan Finance Officer has been in touch and reminds us: there is still the (preferred really) option of parishioners downloading and using the standing order form on the diocesan website.



Saint Corona, Pray for us! It turns out that the Patron Saint of Epidemics is a little known (until now) girl called St Corona! There's a lot online if you look her up. It seems she was from Syria and was martyred at the age of 16 by the Romans during the reign of Marcus Aurelius (C2nd). Her relics are not far from the epicentre of the present pandemic and her feast is 14th May.

This week: reflections for couples - Togetherness.

Our 'togetherness' in what we do and say is a 'sign' of our love and a source of joy for us. Sometimes, like Thomas, we can be stubborn, with an attitude of 'I'll believe it when I see it' creating a sense of separation and distance. But together we have the power to stop, reflect, be forgiven, and begin again.

The Regina Coeli (Queen of Heaven) in English

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.



Online Webcam

Go the website and follow link

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

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

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



PARISH OFFERINGS

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