

Teams for :	23/3	30/3	6/4	13/4	20/4	27/4	4/5
Children lit.	none	1	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc
Coffee 9am (11)	11	1	2	3	4	5	6
Coffee 11am (9)	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Flowers	none	none	none	Sr Rose	All	All	Sally & Jan

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:

Mary Lynch, K Cashman, Jean McIntosh, Gerry Wright, Marie Oke, Fred Thornley, Patrick Hughes.

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: **Saturday Bicester: 10.30am-11.30am** **Hethe: 3.15pm-3.50 pm (Sacristy)**

URSULINE LAY ASSOCIATION: Every 2nd Wednesday of the month @ 2pm Ursuline Convent.

EAST TIMOR COMMUNITY PRAYER: First Sunday of the month at 5.00pm @ Ursuline Convent

PARISH OUTREACH GROUP: Please contact the Office if you need some form of practical help.

PIETY SHOP: Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday around Masses.

SYMPATHY We send our sympathies and assurance of our prayers to the family of Reginald (Reggie) Carr who has recently died, aged 2yrs. A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, 25th March at 11.30am followed by cremation at North Oxfordshire Crematorium. *May he rest in peace.*

OXFORD LEG PILGRIM CROSS The Pilgrim Cross Team would like to invite you to join them on their Easter pilgrimage oxfordleg@gmail.com to register or for more information.

LENTEN MASSES Masses will be held in St Mary's School on the following dates: Fridays at 8am on the 28th March and 4th April in the school hall with refreshments afterwards during Lent. All parishioners are warmly invited to come along.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Will take place every Friday at 7pm and Sunday at 6pm during Lent here at the Immaculate Conception.

HETHE: During Lent at 9.30am Stations of the Cross will be celebrated at Holy Trinity, Hethe, on each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Also on Good Friday at 7pm.

LILIES IN REMEMBRANCE Forms to buy lilies for loved ones are available at £2.50 each. All funds raised will go towards all the flowers for Easter arrangements. Please return all completed forms to the welcomers or piety shop/office by Sunday, April 13th.

RCIA Next session: Wednesday, 2nd April at 7.30pm in the Centre. Topic: Christian Prayer. All welcome—Catholics and non Catholics.

100 CLUB STARTS IN APRIL The next 100 club year will start from April 1st 2025–March 31st 2026. There are monthly prizes of £100, £50 & £25 and a Christmas bonus draw of £100. The draws take place on the last Sunday of the month after 9am mass at coffee time and we encourage all parishioners, especially new ones, to subscribe to this parish fundraiser. It costs £60 per year or £5 monthly by direct debit payments, with ref: surname/100 club. We have a few numbers to complete 100. Forms are available at the back of church, please complete and return to the office or piety shop.

JERUSALEM JOY Pupils and staff of St Mary's School would like to invite parishioners to their production of 'Jerusalem Joy' which will take place on Thursday, 3rd April at 9.05am in the school hall.

GIFT AID If you have changed address within the last financial year (since April 2024) and gift aid your donations, please forward your new address to Sr Sani on ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk

PIETY SHOP Mothering Sunday, Easter cards & cards for all occasions. First Holy Communion items will be on sale soon.

MASS OFFERINGS Please be sure to request masses in good time if a specific date is to be requested. Thank you.

CAFOD BIG LENT WALK Anna Fitzpatrick is taking on the CAFOD BIG Lent Walk Challenge. Please sign up to sponsor her at the back of church or go to her Just Giving page. <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/annas-cafod-lent-walk-2025>

EASTER RAFFLE Raffle tickets are now available. £1 each or £10 a book. The draw will take place on Palm Sunday after the 11am Mass. Please return all counterfoils with correct amount by Friday 11th April. Any donations of prizes for the Easter Raffle will be gratefully received. Please deliver to the centre or piety shop. Thank you.

TIPS FROM OUR ENVIROMENTAL GROUP Food Packaging. Buy loose fruit & vegetables from the Fish Shop in Sheep Street or the fruit stalls at the Friday Market. Invest in a few net bags (only 30p each in Tesco) which can be washed and reused over and over again. Buy Easter eggs which are packaged in cardboard rather than plastic. Buy as large a container as possible as this reduces the amount of plastic packaging per kilogramme of food.



JUBILEE YEAR 2025
"Pilgrims of Hope"
 To find out more, visit: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year or scan:

DRESS SALE Some dresses are still available in the centre. Wedding, bridesmaid, and 1st Holy Communion. Reasonable donations please.

FILMS AND COFFEE follow the Monday 9.30am Mass at Hethe.

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE: Monday 7th April at 7pm.

Please make every effort to come to the penance service where a number of priests will be available to hear confessions.

BULLINGDON PRISON Official Prisoner Visitors are volunteers who visit individual prisoners. They are an invaluable source of support for prisoners, especially those who receive no other social visits. If anyone is interested in receiving more information about becoming an Official Prison Visitor, please contact the Managing Chaplain, HMP Bullingdon, Patrick Haugh Road, Armcott OX25 1PZ or email james.brannan@justice.gov.uk

FOOD BANK Volunteers are needed to transfer Foodbank donations from the Parish to the Foodbank at The Beacon, Wesley Lane, Bicester. If we have enough people we could do this on a rota basis 1 or 2 people being responsible for a certain week each month. It usually requires only 1 drop off to the Foodbank per week possibly twice over the Christmas and Easter Holidays. Please contact Clare St John clarestjohn6@gmail.com or text on

DIARY DATES:
Coffee Mornings Every first Friday of the month from 10-11.45am.
Easter Raffle Draw: Palm Sunday, 13th April after 11am Mass.
1st Holy Communions: Saturday 11 am, 10th May & 17th May.

JOIN OUR WHATS APP COMMUNITY CATHOLIC BICESTER GROUP FOR TO KEEP IN TOUCH WITH PARISH INFORMATION & NEWS. SCAN THE QR CODE AND FOLLOW



The Catholic Parishes of Immaculate Conception @ BICESTER



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

Henley House, 12 Causeway, Bicester, OX26 6AW

Parish website: <https://www.immaculate-conception.org.uk>

Archdiocesan : <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk> Deanery: <https://banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk>

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

Third Sunday of Lent

23rd March 2025

Month of March is dedicated to St Joseph - Sunday Cycle C - Psalter Week 3

Pope's Prayer Intention for March: For families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.



DATE	TIME	INTENTIONS	FEASTS	LECTORS	E O MINISTERS	WELCOMERS
SAT 22nd	4.00pm@Hethe	People of the Parish		Volunteer		R Deane & S Wilde
Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Harry Culley (RIP)		P Sims/C McArdle	D Gunaratra/Sr Sani	L Hattam/A Mutton
SUN 23rd	9.00am	Malachy McKeon (RIP)	Third Sunday in Lent	J Li/C St John	J & D Jiminez	Sr Molly/volunteer
	11.00am 6.00pm	Nellie Carr (RIP) Stations of the Cross		A Kearsley/E Green	J Marshall/Sr Rose	Timorean Community
MON 24th	9.30am @Hethe	Holy Souls	Lent Feria			
	12 noon	Ivy Marie (RIP)		M Daniel		
TUE 25th	9.30am	Private Intentions	Solemnity of the Annunciation	H King		
	11.30 am	Funeral Service - Reggie Carr RIP	of the Lord			
WED 26th		No Mass	Lent Feria			
THU 27th	9.30am	Anita Magleo (RIP)	Lent Feria	J Kokore		
FRI 28th	8.00 am (Sch)	Holy Souls	Lent Feria			
	12 noon 7.00pm	Fiona Conboy (RIP) Stations of the Cross		E King		
SAT 29th	10.00am 10.30-11.30am	Eileen Parker (RIP) Holy Hour for Vocations/Confessions	Lent Feria	Volunteer		
	4.00pm@Hethe	Holy Souls		Volunteer		
Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Bill & Kitty Hornby, Angela Nelson (RIP)		P & K Kallay	O Panejko/B Santiago	McArdle Family
SUN 30th	9.00am	People of the Parish	Fourth Sunday in Lent	P Cousins/S McCarthy	J Li/A Mutton	L & C Cleeve
	11.00am 6.00pm	Eileen Parker (RIP) Stations of the Cross	Mothering Sunday	T Lane/H King	Sr Rose/Sr Sani	Jiminez Family

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CANDLE MONEY Please place money into wall collection box at the back of church near the piety shop. Alternatively pay by card 'Sanctuary lamps & votives.'

SECOND COLLECTIONS

23rd/30th March: Parish Maintenance

PARISH GIVING

BICESTER LINK TO DONATE:

<https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=528>

Standing Orders/Donations/Payments/100 Club

Bicester: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02342731

Hethe: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02301466

Mass intentions offerings: By cash in offering envelopes from the back of church or option 'mass offerings' on card machine, please enter surname when prompted.

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. details to ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk


HETHE BICESTER



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

This church live streams Mass and other events. Parish YouTube 'Bicester Catholic Church' Channel
 Go to the website or follow this link <https://camstreamer.com/redirect/SFORcspHizNr8niFC4Is5oJQBoc37B8YBCjKvPC>
 Follow the readings at Mass: <https://universalis.com/mass.htm>

LENTEN LUNCH Friday, 11th April there will be a simple Lent Lunch of soup after 12 noon mass in the JPPI Centre. All welcome!



Tea & coffee in the centre after the 9am and 11am masses every weekend - come along for a chat and meet your fellow parishioners.

Church	First Collection	Second Collection CAFOD	Standing Orders	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£695.78	£410.58	£1122	439
Hethe	£30.30	£35.05	£185	35

This week we pray for...
SANCTUARY LIGHT: Rino Felappi (RIP)
OUR LADY'S CHAPEL:
 If you wish to sponsor one of the sanctuary lamps which perpetually burn in the Church, please complete and return a slip to the parish office or sisters.

Safeguarding: Both our Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding. Guidance & the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures are all times. Our Parishes Safeguarding Representatives are:
Elizabeth Green: sg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk &
Les Cleeve: sg.holytrinity.hethe@rcaob.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Team 0121 2306240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Parish Priest: Father Craig Davies BA (hons) STB fr.craig.davies@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Deacons:
 Rev Mr Michael Panejko MA 01869 246 459 /**Altar Servers:** dce.michael.panejko@rcaob.org.uk
 Rev Mr Nick St John: 01869 246 787 /**Parish Youth:** yth.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
Retired Priest: Rev. Fr. Pat Armstrong
Parish Sisters: Ursuline Convent - Sr Rose Mathew - 01869 327 689
Parish Office/Secretary: Lucia Hattam Wednesday & Friday 9am–4pm 01869 253277 / tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
St John Paul II Centre Bookings: Srs Sani & Molly Monday-Friday 10am-4pm 01869 324 307 / office@johnpaulcentre.co.uk
Gift Aid - Sr Sani Vijayan ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
Parish Sacramental Programme - Clare St John psc.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk
 Go to contacts page on website for parish group contacts .

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".

Third Sunday in Lent - at 9.00am Mass readings of Year A

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me. For I am alone and poor.

First reading

Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15

In those days: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, 'I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.' When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' Then he said, 'Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' And he said, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God. Then the LORD said, 'I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.'

Then Moses said to God, 'If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you", and they ask me, "What is his name?" what shall I say to them?' God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And he said, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "I AM has sent me to you." ' God also said to Moses, 'Say this to the people of Israel: "The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you." This is my name for ever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm *The LORD is compassionate and gracious*

Second reading

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.

The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation **Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God. Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.**

Gospel

Luke 13:1-9

There were some present at that very time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. And he answered them, 'Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered in this way? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.'

And he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. And he said to the vine dresser, "Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?" And he answered him, "Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig round it and put on manure. Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOLY MASS

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 Glory and praise to you, O Christ ... (a few words)

People Glory and praise to you, O 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.**

Homily

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, (*all bow*) 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

All: Thanks be to God.