



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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Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Linh Ta Hanh Nguyen BA STB
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Parish Office: Tel: 01869 253 277. Weekdays 9am-3pm. Email: admin@immaculate-conception.org.uk
Marriages & Baptisms - contact Parish Office.

Parish Safeguarding: Elizabeth Green email: safeguarding@immaculate-conception.org.uk
Pope JOHN PAUL II CENTRE: Tel: 01869 324 307 - email: 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



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

BREVIARY: WEEK 1 OF PSALTER (YEAR A)
 Saturday 4th March 2017 to Sunday 12th March 2017

Masses & Events During This Week

<u>Times</u>	<u>Intentions</u>	<u>Feasts</u>
Saturday 4th March		<i>After Ash Wednesday</i>
5.15 pm	Rosary, Litany & Angelus	
6.00 pm	Confirmation Mass - Ints of Confirmandi	
Sunday 5th March		<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>
9.00 am	The People of the Parish & Garrison	
11.00 am	Alfred Smith (RIP)	
Monday 6th March		<i>Lent Feria</i>
9.30am	Louise Zanré Da Silva (RIP)	
Tuesday 7th March		<i>Lent Feria</i>
7.00 am	Dominic Spiteri (RIP)	
9.30 am	Robert Duggan (RIP)	
2.00 pm	Divine Mercy Chaplet	
7.00 pm	Parish open meeting at St. John Paul II Centre	
Wednesday 8th March		<i>Lent Feria</i>
9.30 am (Chu)	Margaret Forsyth (RIP)	
7.00 pm	Paul & Kathryn Kallay's House - 26 Pipits Croft, Bicester, OX26 6XW	
Thursday 9th March		<i>Lent Feria</i>
8.00 am (Sch)	Intentions of Staff & Pupils families	<i>Lenten Early Mass</i>
7.00pm	Lily & Tommy Thompson (RIP)	
Friday 10th March		<i>Lent Feria</i>
10.00 am	Monthly Coffee morning at St John Paul II Centre	
11 am (Sch)	25th Anniversary of Fr John's Ordination -Whole School Mass	
7.00pm	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 11th March		<i>Lent Feria</i>
8.30 am (BP)	Welfare of the Prisoners families	
10.15 am	Raphael (birthday)	
5.15 pm	Rosary, Litany & Angelus	
6.00 pm	The People of the Parish & Garrison	
Sunday 12th March		<i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>
9.00 am	Pauline Saltmarsh (RIP)	
11.00 am	Mercy Bottino (RIP)	

Confession: Saturdays: 10.45am – 11.30 am & 5.00 pm - 5.30pm
 & other times by appointment.

Prison Chaplaincy Duty: Weekly on Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday.

Refreshments served in John Paul II Centre after 9.00 am & 11 am
 Masses. All Welcome!



Reflections

First Reading (Gen 2:7-9;3: 1-7). This deals with the tempting of Adam & Eve. In spite of all God did for them, at the first suggestion of the temptor, they disobeyed him.

Second Reading (Rom 5:12-19). By his obedience to God, Christ undid the harm done by the disobedience of Adam.

Gospel (Matt 4:1-11). This Gospel shows that, like us, Jesus had to struggle against evil. He was tempted in every way that we are, but he did not succumb. We see Christ in the desert, struggling with the temptor. Through prayer, fasting, and fidelity to the word of God he emerges victorious. We all have to face temptations. Lent provides us with a great opportunity to intensify our efforts to overcome them. Let us reflect for a moment on our worst and constant temptation. Through the grace of Christ we too can be victorious over our temptations.

God bless you

Fr John Y Batthula
 Parish Priest

FAMILY PRAYER in 2017

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of our family. Enlighten our hearts and minds that we may live more fully this vocation. In our daily life and work, may we reflect the self-giving love with you, O Father; eternally show us with your Son and the Holy Spirit. Let your love be evident in the peace that reigns in our homes and in the faith we profess and live. May our family always be a place of generosity, understanding, forgiveness and joy.

Kindly give us the wisdom and courage to be witness to your eternal design for the family, grant that the Holy Family of Nazareth may always guide our path to holiness as family. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit, one god forever and ever. Amen

Henley House, 12 THE CAUSEWAY, BICESTER, OX26 6AW, OXON. Tel: 01869 253277

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

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

PIETY SHOP Confirmation and First Holy communion (invitations, cards, rosaries, gifts) items on sale now. A small selection of St Patricks and Mothers Day gifts and cards are now available.

'MARCH READ OF THE MONTH' On the 20th March the Church celebrates the feast of St Joseph. St Joseph is the patron saint of fathers, immigrants, workers and those seeking employment and a happy death! This pocket sized booklet explains the life of St Joseph and contains a treasury of prayers to this beloved saint. Free pin with the first few books sold. Special price of £1.

PARISH OPEN MEETING: On Tuesday 7th March in the St. John Paul II Centre at 7.00pm. I would like to invite all parishioners to this open meeting.

ALL DAY OF PRAYER IN LENT: Friday 7th April from 9.30am to 7.00pm. Please come to watch and pray with the Lord. There is a list on the notice board, so please write your name and the time you would like come.

AREA (HOUSE) MASSES DURING LENT:

People in the area are invited to join in **Mass at 7.00pm**
Wednesday 8th March in **Paul & Kathryn Kallay's** House
26 Pipits Croft, Bicester, OX26 6XW

Wednesday 15th March in **Jan & Chris Hartley's** House
Wednesday 22nd March in **Elizabeth & David Green's** House
Wednesday 29th March in **Janet & Alan Marshall's** House

Wednesday 5th April in **Hilary & Bob King's** House

PILGRIMAGE TO HOLY LAND: From 22nd to 29th November 2017. If you are interested in joining us please let me know.


PILGRIMAGE TO SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA SPAIN & FATIMA: From 2nd to 9th October 2017 from London Stansted. The price £930. For more details contact Kirsten 07525464305 or Joseph on 07748638402.

FR. JOHN'S 25th ANNIVERSARY OF HIS PRIESTLY ORDINATION: In gratitude to the Lord for inviting me to share in His priesthood, I will be celebrating Mass at 11am in School and you are invited to join me & staff and pupils.

BGN ELECTION OF PARENT LOCAL ACADEMY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES. BGN currently has vacancies for two Parent Representatives to serve on the Academy Committee for four years. For further information, please ring Sarah Butler at BGN on 01295 264216. The closing date is 15 March 2017.

WINNERS 100 CLUB FOR FEBRUARY 2017: drawn on Sun 26 Feb Monthly Prizes a) £100, No 99 Neil & Ann Poole, b) £50, No 12 Barbara Nicholls, c) £25, No 41 Irene Ziegart.

MONTHLY LUNCH £422.50 was raised from the monthly lunch held on Tuesday 23rd February. Thank you to the lunch team and to everyone who came along to support it.

 **Coffee Morning, 10th March at 10am - all welcome!**

Teams for Sunday the:	5/3	12/3	19/3	26/3	2/4
Counting (8) No 7	3	4	5	6	8
Cleaning (7) no 5	1	2	3	4	6
Children lit. (5)	2	3	4	5	1
Coffee 9am (14)	14	1	13	3	4
Coffee 11am (8)	3	4	5	6	7
Flowers	Lent	Lent	Lent	Lent	Lent
Tradecraft			open		

DIARY DATES 2017

Cake and Produce Sale - Team having a well deserved break for now!
TRADECRAFT Stall open every 3rd weekend of the month.
YOUTH GROUP 2nd,3rd,4th, Mondays of the month. 7.15 pm-8.30 pm Term time only.
CHILDREN'S LITURGY Sunday at 9.00 am Mass.
PRESENTATION ASSOC. Monthly meetings first Monday of month.
100 CLUB DRAW After 9.00am Mass last Sunday of the month.
7th March: Parish Open meeting at 7.00 pm
19th March: Sacrament of Reconciliation Enrolment Mass at 9am - Y 2
30th March: Closing celebrations of Deanery Parish Visitations at 7pm 2
28th April: St Georges night Celebration
7th May: First Holy Communions at 11 am Mass
20th May: Indian Cuisine Evening
18th June: Corpus Christi - Procession to Garth Park
21st June: First Confessions at 6.30 pm in Church
2nd July: Family Festival & Presentation of Certificates after 11 am Mass
Monthly Lunches: Tuesdays 12 noon: **28th March;** 25th April; 23rd May; 27th June; 25th July; 22nd Aug; 26th Sept; 24th Oct; 28th Nov.
Monthly Coffee: Fridays 10am-11.45am: **10th March,** 7th April, 12th April, 9th June, 14th July, 11th Aug, 8th Sept, 13th Oct, 10th Nov, 8th Dec.
*Pick up a **SOCIAL EVENTS 2017** leaflet from the back of church.*

100 CLUB RENEWALS for the next 12 months are due from 1 April with the first draw in the new financial year taking place on Sunday, 30 April. The annual fee is £60 per annum payable in full by cheque or monthly standing order. In the coming year there will be three prizes each month - £100, £50 and £25 - and members of the Catenian Association will be present at each Mass on the first four weekends of April to accept renewed or new subscriptions. If you currently pay by Standing Order no further action is necessary. Please support this major Parish fund raiser if you possibly can and make it a real 100 Club in 2017/18. Thank you.

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY This year, Lent Fast Day is Friday 10th March, and focuses on the work CAFOD's partners are doing in Zambia. Take home a donation envelope from the back of church and return in next Sunday or soon after.

RCIA ~ Meeting Tuesday 7th March cancelled due to Parish Open Meeting. Next meeting 14th March when we look at the Mass and how the Sacred Liturgy embodies the whole of the faith. All welcome, St John Paul II Centre at 8-00 pm.

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND: M Starrett, 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 Stidston, N Southey, M Smyth, T Kirby, B Hunt, E Stonell, J Calver, J James, J O'Rourke, M Lewandowski, M May, A Davies, Mrs Curzon, M Kilby, C Brown, M Starrett, K Cashman, J Hurst, M Last, P Dean, R Admans, Sr Mary Humbert, C B Corpus, M Delos Santos, W Babington, J Wickers, A Doniselli Morgan, W Stonell, I Cook, M Smith, T Kirby, D De'le, M Wallace, J Busby, J Knox, L Lambert, P O' Brian, P Hambridge, Sr Teresa SSM, Anna Kirby -Hall, Reg Maude. **Please contact the parish office if you wish your name to be added or taken off the sick list.**

Collections

The 2nd collections this weekend will be for the **Cathedral Maintenance.**

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



PARISH OFFERINGS

1st GA £ 361.50
1st Loose £ 410.76
2nd GA £ 114.59
2nd Loose £ 147.73
Total £ 1034.58

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

5th March	Extraordinary Min	Extraordinary Min	Extraordinary Min	Extraordinary Min	Lector	Lector	Welcomer	Welcomer
Saturday 6pm	P Pickering	C St John	D Zanre	S Haydon	Confirmandi	Confirmandi	Confirmandi	Confirmandi
Sunday 9am	N Conway	E Conway	S Doherty	M Doherty	C Moyses	L Cleeve	M Nugent	Volunteer
Sunday 11am	Volunteer	B Tah	O Panejko	S Lawrence	R Evans	I Cook	Kokore	Family
12th March								
Saturday 6pm	B Thompson	J Varghese	M Thompson	I Foley	A Nelson	H Lawlor	M Marrs	T Behan
Sunday 9am	C Conlon	B Nichols	C Conlon	C Hartley	R McDonald	Erica	M Brown	A Brown
Sunday 11am	R Lee-Heung	D Johnson	F Ostrowski	J Hanna	P Rybka	A Kearsley	J Tuttle	

MASS ATTENDANCE LAST WEEKEND: Saturday 6.00 pm: 142 , Sunday 9.00 am: 148 , 11.00 am: 168 Total: 458