

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday Missal Page 851

### Entrance Antiphon:

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

### Psalm response:

I will extol you, Lord, for you have raised me up.

### Acclamation:

*Alleluia! Alleluia!* Christ is risen, who created all things and has shown compassion on the human race. *Alleluia!*

*The Apostles Creed is on page 456.*

### After the Bidding Prayers:

O Queen of Heaven, rejoice, Alleluia.  
For He whom you did merit to bear, Alleluia,  
Has risen as He said, Alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, Alleluia.  
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia,  
For the Lord has risen indeed, Alleluia. Amen.

### To conclude the Bidding Prayers: (Conclave begins on Wednesday, 7 May)

Lord, as the Church enters this time of transition,  
we ask for the guidance of Your Holy Spirit.  
Pour forth Your wisdom upon the College of Cardinals  
as they gather to discern Your will  
for the successor to the Chair of St Peter.  
Grant them clarity of mind, purity of heart, and courage of spirit,  
that they may choose a shepherd after Your own heart,  
one who will lead Your flock with wisdom, holiness, and love.  
May the new pope be a faithful witness to Your truth,  
a compassionate minister to all in need,  
and a unifying presence in our divided world. Amen.

### Communion Antiphon:

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

*The newsletter is also available at [www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk)  
If you do not need to take this one home, please return it to the console at the back of  
Church after Mass, so that it can be reused. Many thanks.*



## Catholic Parish of St Michael's Sonning Common

Sonning Common, Dunsden, Peppard,  
Checkendon, Stoke Row, Emmer Green  
and Caversham Park

[www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk)



### PARISH NEWSLETTER

Third Sunday of Easter

4 May 2025

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Road to Emmaus is one of my favourite and inspiring stories from the New Testament.

At school our sixth form house was called Emmaus House and was apart from the rest of the school buildings. It was a grand Regency house with stunning views over the whole city of Bristol from the Clifton Suspension Bridge designed by Brunel. It had a peaceful feeling and lovely garden and it fostered a love of serenity within us. After the school had closed (as it was not financially viable without all its 11-plus pupils) Emmaus House became a well-known retreat centre, while the school and convent became a hospice for cancer care. The feeling of serenity and love continued.

As students several of us felt “*the power of being shown the path of life*”.

The presence of the convent also fostered this faith.

The two disciples in the story today are distraught at the loss of their best friend and leader. They are astounded that this Man has not heard of all the terrible happenings. The death of Jesus left them feeling hopeless as they “*hoped He was the one to redeem Israel*”

Jesus chastises them for not knowing what the prophets had foretold and explains the scriptures for them. They are impressed and ask Him to stay and eat with them. It is while he is breaking the bread and blessing it that He allows them to realise who He is.

“*And their eyes were opened and they recognised Him*”

We pray that we would also be able to discern a truth from a stranger and realise we are being given a truth about faith.

Jesus walks beside us always on our journey. Faith and reflection help us discover that life is hopeless without God. He helps us make good life choices. The Holy Spirit guides us. Let us listen to those we meet and maybe hear the will of God in their words and friendship.

“*Lord Jesus open the Scriptures  
and make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us*”

Let our prayer constantly be

“Oh Lord show me the path of life”

We are on our own Road to Emmaus.

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## WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

If you are a visitor or new to the parish, we welcome you warmly.

**Catholic Parish of St Michael,**

18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common, RG4 9SU Tel: 0118 972 3418

Email: [stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk)

Website: [www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk)

**St Michael's Hall Hire** Tel: 0118 972 3418

**St Martin's Catholic Primary School**

Pendennis Avenue, Caversham Park. Tel: 0118 901 5544

Website: [www.stmartinscaversham.co.uk](http://www.stmartinscaversham.co.uk)

If you would like a home visit please call Deacon Brian Theobald

Tel: 07484332580 or email [dcn.brian.theobald@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.brian.theobald@rcaob.org.uk)

All Masses are live streamed and Mass streaming links can be found on our website

### G'DAY AND WELCOME!

As a parish we extend a very warm welcome to Fr Colin Blayney from Sydney who has so kindly agreed to live in the parish until late August.



We assure him of our gratitude... and also want him to know that the summer weather in Sonning Common is always this sunny and warm...

Do come and meet Fr Colin (and eat cake!) in the Hall at 11.30am on Sunday...

### AND ANOTHER WELCOME...



... to **Jacob Ekotto-Brooks** who will be baptised during the 10.30am Mass this Sunday.  
God bless you, Jacob, and your family.

### THANK YOU

Because of your generosity to those in need, you have raised £302.69 for the Myanmar Earthquake Appeal and £825 in Family Fast Day donations

### THE TLG TREE OF LIFE

At the back of the church you will see some rather lovely branches and some strips of paper. Do take a look at the suggested ways in which you can undertake to help Save Our Planet. Make a resolution, write it on a strip of paper and attach it, like a leaf, to a branch. Let us fill the branches and resolve to do our bit.

### PACK IT IN...

We have about 12 packing cases of varying sizes going begging. Email Krissie on the office email address above, if you would like one... or more.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Mary Lewis** who can be contacted at: [sg.stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted by telephoning: 0121 230 6240 or emailing [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns

## Parish Liturgies for week commencing 4 May 2025

Celebrant: Fr Colin Blayney

### 3 / 4 May

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Sunday	10.30am	Maddy Sharman, R.I.P
Monday	- 7pm	No Liturgy <b>HOLY HOUR (1st Monday)</b>
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass - John Lyons R.I.P.
Wednesday	9.30am 7-7.30pm	Mass <b>Time of Prayer for the Conclave</b>
Thursday	9.30am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Mass
<b>10 / 11 May</b>		<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>
Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	World Peace
Sunday	10.30am	People of the Parish
Confessions	Available before and after each of the weekend Masses	
Sacrament of the Sick	On request: ☎ 0118 972 3418	

### Second Collection next week for Clergy Training

**Please Pray for our Sick Parishioners, family and friends;  
Lord, send your healing Spirit on all who are sick or distressed.**

Dominic Antão; Catherine Belletty; Robert Brooks; Joe Bunton; Savanna Clark;  
Mary Edwards; Mary Hagger; Rogan Hodgson; Vivien Kear; Jennifer Learmouth;  
Dominic Sakrouge; Peppin Sanz. *If circumstances change please ask  
for the name to be removed from the list.*

### For All Deceased Members of our Parish Family

We pray for all who have died, and for those whose anniversary occurs about this time:

Jean Howarth; Mic Micotti; Anthony Michael Stitt; Richard John Stitt;  
Romano Martin Rodrigues; Margaret Bonner Mowbray; Mr Benedict Chin Siew Onn;  
Bernard Coffey; Vincent Gavin; Maggie Monter; Beryl Lester; Johnny Warman;  
Margaret Mary (Peggy) Grey; Julia and Michael Keogh; Peter Ridge.

**May the light and joy of God's peace shine upon them.**