

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday Missal Page 872

Entrance Antiphon:

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.

Psalm response:

The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.

Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord. I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice. *Alleluia!*

The Apostles Creed is on page 456. / Nicene Creed is on page 455

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:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love.
For it is in giving that we receive;
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen

Communion Antiphon:

Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

*The newsletter is also available at 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 Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216



Catholic Parish of St Michael's Sonning Common

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

www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk



PARISH NEWSLETTER

Seventh Sunday of Easter

01 June 2025

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK - FROM FR COLIN

Today I'd like to offer some thoughts on Pope Francis' call for us to be a synodal Church, something which Pope Leo has strongly affirmed. As the Archdiocese is now asking all parishes to embrace this path and it would be good to reflect on what it actually means.

The word 'synodal' derives from the Greek for 'on the road together' (συν ὁδος - syn hodos). It means that all members of the Church - Pope, bishops, priests, deacons, religious, laity - are on a common journey and therefore need to chart that journey by a path of mutual discernment. And 'mutual discernment' above all requires mutual listening.

The synodal path is therefore founded upon us all having a deep respect for the person in front of us. That doesn't mean we have to be happy with everything they do, or agree with everything they say. But it does mean that we reverence them as a person created by, and indwelt by, God and that means one very practical thing: that we *listen* for what God might be saying - even in what we might not want to hear. Listening in the spiritual sense means a deep openness and receptivity, which is something in short supply in our world.

The opening line of St Benedict's Rule of Life for monks and nuns has the beautiful words: 'Listen, my child, and attend with the ears of your heart.' Whereas if we're honest we'd probably admit that when someone else is speaking we're often chaffing at the bit to say what we want to say. We so often listen with the ears, not of the heart, but of our very argumentative mind. *The mind* listens to ideas. *The heart* listens to persons.

And in that listening we listen for the voice of God and for its challenges and its surprises as we journey on the road together - συν ὁδος. Without listening there can be no learning and no change.

A synodal Church journeys together, listens to one another, and so with humility listens for the voice of the Holy Spirit. It is a Church in which love is put into practice by a mutual respect based on seeing one another not as adversaries but as glimpses of the face of God.

*The Parish Pastoral Council has agreed that we will have a synodal assembly of our parish (hopefully an on-going part of parish life) on **Sunday 6th July**. It will follow the 10:30am Mass, include a light lunch and conclude by 1:30pm.
Please be part of this important gathering.*

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

Website: 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

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

Tel: 07484332580 or email dcn.brian.theobald@rcaob.org.uk

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

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND... for Catholic Communications

PENTECOST

Next Sunday is the fiftieth and the final day of the Easter Season, the great feast of Pentecost, which celebrates the outpouring of the fruit of the death and Resurrection of Jesus - the gift of the Holy Spirit. The liturgical colour of the day is red, symbolising the appearance of the Spirit as tongues of fire to empower the disciples. Why not consider wearing red next Sunday to bring a touch of the fire of the Holy Spirit to our gatherings?

FR COLIN'S SCRIPTURE COURSE

There will be two alternative times for each session:

1. Wednesday 4th June at 10am and 7pm (in the church)
2. Wednesday 18th June at 10am and 7pm
3. Tuesday 15th July at 7pm and Wednesday 16th July at 10am
4. Wednesday 23rd July at 10am and 7pm

Day for Oxfordshire Altar Servers.

Taking place at St Joseph's, Thame on Saturday 21 June.

Are any others interested in attending? Please talk to Deacon Brian.

Vacancy – Head of School at St Martin's School

St Martin's Catholic Primary School is looking for an experienced, dedicated, and inspiring individual to join their team as Head of School.

Closing date: 4th June; interview Friday 6th June.

Further details available at the back of the church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - SUNDAY 15TH JUNE

We pray those who will be making their First Holy Communion at the 10.30am Mass

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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted by telephoning: 0121 230 6240 or emailing safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns

Parish Liturgies for week commencing 1 June 2025

Celebrant: Fr Colin Blayney


31 May / 1 June

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Ruth New, R.I.P.
Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am	Maddy Sharman, R.I.P. / FAMILY MASS
Monday	- 7pm	No Liturgy HOLY HOUR
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass
Wednesday	9.30am	Mass at St Martin's School - all welcome
Thursday	9.30am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Mass

7 / 8 JUNE

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Saturday Vigil	 5.30pm	Special Intention
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
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	

**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; Lin Prendergast.

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:

Arthur Burns; Ruth Coyne; Margaret Hamilton Jones; Olive Ryan; Lucy Shurvell;
Sharon Ruddle; Sheila Smith; Eric Brent; James Curran; Eric Brent; Joseph Eglington;
Seamus Keane; Adam Hilliard.

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