



St. Michael's Bulletin



Saint Michael's is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. Registered Charity N. 234216

Sonning Common, Dunsden, Peppard, Checkendon, Stoke Row, Emmer Green & Caversham Park
Priest. Father Chris Bester. Tel: 0118-972-3418 **Deacon :** Rev Francis Andrews. Tel: 0118-972-2354
Saint Martin's School, Pendennis Avenue, Caversham Park. **Head;** Mrs Anne Hogg, Tel: 0118-901-5544
e-mail. chris.bester@btinternet.com **website:** www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk

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FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY, January 6th, 2008

Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Holy Souls
9.00 am For our Parish family 1030 am Kathleen Herwood
Monday 9.00 am Morning Prayer & Mass Tuesday 9.00am Morning prayer & Mass
Wednesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass Thursday 9.00 am Eucharistic service
Friday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass **Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Holy Souls**

Also this week. Tuesday 2.30 pm Funeral Service for Paul Snapes
Confessions. Each Saturday, 1130 am – 1200 noon: and after Vigil Mass.

FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS.

Loving Father, send Your healing Spirit on all who are distressed. We pray for those separated from their families and for those who have lost children and cannot find them. We pray for Frank Sweeney, Catherine Viner, Jacquie Bussell, Eugenie Micotti, Alison and Betty Gosling, Jack Daly, Philomena Smith, Ron Stephenson, Isobel Gillet and Marguerite Brosnan.

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

We pray for all who died recently, for all who have been killed in wars, disasters and accidents throughout the world. For victims of terrorism and oppression; for those who die of starvation or neglect: we also remember Kitty Cottrell, Richard Cannings, Henry Clay, Thomas Stewart and Constantino Antao whose anniversaries fall at this time.

May they find rest in Your Love and Peace.

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A HAPPY NEW YEAR

I hope that your New Year has begun well for you. Let us hope and pray for a peaceful year not just for ourselves but for the whole of our world. May all the blessings of Christmas remain with us for the coming 12 months. During the dark days of World War Two, when we were threatened by invasion, King, George VI gave a message to the nation at Christmas and quoted from a poem written by M. Louise Haskins:

“I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year, ‘Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.’ And he replied, ‘Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light, and safer than a known way.’ “
May that Almighty Hand guide and uphold us all throughout this New Year.

THE EPIPHANY.

This is the climax and conclusion of the Christmas season. Today's feast celebrates Jesus' appearance to the Gentiles, (ie. those not Jews,) as represented by the Wise men who find the Saviour of the world through their study of the movements in the Heavens. The whole of Creation points to Jesus as its centre, and the point of Creation is for us to be brought into God's plan of loving salvation and find meaning and purpose in our lives.

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION.

Next Sunday at our 1030 am Mass the children preparing for First Holy Communion will lead us into a deeper understanding of what it means to care for each other as members of God's family. It is in our Bidding Prayers that we ask God to watch over and care for all those whom we perceive to be in need of any kind of assistance. And we also ask in our prayers that God will touch our hearts and minds so that we can give practical and loving help whenever we see it to be needed. True prayer is seen in action and love to everyone around us. This is how we are asked to care for each other as brothers and sisters of Jesus in the family of God and the family of all humanity.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY.

This will soon be upon us. This year we are invited to All Saints Church at Peppard. More details next week.

VISITATION BY BISHOP WILLIAM KENNEY.

This will take place on the week-end of February 8th – 10th, which is also the First Sunday of Lent. We shall be discussing this in our Parish Council meeting during the week and I shall give you more information next week.

LIFE

There will be a retiring collection for LIFE. This is a Pro-Life charity which helps thousands of women, men and children at a very difficult time of their lives. There is a leaflet on the table with more information; please take one

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May we all have an enjoyable and peaceful week. Fr Chris