



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

=====

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, December 9th, 2007

Saturday Vigil 5.30 pm Ron Clark

9.00 am For our parish family

1030 am Holy Souls

Monday 9.00 Morning prayer & Mass

Tuesday 9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Wednesday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass

Thursday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass

Friday 9.00 am Morning prayer & Mass

Saturday 5.30 pm Kathleen & Thomas Butler.

Confessions each Saturday at 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, Jacque Bussell, Eugenie Micotti, Alison and Betty Gosling, Jack Daly and Philomena Smith.

Bring them Your healing and peace.

FOR THE DECEASED MEMBERS OF OUR PARISH FAMILY

We pray for Ron Clark, Aileen Williams and 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 remember Lesley Farquhar, Sheila Westcar, Albert Eecklaers and Margaret Hall whose anniversaries fall at this time.

May they find rest in Your Love and Peace.

=====

ADVENT A period of reflection and preparation as we ready ourselves to welcome the Lord into our lives. **"Walk with Me"** booklets for the adults, and **Advent calendars** for the children can be found on the table.

These help us each day in our preparation during this waiting time.

ADVENT PROJECT. During Advent we have set ourselves to raise money for **HELEN HOUSE**, the Hospice for very young children with terminal illness, which is run by Anglican Franciscan Nuns in Cowley, Oxford. This Hospice also offers valuable loving support to the families of these very young children.

The "swing-bin" at the back of church is for your contributions. It received £26.72 last week-end. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS TREE. Gift tags are attached to the branches of the tree. You are asked to take off a tag, and provide a gift as suggested. Extra gifts may be offered and they will also be distributed in time for Christmas.

BISHOPSWOOD SCHOOL will be here on Wednesday at 1030 for their Christmas Carol Service.

You are most welcome to come along and share in this service if you would like to..

SAINT MARTIN'S SCHOOL will be here on Thursday evening at 7.00pm for their Christmas Concert.

You are most welcome to come along but priority seating will be allocated to children with their families.

GREETINGS CARDS TO PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE. There is a list of such prisoners on the table in the alcove at the back of church. Please take one if you would like to send a greeting to any of those mentioned.

RECONCILIATION SERVICE. The "Advent Amnesty" will be on Monday December 17th at 7.00 pm.

CLEANING OUR CHURCH. The Men-Only Cleaning team will have a pre-Christmas clean on Saturday morning, beginning at 1000 am and ending when the church is sparkling.....

DROP-IN CENTRE needs clothes for men. Thanks for those already received. I'm sure there are more.....

"COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS" I am sure we all know someone who no longer attends Mass. This is a great sorrow for so many of us. This year we make a plea for each of us to reach out to such a person and extend a warm and friendly invitation to "come home for Christmas". It is part of our mission to be a warm and welcoming community, ever ready to greet each other with a cheery smile: it is essential that we meet and greet newcomers and visitors in that same friendly manner. There can be nothing worse than a visitor coming to church and feeling ignored, so we have to be on the watch and not allow that to happen. It has sometimes been the case that an accusation is made that visitors and newcomers are not made to feel part of the family. So we must be on our guard. As we send out our Parish Christmas card, with the times of our Services, I have also included a short letter with a very brief explanation of our Reconciliation Service on Monday December 17th, because Confession is frequently cited as the great barrier for people who wish to return to the practice of their faith.

I hope our Service removes all fears anyone may have about Confession.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR. There is a box at the back of church for your offerings for Christmas flowers.

May we all have a peaceful week. Fr Chris