

**Entrance Antiphon:**

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

**Psalm response:**

O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

**The Sequence:** Page 338 of the Sunday Missal; short version on page 340.

**Acclamation:**

*Alleluia, Alleluia!* I am the living bread that came down from heaven, says the Lord. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live for ever. *Alleluia.*

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

**After the Bidding Prayers:**

O Jesus, Living Bread from Heaven,  
on this feast of Your Body and Blood,  
we ask that, through the intercession of Mary, Your Mother,  
We may learn to receive You with purity,  
to carry You with devotion,  
and to serve You with joy.  
May Our Lady lead us always closer to You,  
until we share the eternal banquet in Heaven. Amen

**To conclude the Bidding Prayers:**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
On this holy feast of Your Body and Blood,  
we bow before the mystery of Your love.  
You give Yourself completely—  
Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity—  
to nourish our souls and strengthen our hearts.  
May this sacred gift deepen our faith,  
unite us as one family in Your Church,  
and inspire us to serve with humility and joy. Amen.

**Communion Antiphon:** Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him, says the Lord.

*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.*

If you would like to receive the Archdiocese weekly newsletter you can sign up at  
<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news>

Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216

## Catholic Parish of St Michael's Sonning Common

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



## Corpus Christi

6/7 June 2026

*“Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.”*

It's not really surprising that the people hearing Our Lord say this were somewhat aghast and indeed, as we read further on St John's Gospel, 'many of his disciples left him and no longer walked with him.' But Our Lord insisted that He was not speaking symbolically.

As Catholics we **believe** in the truth of the Real Presence, even if it is something which is outside our human **understanding**. Perhaps it helps to understand if we consider the WHY. Why would Our Lord require us to eat His flesh in order to have life?

Put simply - it is because love always wants union and eating is the deepest form of union. When you eat something, it becomes part of you: it enters your body, your bloodstream, your cells - it becomes your life. Our Lord doesn't want to be near us; He wants to be within us. He chose bread as the simplest, most basic, universal food and wine as the ancient sign of joy.

Looking at it from another angle, if you think about it, humanity's fall came about through an act of disobedience involving eating what was forbidden. Christ reverses that by not taking, but giving - and giving Himself in an act of obedience to His Father.

The Eucharist, the celebration of Holy Communion, is the act which forms our Church as the Body of Christ. As we receive His Body, we become His Body, we are united to Him and to one another.

St Thomas Aquinas said: *“The Eucharist is the sacrament of love, because it brings about the union of Christ with the soul.”*

Love always goes as far as it can go, and in the Eucharist, Christ goes all the way.

*A Parishioner*

## WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

If you are a visitor or new to the parish, we welcome you warmly.  
**The Catholic Parish of St Michael's**

St Michael's Hall Hire Tel:01189723418

St Martin's Catholic Primary School

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)

*Most Masses are live streamed and Mass streaming links can be found on our website.*

### SYNODAL (WALKING TOGETHER) GATHERING : SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

This will take place after the 10.30am Mass for about 1 hour. Once again, may I urge you to come along in support of our parish and its future. Even if you have not signed up, you will be very welcome. By listening we will try to discern what our mission is as a Catholic parish and how it can be fulfilled. *Soup will be provided.*

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION COURSE WITH CANON PAUL

Wednesday 10th June: 7.30pm on Zoom and Thursday 11th at 10am in the church  
Zoom Meeting ID 847 7279 9050. Passcode: 034423

*This is the penultimate session. Would you like the Scripture Course to continue in September? If so, what would you like to see covered?*

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS: 10.30 AM - 21ST JUNE

Confirmation candidates will be enrolled at the 10.30am Mass on 14<sup>th</sup> June. Please pray for these young people as they take the next step in their relationship with Our Lord.

### DEACON TENNY'S ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD: FRIDAY 10TH JULY

This will take place at St. Chad's Cathedral. Please keep him in your prayers.

### GET TOGETHER SUNDAY - HISTORY & HYMNS - 4.30PM, 12<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Don't forget to note down your favourite hymn to represent our parish at the local Christian churches summer get-together, which we will be hosting.

### JUNE: REFUGEE AWARENESS MONTH

Do take a look at the display in our church and take a prayer card home.

### WEBELIEVE FESTIVAL. 24-27 JULY, OSCOTT COLLEGE.

It's an opportunity to discover the traditions and charisms that flow through the Church and to encounter the transforming love of God. Highly recommended by those who attended last year. Day passes available. See [www.webelievefestival.com](http://www.webelievefestival.com)

**Please send any items for the newsletter to [fran.stm.news@gmail.com](mailto:fran.stm.news@gmail.com)**

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative 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 7th June 2026

Weekend Celebrants: *Rev Andrew Foster & Canon Paul*

**6/7 JUNE**

**CORPUS CHRISTI**

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Gerard Oliver Lawrence R.I.P.
Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am	Maddy Sharman, R.I.P.
Monday	9.30am <b>7pm</b>	Eucharistic Service <b>Holy Hour</b>
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass
Wednesday	-	No liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Mass <i>[St Barnabas]</i>
Friday	-	No Liturgy <i>[Sacred Heart of Jesus]</i>

**13/14 JUNE** *Cels: Revv Adrew Foster & Michael Doyle* **11TH SUNDAY IN O.T.**

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Sunday	10.30am	World Peace
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; Rogan Hodgson; Vivien Kear; Jennifer Learmouth; Peppin Sanz; Dominic Sakrouge; Daniel Carroll; TJ. Barbara Stitt; Cian Murphy; Alan Skingsley.  
*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:

Oliver Keogh; Vera Marlein; Maureen Burke; Hugh Gilmartin; Sabastian Franciso; Fr Tony Milledge; Stanley Francis Robinson; Al Terry; Bobby Alston; Arthur Burns; Eric Wright; Seta Goode; Mrs A King; Bridget Mc Donnell; Stanley Smith; Ena Wilson; Elizabeth Allison; Janine Corie; Ron Theobald; Brian Bird; Michael and Julia Keogh

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