

Entrance Antiphon:

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me, this knowledge, alleluia, alleluia.

Psalm response:

This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.

Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed; let us therefore celebrate the festival in the Lord. *Alleluia!*

The Apostles Creed is on page 456.

After the Bidding Prayers:

Hail Mary Full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

To conclude the bidding prayers:

We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have gained for us,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for us.
Most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly
and follow you more nearly. Amen.
(*St Richard of Chichester*)

Communion Antiphon:

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, 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.*

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

Information about the Year of Jubilee can be found at www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

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

Easter Sunday

20 April 2025

*Christ is Risen! He has Risen Indeed!
Easter blessings to you and all who are dear to you.*

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Through Lent, we have been taking part in a small group using the Church of England's LIVING HOPE booklet of 40 different Lenten reflections. Its theme for Holy Week is 'Transformed'.

As we reflected on the prayers and readings offered, we began to understand that our Christian life is itself a journey of transformation, culminating in our return to God. Only Christ was resurrected from the dead, but we all experience our own mini-resurrections as we travel through the ups and downs of our lives. We are transformed by them too.

Our life – like the natural world we have seen astonishingly altered this last month with trees exploding into leaf and flowers bursting into flower – is one of growth and of change.

We acknowledge that transformation at Easter. But we have to go one step further. We must share it. That doesn't mean that we have to take to the road in dusty sandals or risk martyrdom like members of the early Church, but we can share the joy of the resurrection.

I love this quote from Madeleine Delbr l a French writer (once atheist) of the mid 20th century. She wrote:

"Once we have come to know the word of God, we have no right not to receive it; once we have received it, we have no right not to let it be incarnated in us; once it has been incarnated in us, we have no right to keep it for ourselves: from that moment on, we belong to those who await it".

The promise of Easter is that if we believe in the gospels and in Christ's death and resurrection, we too will be renewed and transformed, and have nothing to fear. Let's try and share that this Easter.

Katie

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

A HEARTFELT THANK YOU...

...to all who contributed to making our Easter liturgies such a beautiful experience (cleaners, flower arrangers, readers, choir, servers, welcomers...). The contribution so many people make to supporting and nurturing the life of our parish day-to-day is both recognised and very much appreciated. These actions demonstrate we are trying to fulfil the Lord's command to love one another as He loves us.

EASTER OFFERING.

This will be divided between Fr Andrew Foster and Fr Michael Doyle who have celebrated Mass for us most weekends since Christmas. We appreciate their support of our parish community and are also grateful to the other priests who visit us.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR THOUGHTFUL LIVING GROUP

To care for creation is also a call to hope... *"We must never forget that the natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone."* Pope Francis, Laudato Si'

WELCOMING FR COLIN BLAYNEY

Fr Colin is scheduled to arrive at St Michael's on Thursday 1st May. We've already mentioned in the newsletter that we will hold a Reception for him in our Hall after the 10.30 Mass on his first Sunday here, 4th May. Thank you for signing up to help with cakes and with setting up the hall on the preceding Saturday.

There is now a large 'Welcome' card on the table at the back of the church.

Please do sign this. We want Fr Colin to know that he has landed in a friendly and welcoming parish. Which he will soon find out!

AND IF PROOF WERE NEEDED OF THE GENEROSITY OF OUR PARISHIONERS...

A heartfelt 'THANK YOU' to all who donated Easter Eggs for local underprivileged families. We were hoping for 40 eggs—you gave more than 70. Thank you!

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 20 April 2025

This weekend we welcome Fr Michael Doyle

19/20 April Easter Sunday

Easter Vigil	8.00pm	People of the Parish
Easter Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Easter Sunday	10.30am	People of the Parish
Monday	-	No liturgy
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass
Wednesday	-	No Liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Friday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service
26/27 April		Second Sunday of Easter
Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am	Stephen Aldworth / Cotter Family Deceased
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; Fr. Paul Rowan; 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:

Brendan McCarthy; Raymond Taylor; Maurice Bowell; Michael Austin MacDermott;
Colonel Patrick Francis Gavin Barry; Harry Gardner; St George; George Hajdu;
Iona Bakacs; Rima Dwyer; Sean Bannon; Julia Welemars and family; Norah Bourne;
Edna Walsh

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