

Entrance Antiphon:

All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

Psalm response:

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus Christ, though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you, by his poverty might become rich. *Alleluia!*

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

After the Bidding Prayers:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee...

To conclude the Bidding Prayers:

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts;

Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.

All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

(based on the ancient prayer Adsumus Sancte Spiritus, which has been used as Church Councils and Synods gathered together. It has become a prayer associated with the Synodal pathway inaugurated by Pope Francis).

Communion Antiphon:

Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.

*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 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

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

28 September 2025

The parable of Lazarus and the rich man (Luke 16:19–31) is a stark reminder of the chasm that can exist between wealth and poverty. Lazarus, destitute and covered in sores, lay at the rich man's gate—perhaps hoping for scraps, mercy, or even recognition. Yet he died unnoticed, uncared for, seemingly forgotten.

Only in death do the tables turn. Lazarus is comforted in heaven, while the rich man suffers. Crucially, the rich man knows Lazarus by name—proof that he had seen him, passed him, and chosen indifference. This is not a story of ignorance, but of neglect.

It raises uncomfortable questions: Does our earthly status blind us to the suffering of others? Are we complicit in systems that perpetuate inequality?

The divide between those with abundance and those in need is not new. But the Gospel calls us to respond—not with guilt, but with action. Our parish continues to work alongside other churches and community groups to support those struggling locally. Globally, we've welcomed missionaries who share stories of communities burdened by poverty and debt. Our CAFOD Champion recently highlighted how some nations are trapped in cycles of repayment to richer countries, unable to invest in their own people.

While we may never fully balance the scales of wealth and poverty, we are called to bridge the gap with compassion. The rich man's regret came too late. Ours need not.

We can choose to see, to act, and to love—now.

A parishioner

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:01189723418

St Martin's Catholic Primary School

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



We wish all our parishioners and friends a joyful and blessed Feastday on Monday.

St Michael the Archangel: shield us from danger and protect us from all harm.

This weekend - Parish lunch and AGM after the 10.30am Mass.

Please come along and bring a dish (or two) to share.

OCTOBER - THE MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY.

Pope Leo has invited all Catholics to try and pray the Rosary every day in October to ask for God's gift of peace for the world. As well as our personal prayer we will pray the Rosary together after some of our weekday liturgies. Are there other times we should pray together? Drop deacon Brian an email.

For weekend 11/12th October we will host the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham from St Edmund Campion Church, Watlington to aid our devotions.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL THIS HARVEST FRIDAY 3RD OCTOBER

Please donate to our Family Fast Day collection to share God's abundant gifts with our global neighbours seeking lasting solutions to poverty and climate challenges. Your generosity offers "signs of hope" in this Jubilee Year, helping build more water tanks in communities like Waré's in Ethiopia where women have to walk for hours to get water. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope; call 0303 303 3030; text CAFOD to 70560 to donate £10.

ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - OPEN DAYS

Prospective parents and carers are warmly invited to visit St Martin's to hear more about the school's ethos of faith, learning and community. Meet the Headteacher and dedicated staff and chat to pupils. 2pm on 1st October, 9.15am on 22 October and 5 November, 1.30pm on 26 November. To book please contact the school - details at the top of this page.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

There's a 2nd collection this weekend in aid of Fr Hudson's Society

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 28 September 2025

Weekend Celebrants: Fr Andrew Foster & Fr Michael Doyle

27 / 28 SEPTEMBER

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am	Susan Riordan
Monday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service FEASTDAY OF ST MICHAEL, ARCHANGEL
Tuesday	12noon	Mass
Wednesday	-	No liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service

4 / 5 OCTOBER

Cel.: Revv M. Doyle & A Foster

27TH SUNDAY IN O.T.

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	World Peace
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Sunday	10.30am	Maddy Sharman, R.I.P.
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, Richard Szulc; Rosalyn Thomas; Daniel Carroll.
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:

Peggy and Tony Brennan; Emily Black; Stephen Boyle; Helen Fox;
Andrew Gray ; Mike and May Quinn; Andrew Selwood; Eric Gillet;
Margaret Morgan; Lyl Cattrell (Jnr); Annie Deeney.

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