

## Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday Missal Page 131

### Entrance Antiphon:

My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

### Psalm response:

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

### Acclamation:

*Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.* Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world; give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty, *Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.*

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

### After the Bidding Prayers:

*Hail Mary...*

### To conclude the Bidding Prayers:

Heavenly Father,  
In this sacred season of Lent,  
I come before You with a humble heart,  
seeking renewal, forgiveness, and grace.  
Teach me to walk in the footsteps of Christ,  
to embrace sacrifice with joy,  
and to love others with patience and mercy.  
Cleanse my soul from all that draws me away from You,  
and fill me with the light of Your truth.  
Through the cross, lead me to the glory of the Resurrection,  
so that, renewed in spirit,  
I may proclaim Your love to the world.  
I make my prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen

### Communion Antiphon:

For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

*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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Website: [www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk)

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



## PARISH NEWSLETTER

Third Sunday of Lent

7/8 March 2026

### “Living Water”

Today's gospel recounts that beautiful encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. For the woman, the day probably started like any other day until she went to draw water from the well. Little did she know when she first saw the weary stranger sitting by the well that her life would be turned upside down. Before the day was over, not only the woman believed Jesus was the Saviour of the world, but also many other Samaritans because of her testimony.

Lent is the season that encourages us to have a new and fresh encounter with Jesus. In our relationship with Jesus, is everyday like every other day? Or are we prepared to drink afresh of the Living Water, the Holy Spirit, he offers us? Are we ready to let him turn our lives upside down out of gratitude and love for what he achieved for us by his suffering, death and resurrection – nothing less than eternal life? Our Lenten prayer, fasting and acts of charity are a means to having that fresh encounter with Jesus.

If we have the privilege and joy of knowing Jesus and what he is offering us, should we like the woman, be telling others so that they can share in our blessings? We know that Jesus' love, mercy and compassion is for everyone. Yet how will they know if we don't tell them? One way we as a parish hope to unselfishly share our blessings with others is to run an Alpha course after Easter. This will only be possible if we support and help one another in this venture. Please come to one of the introductory sessions to find out more and see how you can contribute to offering the Living Water of Jesus to others.

*Deacon Brian*

## 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.*

### ALPHA - What is it and Why?

As a parish we would like to invite Catholics who no longer practise their faith to reconnect with the Church and provide an opportunity for others to know Jesus for perhaps the first time. An Alpha Course running over 11 weeks can be an effective way of doing this. However it needs a committed parish team. Can you help? To find out more, please come to one of the introduction sessions in the church hall:

**10 March at 7pm, repeated 12 noon 22 March.**

### LENTEN RETREAT DAY - SATURDAY 14TH MARCH - 10.30AM - 3PM

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH HALL Led by Canon Paul Fitzpatrick

*Feel free to bring a packed lunch; there'll also be soup and drinks.*

*Please sign the sheet to help with soup-catering.*

### ALTAR SERVERS - TRAINING SESSION - 14 MARCH AT 3PM

All current servers and those interested in starting to serve (adult and young) are invited along as we prepare for Easter.

### TO ALL OUR WELCOMERS...

...please take the envelope with your name on it from the back of the church and take the time to read the leaflet as part of St Michael's ongoing ministry, even if you have been welcoming at Mass for several years. There is also information about becoming a Fire Steward for the Masses. If you have any questions please do contact Dcn Brian or Krissie Many thanks.

### MAUNDY THURSDAY: Mass of the Lord's Supper: Washing of Feet and Watching at the Altar of Repose

*Please sign the relevant sheets at the back of the church to partake. Thank you.*

### EASTER EGGS... PLEASE ... THANK YOU

...for vulnerable children from Reading Social Services. There's a box at the back of the

### The next Parish Pastoral Council Meeting...

...will take place on 9th March. Items for the Agenda - please email the office.

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 8 March 2026

Weekend Celebrants: Fr Andrew Foster & Fr Michael Doyle

### 7/8 MARCH

### 3rd Sunday of Lent

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am	Mary Hagger, R.I.P. (recently dec'd)
Monday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service - <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i>
Tuesday	-	No liturgy ( <i>Deanery Meeting</i> )
Wednesday	- 7pm	No liturgy <b>HOLY HOUR - for Lent</b>
Thursday	9.30am	Mass - <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i>
Friday	-	No liturgy

### 14/15 MARCH

Celebrant: Fr Michael Doyle

### 4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	World Peace
Sunday	10.30am	People of the Parish      YOUTH MASS
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;  
Dominic Sakrouge; Peppin Sanz, Daniel Carroll; TJ.

*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:

Mariano Roza Gama; Janet Kierulf; Henry Littlewood; Cyril Lowther; Francis White;  
Mary Hagger; Francis Fallones; Marnie Connors; Peter Godfrey; Catherine Neville;  
Roman Szulc; Emilia Barratto; Ranald McGowan (Mac); Lilian Peach; Lucy Shunwell;  
Dorothy Flannex (nee Nevin); Mary Weir.

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