

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday Missal Page 137

Entrance Antiphon:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Psalm response:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Acclamation:

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. *Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.*

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:

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

*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.*

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*



PARISH NEWSLETTER

Fourth Sunday of Lent

14/15 March 2026

Laetare Sunday: A Lenten Break

This weekend we celebrate Laetare Sunday and Mothers' Day; an opportunity to take a bit of a breather halfway through Lent and for each of us to recognise, remember and give thanks for all those who have been like a mother to us.

Some people never know their birth mother, others will have struggled, to a greater or lesser degree, with that relationship: if that is the case for you, I hope that you can recognise others in your life who have shown you that love that we so often idealise but sometimes fall short of.

Siblings sometimes feel that parents have a "favourite child" and parents can struggle to feel that they love all their children equally. However, God is not like that. He loves each one of us unconditionally; if we fail or turn away he doesn't reject us; his arms are open to welcome us back to him whatever we have done. He will not disown us, under pressure, like the Blind Man's parents in today's Gospel. We just need to turn back to him.

As that *ideal mother* who loves all her children equally, God finds and looks for the good in each of us. He then uses that good, if we offer it to him, for his work.

As the Lord guided Samuel to pick Jesse's youngest son, who wasn't even presented to him, so he picks YOU and he picks me. Like a loving parent, through all of our weaknesses and difficulties, he sees our strengths and our talents and his wish for us is that we make the most of them.

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

If you would like a home visit please call Deacon Brian Theobald

Tel: 07484332580 or email 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?

Following our first introductory session we don't as yet have enough helpers to make the course viable. The session will be **repeated at 12 noon 22 March.**

See insert for more details.

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION COURSE WITH CANON PAUL

Wednesday 18 March: 7.30pm on Zoom and Thursday 19th at 10am in the church

Zoom Meeting ID 847 7279 9050. Passcode: 034423

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.

WALK OF WITNESS - GOOD FRIDAY - 10AM

The Walk of Witness starts from Christ the King Church in Sedgewell Road.

We are looking for volunteer readers please...

A REMINDER...

After the austerity of Lent, our flower-arrangers are making their plans to festoon our church with glorious, joyful Easter flowers. Any donation you can make towards the cost of the flowers would be hugely appreciated.

There's a box at the back of the church. Grateful thanks.

QUIET PLEASE

You are requested to respect the quiet time people enjoy for prayer before and after Mass. Please restrict *-muted* conversations to the very back of the church.

Thank you.

EASTER EGGS... PLEASE ... THANK YOU

For vulnerable children via Reading Social Services. There's a box at the back of church.

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.sinningcommon@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 15 March 2026

Weekend Celebrant: Fr Michael Doyle

14/15 MARCH

4th Sunday of Lent

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Katherine Cairns, R.I.P. (<i>recently deceased</i>)
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Sunday	10.30am	People of the Parish YOUTH MASS
Monday	9.30am 7pm	Eucharistic Service - <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross Lenten Holy Hour</i>
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass - <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i> [St Patrick] Winifred & Terence Maughan, R.I.P.
Wednesday	-	No liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Mass [St Joseph, Spouse of Our Lady]
Friday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service - <i>Followed by Stations of the Cross</i>

21/22 MARCH *Cel: Revv Andrew Foster & Michael Doyle* 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	World Peace
Sunday	10.30am 4pm	People of the Parish Stations of the Cross
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:

Sister Mary Joseph (Murray); Molly Marnie Connors; Donna Armstrong; Doreen Felicidale Petricia D'Souza; Henry Kerr; Tess Lynch; Molly Luby; Jean Geoffreys; John Vera Alan Dant; Mary Fallon; Henry Ernest Gibbons;

Delia Hoban; Mary Ann Kerr.

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