

**Entrance Antiphon:**

These are the ones who, living in the flesh, planted the Church with their blood; they drank the chalice of the Lord and became the friends of God.

**Psalm response:**

From all my terrors the Lord set me free.

**Acclamation:**

*Alleluia, Alleluia!* You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. *Alleluia.*

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

**After the Bidding Prayers:**

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary,  
that it is a thing unheard of  
that anyone ever had recourse to your protection,  
implored your help, or sought your intercession, and was left unaided.  
Filled, therefore, with confidence in your goodness,  
I fly to you, O Mother, Virgin of Virgins.  
To you I come, before you I stand, a sorrowful sinner.  
Despise not my poor words, O Mother of the Word of God,  
but graciously hear my prayer. Amen.

**To conclude the Bidding Prayers:**

Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve,  
to give and not to count the cost,  
to fight and not to heed the wounds,  
to toil and not to seek for rest,  
to labour and not to seek reward  
save that of knowing that we do your holy will. Amen.

*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*

**Ss Peter & Paul**

27/28 June 2026

I don't suppose many of us think of ourselves as saints. Not out of any sense of humility, but quite simply because we don't believe we deserve any such label. Saints, after all, are such thoroughly good and holy people whose lives and example we can admire and strive to emulate, but the bar they set is high. And it's true that many saints seemed to be saintly from 'kick off' - if I may use a topical expression! But history is also strewn with saints who, frankly, didn't start out in promising manner. And aren't these the ones we warm to? They are so human. They give us encouragement and hope: maybe WE could be saints in our own way?

We only have to look at the two giants of our Catholic Faith whose feast day we celebrate today. St Peter is a favourite saint of mine. He was so wonderfully 'human' - so impulsive, so eager ("*Let's build three tents right here*" Mt 17:4; "*Lord, [wash] not just my feet but my hands and my head as well!*" Jn 13:8) And then the most famous declaration: "*Even if all fall away on account of you, I never will.*" Mt 26:33 And we know how that worked out. And yet, St Peter was chosen by Our Lord to be the Rock on '*which I will build my Church*'.

As for St Paul: we know full well how he began by persecuting followers of Our Lord before his Damascene conversion.

So, no. Not all saints start out with halos. Which, as I said earlier, gives us encouragement and hope. Maybe what is important is not that we get things wrong, but how we respond to our mis-steps. St Peter wept and felt deep shame when he realised the error of his ways. St Paul became the Church's greatest evangelist. Both saints made the ultimate sacrifice in martyrdom. It is extremely unlikely that any of us will have to go through that sort of martyrdom, but we all do have our burdens to bear and with the example of St Peter and St Paul, and with the words of our Lord to St Paul: 'my power is made perfect in weakness', (2Cor. 12:9) - we can reach our saintly goal. Happy Feastday!



## 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.*

### SECOND COLLECTION: PETER'S PENCE

### HOLY COMMUNION UNDER BOTH KINDS.

A number of Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist were commissioned last Sunday, hence the Blood of Christ will be available at some Masses for those who wish to receive from the chalice. There is no obligation to do so. Intinction of the consecrated host into the chalice is not permitted due to the risk of spillage on to the floor.

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

We look forward to welcoming the other local Christian churches to St Michael's. This event is being organised by women from each of the six churches. We will learn a little of each others' history (some go back several hundred years), sing our favourite hymns and pray. It will conclude with afternoon tea in the hall. Please keep the afternoon free.

### CAFOD

Following the CAFOD talks at the 5.30pm and 9.00am Masses last weekend, one of our young parishioners Daniel Clack was inspired to fundraise for CAFOD. On 21st July he will run 5km while juggling! Search for Daniel Clack at [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com).

### JULY CLOTHING APPEAL - ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL

Some patients don't have anyone to take clothes for them to wear when they leave hospital. Please do check your own wardrobes and see if you have comfortable items to spare for this excellent cause. Boxes at the back of the church for t-shirts, jumpers, cardigans, trousers.

### Closing up after the 10.30am Mass.

Are you able to help if Deacon Brian is away? Please let him know.

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION COURSE WITH CANON PAUL

We are grateful to Canon Paul for guiding us through the Gospels of Mark, Matthew and Luke over the last year, and look forward to the course resuming in September.

**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 28th June 2026

Weekend Celebrants: *Revv Andrew Foster & Michael Doyle*

### 27/28 JUNE

### SS PETER & PAUL

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Sunday	10.30am	Rupert Morrison, R.I.P.
Monday	9.30am 7pm	Eucharistic Service HOLY HOUR
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass
Wednesday	-	No liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service

### 4/5 JULY Cels: Revv Andrew Foster & Michael Doyle

### 14TH SUN. IN O.T.

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	Stephen Aldworth & Cotter Family, dec'd, R.I.P.
Sunday	10.30am	Maddy Shrman, R.I. P FAMILY 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; Ben Fox; Mary Edwards; Rogan Hodgson; Vivien Kear; Jennifer Learnmouth; Peppin Sanz; Dominic Sakrouge; Daniel Carroll; T.J. Barbara Stitt; Cian Murphy; Alan Skingsley; Carmelina Imperato; Terry Mc Goldrick.

*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:

Joan Griffin; Patrick Joseph Treacy; Ray Samuels; Norman Lousley; Audrey Monument; Bob Ryan; Pam Ryan; Bella Sellwood; Doris Campbell; John Russell; Marie van Bree-Anschutz; Grace Coll; Patrick Cottrell; Bernard Fornara; Richard Frankton; Bob Gaffney; Lou Levy; Mark San

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