

Entrance Antiphon:

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Psalm response:

The Lord is close to all who call him.

Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your Son. *Alleluia.*

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

After the Bidding Prayers:

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of mercy;
hail, our life, our sweetness and our hope.
To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve.
To you do we send up our sighs,
mourning and weeping in this vale of tears.
Turn then, most gracious advocate,
your eyes of mercy towards us,
and after this our exile show unto us
the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.
Pray for us, O holy Mother of God,
that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

To conclude the Bidding Prayers:

May He support us all the day long,
'til the shades lengthen and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.
Then, in His mercy, may He give us a safe lodging,
and a holy rest, and peace at the last. Amen.

Communion Antiphon:

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

*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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Website: www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk

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

**25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

19/20 Sept. 2026

It Isn't Fair!

God isn't fair! And that's a jolly good thing too!

Imagine what it would be like if God was like us?

Would he really completely forgive and forget and never retain any residual malice or feelings of resentment? Letting this cloud his relationship with us. If we let him down again and again, and again and again: would he still love us just as much if we only came and said "sorry"?

As our first reading from Isaiah tells us: *His thoughts are not our thoughts; His ways are not our ways.*

The example Jesus gives us in his Gospel parable of the labourers, shows us this. God's generosity is limitless, it may not seem fair to us because we don't think as he does. He chooses to reward those who work for Him by His standards, not ours.

A similar challenge to us can be seen in the current protests about immigration. Can any of us claim that we have done anything to deserve to live in a first world country; to not live in a land torn apart by wars or droughts; to not live in fear of corruption and criminal warlords?

Have those, sacrificing so much to try to get here, done anything to deserve to be born in war-torn Somalia or sub-Saharan Africa? Have I done anything to deserve to be born into a stable family in 1960s England? Have others done anything to deserve to be born into poverty, in a broken family in an area with little employment and poor education?

How would God see us and how would he reward us?

Like the wicked servant in last week's Gospel; we, each in our own way, have been given so much: how are we called to act to those with so much less?

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.

2ND COLLECTION: CATHOLIC EVANGELISATION / HOME MISSION SUNDAY

This second Collection supports the Catholic Church in a wide field of service and mission here in England and Wales. Please hold this important work in your prayers.

PARISH CONSULTATION - SUNDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER - AFTER THE 10.30 MASS

SCRIPTURE COURSE WITH CANON PAUL ON ST JOHN'S GOSPEL

Begins 10am, Friday 25th Sept. in the church. Zoom 7.30pm Thursday 24th.
Meeting ID 847 7279 9050. Passcode: 034423. A wonderful opportunity to hear and appreciate the message of St John's Gospel.

PATRONAL WEEKEND 25-27 SEPTEMBER & VISITATION OF BISHOP RICHARD WALKER

We hope all parishioners, new and old, will participate in some or all of the weekend's activities:

Friday 6.30pm Quiz & Chilli event. *Tickets at the back of the church.*

Saturday 10am-12 noon. A Spiritual Morning with Fr Tenny; Church Hall;
please bring a packed lunch

Saturday 2.45-5pm. Treasure Hunt. Pizza & games for younger parishioners

Bishop Richard will celebrate all of our weekend Masses

Craft & Produce Sale after all Masses

Sunday 12 noon Bring and Share Parish Lunch with AGM

Gift Aid - Rebate from HMRC just received.

Our Gift Aid rebate for the year to April 2026 totals £9436; £6626 from Planned Giving; £815 from the Dona machine and £1995 from 'Gift Aid Small Donations' which is linked to the loose collection (the maximum we can claim is £1995). Thank you for your kind contributions - they make a significant difference to parish finances. To join the Planned Giving scheme, contact Nick Sealey for details:

pt.stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk

Internet Access at Church.

Currently, we connect to the internet (for live mass streaming and the Dona Machine) via the presbytery. In the future, this will not be available to us. We're seeking advice on the best means of connecting the church to the internet. If you have some expertise in this field, Nick Sealey will be glad to hear from you: email address as above.

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 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 Sept. 2026

Weekend Celebrant: Rev. Andrew Foster & Canon Paul

19/20 SEPT.

25TH SUN. IN O.T.

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Martin Leigh-Field, R.I.P.
Sunday	9.00am	People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am	For a positive and hopeful Parish Consultation
Monday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass
Wednesday	-	No liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Mass (<i>with Canon Paul, pre Scripture Course</i>)

26/27 SEPT.

26TH SUN. IN O.T.

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Selwood Family Intentions
Sunday	9.00am	June Godfrey, R.I.P. (Anniversary)
Sunday	10.30am	People of the Parish
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 Buntun; Savanna Clark; Ben Fox;
Mary Edwards; Rogan Hodgson; Vivien Kear; Jennifer Learnmouth; Peppin Sanz;
Dominic Sakrouge; Daniel Carroll; TJ. Cian Murphy;

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:

Frank Pearce; Wendy Pearce; Alf Wade ; Lesley Archard; Audrey Belletty;
Harry Kerr; Freda Miller; Thomas Mullaniff; Francis George Pearce;
Gwenda New; June Godfrey; Michael O'Neil; Harold Clifford.

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