

Teams for	18/2	25/2	3/3	10/3	17/3	24/3
Children lit. (4)	none	4	1	2	none	3
Coffee 9am (10)	8	9	10	1	2	3
Coffee 11am (9)	3	4	6	7	8	9
Flowers	Lent	Lent	Lent	Lent	Jo	Sisters

**LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:**  
Mary Lynch, Victor Francis, K Cashman, Tim Charles, Helena Nowak & Jean McIntosh.

**ROSARY:** Daily 25 minutes before Mass starts.  
**DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET:** Every Tuesday at 2.00pm in Church  
**BAPTISMS/WEDDINGS:** Please contact the Parish Office through email or phone.  
**CONFESSIONS:** Hethe: **Saturday from 3.15pm - 3.50 pm (in the Sacristy)** Bicester: 5.15 pm - 5.45pm  
**EAST TİMOR COMMUNITY PRAYER:** First Sunday of the month at 5.00pm @ Ursuline Convent  
**HOLY HOUR:** Every First Friday from 6.00pm to 7.00pm (Not during Lent)  
**PARISH OUTREACH GROUP:** Please contact the Office if you need some form of practical help -252 277.  
**PIETY SHOP:** Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday around Masses.  
**URSULINE LAY ASSOCIATES MEETING:** 2nd Wednesday of every month at 2pm @ Ursuline Convent.

**CAFOD LENTEN FAMILY FAST DAY LENT APPEAL** This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Give using the gift aid envelope or online at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) or via our card machine under option '2nd Collections' and please join us praying with James that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families.

**SYMPATHY** Your prayers are asked for the repose of the soul of **Jim Bridle** who passed away suddenly whilst on holiday in South America on Monday, 5th February. Funeral arrangements will be announced in due course once his body is repatriated to the UK. Please keep his son Stephen, family and friends in your prayers. We also send our condolences and the assurance of our prayers to Anna (from 9am choir) and her family on the death of her father Simon Sze. *May they rest in peace.*

**PARISH VISITATION:** Canon Paul Fitzpatrick will be visiting our parish over the weekend of 16th and 17th March. During his stay, he will be meeting with both our Deacons, Parish Community, Parish Sisters, Head Teacher, Chair of Governors of our parish school, couple of sick parishioners and with me. On Sunday, after 11 am Mass we will have a Bring and Share Lunch celebration.

**COMMISSIONING OF EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS** This will take place during Holy Thursday evening Mass. All ministers are asked to attend to be commissioned for this role. If you would like to become an Extraordinary Minister please speak to me (Canon John).

**CONFIRMATION SPONSORS MASS** The Commitment Mass has been moved to Sunday, 25th February at 9am. Sorry for any inconvenience caused. I look forward seeing all sponsors.

**BAPTISM COURSES IN 2024** If you are planning to have your child baptised this year you will need to attend a baptism course beforehand. This year our courses will be held on Saturdays of the 13th April, 15th June and 5th October. Please contact the Parish Office to register.

**LILIES IN REMEMBRANCE** If you would like to contribute towards the Easter flowers then please complete and return a form which can be found at the back of church. All loved ones will also be remembered during the Easter Vigil Mass. Payments can be made by card option 'Easter Lilies.'

**SAFEGUARDING IN ACTION:** The Diocesan Safeguarding team are visiting us here at Immaculate Conception Parish on Saturday, 2nd March, from 10am—2pm for a 'Walk In' session. They will be available for discussion, questions and information sharing related to Safeguarding. Drop in any time and have a chat. There will be talk/presentation at 12 noon.

**PIETY SHOP** Has now got new items in stock for St Patrick's Day, Easter, Confirmation and Mothers Day. Come and have a browse!

**PILGRIMS CROSS** Invite new pilgrims to join them in their Pilgrimage form Oxford to Walsingham (they visit us annually on route and attend the Vigil Mass of Palm Sunday), 104 miles over 7 days. If you are interested please see more information on the church notice board.

**SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES** If anyone speaks Turkish and would like to assist a new Turkish speaking family please contact Janet Marshall.

**CHURCH GROUNDS SPRING CLEAN** Volunteers are needed to help tidy up the church grounds, ideally a dozen volunteers! If you can help on Saturday, 23rd March from 2-4pm please speak to Lucia or email the Parish Office. Sweeping, tidying, and general gardening.

**CLERGY & LAITY:** The meeting due to take place this coming Tuesday has now been postponed until further notice.



## DURING LENT

### What Is Lent?

With ashes administered, we now begin Lent, a period of forty-six days (forty when Sundays are excluded) that commemorates the time Jesus spent in the desert prior to beginning his public ministry as Messiah. As described in the gospel readings according to Matthew, Mark and Luke, following his baptism by John the Baptist in the Jordan River, Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert, where he fasted for forty days and was subject to temptation by Satan. To honour this sacrifice and conquest over the devil, Catholics and other Christians elect to set aside the season of Lent to refocus on Jesus as we look ahead to his death on the Cross and rejoice over his miraculous return.

**THE CHOSEN SEASON** 'The Chosen' will continue on Thursdays on the following dates at the St John Paul II Centre at 7pm. February 22nd, 29th, March 7th, 14th & 21st.

**GROW YOUR FAITH:** Scriptural reflections on how one can "Grow their Faith", is on Wednesday, 28th February at 7pm in St John Paul II Centre.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Every Friday at 7pm during Lent.

**LENTEN MASSES AT SCHOOL** These will take place on Thursdays at 8am during Lent. All Welcome.

**HOLY TRINITY, HETHE Monday films** resume after the 9.30am Mass on Mondays. All Welcome. During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 9.30am at Hethe.

### Dates to remember in 2024

Saturday 16th March- Confirmations in both Parishes  
Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th March - Parish Visitations (Both Parishes)  
Saturday 11th May - First Holy Communions (St Mary's) at 11am  
Saturday 18th May - First Holy Communions (non St Mary's) at 11am  
Sunday 2nd June - Corpus Christi Procession after 11 am Mass  
Saturday 22nd June - Parish Forum Meeting 10am-12 noon  
Sunday 7th July - Family Festival & Presentation of Certificates (11am Mass)  
**COFFEE MORNINGS 2024** Dates are now on the notice board.



### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### SECOND COLLECTIONS

17th & 18th February: Parish Maintenance  
25th February: Lenten Fast - CAFOD

#### PARISH GIVING

##### BICESTER LINK TO DONATE:

<https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=528>

##### Standing Orders/Donations/Payments

Bicester: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02342731

Hethe: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02301466

##### MASS STIPENDS/OFFERINGS:

Canon John Y Batthula: Sort code: 60-08-40 Acc. No. 75459760

**CONTACTLESS** You can also donate by scanning the QR code with your phone or by card at the machine in the church porch. If you pay tax, please consider Gift Aiding your donation. Each time you make a subsequent donation using the same card, Gift Aid will be collected automatically. Gift Aid it!!- you could add 25% to the value of your donation. Contact Sr Sani the Parish Gift Aid Co-ordinator or speak to me. (Canon John)

HETHE BICESTER



Church	First Collection	Second Collection	Standing Orders	Tap & Go Donations	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£387.09	£222.42	£1165	£ 415	458
Hethe	£103		£170		34



An Induction Loop system is provided.  
Please switch Hearing Aid to "T"

We use live streaming Go to the website and/or follow this link <https://mcnmedia.tv/iframe/e8896647923e089406131a3b96e45994de4a89c4> OR <https://www.mcn.live/Camera/church-of-the-immaculate-conception-bicester>



# The Catholic Parishes of Immaculate Conception @BICESTER

And Holy Trinity @Hardwick Rd, HETHE OX27 8AW

Henley House, 12 Causeway, Bicester OX26 6AW

[www.immaculate-conception.org.uk](http://www.immaculate-conception.org.uk)

Deanery website: [banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk)

The Parishes of the Immaculate Conception & Holy Trinity are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No: 234216



## First Sunday of Lent

Sunday Cycle B - Weekdays - Lenten Readings  
Week beginning 17th - 25th February 2024 Psalter Week 1

Pope's Prayer Intention for February: We pray that those with a terminal illness, & their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.



## MONTH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

JANUARY	TIME	INTENTIONS	FEASTS	LECTORS	E O MINISTERS	STEWARDS
SAT 17th	4.00 pm @Hethe	Wellbeing of Helen McDermott		R Deane/V Burns		R Deane
	6.00 pm	In Thanksgiving - Oliveira Family		P Sims/H Henwood	S & M Doherty	McArdle Family
Vigil Mass	9.00 am	People of the Parish	1st Sunday of Lent	A Mutton/L Cleeve	M Brown/A Mutton	L & C Cleeve
SUN 18th	11.00 am	Monica Mullins (RIP)		E Green /volunteer	Sr Rose/Volunteer	Orleans Family
MON 19th	9.30am@ Hethe	Wellbeing of Helen McDermott	Lent Feria	R Deane		
	12 noon	John McRoberts (RIP)		M Daniel	J Kokore	
TUE 20th	9.30 am @Sch	Ints of Angela Whelan	Lent Feria	J Kokore	Sr Sani	
WED 21st	8.00 am	Holy Souls	Lent Feria	L Cleeve	J Kokore	
THU 22nd	8.00am @Sch	Ints of Fr Pat Armstrong	Feast of the Chair of St Peter, A			
	12 noon	John & Brenda Dunn (RIP)		H King	Frankie	
	7.00 pm	"The Chosen" Video				JPII
FRI 23rd	12 noon	Deceased Relatives & Friends of Leo & Jo Hurst	Lent Feria	E King	Sr Rose	
	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross				
	4.00 pm @Hethe	People of the Parish				R Deane
Vigil	6.00 pm	Felipe Teng (RIP)		T Nugent/P Cousins	Sr Rose/Sr Sani	S & M Doherty
SUN 25th	9.00 am	Confirmation Sponsors Commitment Mass Tony Howington (RIP)	2nd Sunday of Lent	C St John/C Moyse	C Drew/C St John	L & C Cleeve
	11.00 am	Angela Nelson (RIP)		A Kearsley/E Green	D Gunaratra/J Marshall	Kokore Family

## CAFOD - LENTEN FAMILY FAST DAY - FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY



### This week we pray for...

SANCTUARY LIGHT: Nona, Remy, Zoe, Jon & Family  
OUR LADY'S LIGHT: Mary Lynch



Dean of Banbury & Warwick Deanery & Parish Priest  
Very Rev. Canon John Y Batthula BA, MA, Dip. Cat., MA Ed  
Only for confidential matters: [canonjohn.batthula@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:canonjohn.batthula@rcaob.org.uk)  
Parish Deacons: Rev Mr Michael Panejko MA 01869 246 459  
Rev Mr Nick St John: 01869 246 787  
Retired Priest: Rev. Fr. Pat Armstrong  
Parish Sisters: Ursuline Convent - Sr Rose Mathew - 01869 327 689  
Parish Office: Monday - Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm  
Parish Secretary: Lucia Hattam 01869 253277 / [tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
St John Paul II Centre: Sr Sani Vijayan 01869 324 307 / [office@johnpaulcentre.co.uk](mailto:office@johnpaulcentre.co.uk)  
Gift Aid Email: [ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
St Mary's Catholic School Head Teacher: Mr Daniel O'Connor  
01869 252035 / [office.3824@st-marys-bicester.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3824@st-marys-bicester.oxon.sch.uk)

Archdiocese of Birmingham: "Our Vision is to be a Catholic Diocese which is faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour".

Safeguarding: Both our Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance & the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times.  
Our Parishes Safeguarding Representatives are:  
Elizabeth Green: [sg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk) & Les Cleeve: [sg.holytrinity.hethe@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.holytrinity.hethe@rcaob.org.uk)  
Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 2306240 or [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

Parish Sacramental Programme Coordinator - Clare St John  
[psc.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:psc.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
Parish Children's Liturgy Coordinator - Elspeth Morgan  
[pclt.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:pclt.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
Parish Altar Server's Coordinator - Deacon Michael Panejko  
[dce.michael.panejko@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dce.michael.panejko@rcaob.org.uk)  
Parish Youth Coordinator - Deacon Nick St John  
[yth.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:yth.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)  
Parish Environmental & Peace and Justice Group - Janet Marshall  
[peg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:peg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)

Entrance antiphon: **When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.**

**First Reading**      *"There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again"*      **Genesis 9:8-15**

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant ( 3V )**

**Second Reading**      *"The water on which the Ark floated is a type of the baptism which saves you now ."*      **1 Pet 3:18-22**

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Praise to you , O Christ, king of eternal glory!** Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

**Gospel**      *"Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him."*      **Mark 1:12-15**

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him. After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord

**All : Praise to you , Lord Jesus Christ.**

**THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT**

**Priest:** In the name of the Father .....  
**People:** **Amen**  
**Priest:** The Lord be with you.  
**People** **And with your spirit.**



**Penitential Act**

**Everyone:** I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

After the first and second readings

**Reader** The Word of the Lord

**People** **Thanks be to God**

**Gospel acclamation**

**Reader** Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.....  
... (a few words)

**People** **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ**

Before the Gospel reading

**Priest/Deacon:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest/Deacon:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to..

**People:** **Glory to you, O Lord.**



After the Gospel reading

**Priest:** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People** **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Creed - The Nicene Creed**

**Everyone:** I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**Bidding Prayers**

**All: Hear our Prayer**

**THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST**

**Priest:** Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**People:** **May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

**The Eucharistic Prayer**

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest:** Lift up your hearts.

**People:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**Priest:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right and just.**

**Everyone:** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Memorial Acclamation

**Priest: The mystery of faith.**

**People:** ONE OF THESE:

**A** *We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.*

**B** *When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.*

**C** *Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.*

**Doxology**

**Priest:** Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

**People** **Amen**

**Priest:** At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say: **Our Father....**

**Priest::** Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every ....

**People:** **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.**

**Sign of Peace**

**Priest:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People** **And with your spirit.**

**Priest/Deacon:** Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

To each other: Peace be with you

**Lamb of God**

**People:** **Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (2)**  
**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.**

**Priest:** Behold the Lamb of God, .....

**People:** **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Concluding Rites

**Priest:** The Lord be with you.

**People** **And with your spirit**

**Priest:** May almighty God.....

**All: Amen**

**Priest/Deacon:** Go & announce the Gospel of the Lord