

Teams for	11/2	18/2	25/2	3/3	10/3	17/3
Children lit. (4)	none	none	4	1	2	none
Coffee 9am (10)	7	8	9	10	1	2
Coffee 11am (9)5	2	3	4	6	7	8
Flowers	Sally	Lent	Lent	Lent	Lent	Jo

**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 TIMOR 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.

**ASH WEDNESDAY - 14TH FEBRUARY:** Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the Holy Season of Lent and is observed everywhere as a fast day. Fasting and abstinence teaches us true appreciation of penance.

**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).

**WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS A Journey of Prayer for Lent 2024** Are now available along with children's Lenten calendars. Any donations towards these are gratefully received, please use wall donation boxes at the back of church, or card payment under 'donations.'

**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. The courses take approx. 2 hours, godparents and grandparents are welcome to come along. Please contact the parish office by email to let them know if you would like to attend. Baptisms take place on Saturdays at 11am and application forms are available online and at the back of church.

**THE YEAR OF PRAYER 2024 AND THE JUBILEE YEAR 2025**

In preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope', 2024 has been designated a 'Year of Prayer' by Pope Francis. There is a particular focus on the 'Our Father', and this presents us with a great opportunity to go back to the basics of prayer. If the Gospel is a message of Joy, then it is one we should be eager to share with others, and this can be done especially by inviting people to a deeper, prayerful encounter with Jesus Christ this year. We encourage every Catholic to reflect on their life of prayer: what they pray, how they pray, and why they pray. This is for two reasons: To encourage people to go deeper in their commitment to pray, and in their love of God; To think about how they might accompany someone else to pray during the coming Year of Prayer.

**PARISH ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP** Encourage you to sign up to the Big Plastic Count - 11<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> of March. [help@thebigplasticcount.com](http://help@thebigplasticcount.com)

**BLESSED GEORGE NAPIER SCHOOL . BANBURY** Currently have a number of job vacancies, please see the church notice board for further information.

**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. Payments can be made by card option 'Easter Lilies'

**CONTACTLESS** It is encouraging to see that more parishioners are using the contactless machine as a method of payment for a variety of things to support our church. You can pay for votive candles, mass offering, donations, piety, fundraising etc. just find the option you wish to pay, enter the amount and tap. If you are unsure how to use it please ask the Wellcomers for assistance. Thank you.

**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.

**100 CLUB DRAW: JANUARY WINNERS:** £100 Mike Jobling; £50 D L Allen & £25 Francis Chandy.

**DURING LENT**



**What Is Ash Wednesday?** On this first day of Lent, Christians attend liturgical activities and receive ashes on our foreheads in the form of a cross, signalling a sign of our faith and a reminder of remorse for our sins. We are told "Repent and believe in the gospel," when we receive the ashes. With these ashes, we recall our origins from the earth, as well as how our bodies shall return one day to the same form (as indicated by the dictum "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return").

Christians are called upon to fast and abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday. As outlined in the Catholic Church's Code of Canon Law: "Abstinence from meat, or from some other food as determined by the Episcopal Conference, is to be observed on all Fridays, unless a solemnity should fall on a Friday. Abstinence and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday." Canon 1251

**THE CHOSEN SEASON** 'The Chosen' will continue on Thursdays on the following dates at the St John Paul II Centre at 7pm. February 15th & 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 from the 22nd Feb. All Welcome.

**HOLY TRINITY, HETHE** There will be a coffee morning held on Monday, 12th February at St Philips 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)

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**SECOND COLLECTIONS**

11th & 17th & 18th February: Parish Maintenance  
 25th February: Lent 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)

Church	First Collection	Second Collection	Standing Orders	Tap & Go Donations	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£387.94	£200.08	£1165	£145	646
Hethe	£70		£170		25



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://mcmmedia.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



**6th Sunday in Ordinary time**

Sunday Cycle B - Weekdays - Year II

Week beginning 10th - 18th February 2024 Psalter Week 2

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 10th	4.00 pm @Hethe	Wellbeing of Helen McDermott		R Deane/V Burns		R Deane
	6.00 pm	William (Willie) McDermott (RIP) 1st Ann		R John/H Henwood	M Doherty/Sr Rose	L Hattam
Vigil Mass	9.00 am	Ladislav Cigoho (RIP)	<b>6th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	T Yarker/C Moyses	L & R Weaver	Brown Family
SUN 11th	11.00 am	Trevor Clancy & Andrew & Maria Mendes (RIP)		S Joseph/R Silvy	J & M Franta	Franta Family
MON 12th	9.30am @ Hethe	Mark McKenzie (RIP)	Feria in Ordinary Time			
	12 noon	Cyril & Gertrude Hurst (RIP) & Marjorie De Rama (RIP)		M Daniel	J Kokore	
TUE 13th	8.30 am	Ints of Monica & her future	Feria in Ordinary Time	J Kokore	Sr Sani	
WED 14th	9.30 am	Jean Ann Lawrence (RIP)	Ash Wednesday	L Cleeve	J Kokore	
	12 Noon	Patricia & Irene Burke (RIP)		E King	J Marshall	
	7.00 pm	Patricia Glass (RIP)		H King	Sr Sani	
THU 15th	9.30 am	Irene Ziegart (RIP)	after Ash Wednesday	L Cleeve	Sr Rose	
	7.00 pm	"The Chosen" Video				JPII Centre
FRI 16th	12 noon	Dr Jack Coughlan (RIP)	after Ash Wednesday	E King	Sr Rose	
	7.00 pm	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>				
SAT 17th	4.00 pm @Hethe	Holy Souls		R Deane/V Burns		R Deane
Vigil	6.00 pm	In Thanksgiving - Oliveira Family		P Sims/H Henwood	S & M Doherty	McArdle Family
SUN 18th	9.00 am	People of the Parish	<b>1st Sunday of Lent</b>	A Mutton	M Brown/A Mutton	Jiminez Family
	11.00 am	Monica Mullins (RIP)		J Franta/H King	Sr Rose	Orleans Family



This week we pray for...  
**SANCTUARY LIGHT: O'Rourke Family**  
**OUR LADY'S LIGHT: Jean Lawrence (RIP)**



**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: Entrance antiphon: **Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.**

**First Reading** *"The pagans have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have"* Acts 10: 25-48

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations (3 V)**

**Second Reading** *"God is love"* 1 John 4: 7-10

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia, alleluia!** Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him'. **Alleluia!**

**Gospel** *"You are my friends if you do what I command you"* John 15: 9-17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do what I command you. I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. You did not choose me: no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. What I command you is to love one another.'

The Gospel of the Lord

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

**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.

**Gloria**

**Priest:** Glory to God in the highest,

**Everyone :** and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

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