

Teams for	3/3	10/3	17/3	24/3	31/3	7/4
Children lit. (4)	1	2	none	3	none	none
Coffee 9am (10)	10	1	2	3	4	5
Coffee 11am (9)	6	7	8	9	1	2
Flowers	Lent	Lent	Jo	Sisters	All	All

**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.

**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.

**TALK** An excellent opportunity to hear the American Catholic Evangelist **Jimmy Mitchell** give a talk on the evening of Sunday, 3rd March at 6.30pm at St Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Edmunds Rd, Banbury OX16 0PP **All welcome to attend.**

**COFFEE MORNING:** Thank you all for your support. and to the professional Bingo caller! Look forward to seeing you at the next Easter Coffee Morning on Friday, 5th April.

**JIM (NEWTON) BRIDLE RIP** A Requiem Mass of Jim will take place on Friday, 8th March at 11 am, followed by burial at Bicester cemetery. *May he rest in peace.*

**WORLD DAY PRAYER:** On Friday 8th March at 10.30am in St John Paul II Conference Centre. (Service prepared by Christian women from Palestine.)

**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.

**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).

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE AND CONFESSIONS:** On Monday, 25th March at 7pm we will have a short service of Reconciliation followed by individual confessions. There will be a few visiting priests available to hear our confessions. Please keep this evening free.

**BORN FOR THIS** - a musical reflection on the Passion & Death of Jesus Christ presented by students from BGN School - Tuesday 26th March at 7pm here in church. All are welcome - there is no charge.

**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 Flowers.'

**EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS:** Please take some booklets with you and sell to your family and friends. The draw will take place on Palm Sunday after 11 am Mass. Thank you for your support.

**PLOUGHMAN'S 'n' PUD LUNCH:** On Sunday, 21st April at 12.30pm. In the St John Paul II Centre. Vegetarian option available. Limited tickets only. £10 per person available from the Piety Shop/Parish Office. Don't delay!

**100 CLUB** We are now taking subscriptions for our new 100 Club year which will run from April 1st 2024-31st March 2025. Draws take place on the last Sunday of the month after 9am mass. Please complete the form included in the bulletin and return to the Parish Office. This is a great way to support the parish. For only £60 per year or £5 a month (monthly payments only by standing order please). There is no limit as to how many numbers you can have, more numbers to increase your chances of winning and subscriptions can also be bought for friends and family as gifts. **Winners for February 2024**, drawn Sun 25th February : £100 M Nugent 35, £50 E King - 70, £25 - No. 94. You have to be in it to win it. Good Luck!

**YEAR OF PRAYER 2024:** Theme - "WE DARE TO SAY" - "Our Father". Planning to have 5 sessions on "Our Father" on the following dates: Thursday evenings of June, 6th, 13th, 27th, July 4th and 11th. All sessions will take place in St John Paul II Conference Centre at 7pm. All welcome.



### DURING LENT

#### What Do We Do during Lent? Fasting

As Jesus fasted in the desert for forty days, we, too, are called to forgo something for the same period when observing Lent. It is during this time we can deepen our awareness of his sacrifice on the Cross, as well as Jesus' daily forgiveness of our sins and unconditional love for us. It should be noted, however, this personal sacrifice should be difficult but healthy, while respecting responsibilities. Despite the challenge of fasting, we can take solace in knowing Jesus protects us during our struggle, as St. John Henry Newman reminds us: "Even in our penitential exercises, Christ has gone before us to sanctify them to us. He has blessed fasting as a means of grace, in that He fasted."

**HOLY HOUR AND MASS FOR VOCATIONS:** On Thursday, 21st March from 6 pm to 7pm Holy Hour followed by Mass at 7pm.

**THE CHOSEN SEASON2 'The Chosen'** will continue on Thursdays on the following dates at the St John Paul II Centre at 7pm. March 7th & 14th.

**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)



#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

##### SECOND COLLECTIONS

3rd March - Cathedral Maintenance  
 10th March—Parish Maintenance

##### 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	CAFOD Second Collection	Standing Orders	Tap & Go Donations	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£486.40	£ 323.01	£1165	£ 165	643
Hethe	£71	£22.40	£170		37



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



### Third Sunday of Lent

Sunday Cycle B - Weekdays - Lenten Readings

Weekend beginning 3rd - 10th March 2024 Psalter Week 3

Pope's Prayer Intention for March: We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.



## MONTH OF SAINT JOSEPH

MARCH	TIME	INTENTIONS	FEASTS	LECTORS	E O MINISTERS	STEWARDS
SAT 2nd	4.00 pm @Hethe	People of the Parish	3rd Sunday of Lent			R Deane
	6.00 pm	Mike Knibbs (RIP)		Sr Rose/P Sims	O Panejko/B Santiago	B & K McFall
Vigil Mass	9.00 am	Jim Bridle (RIP)		C St John/ C Moyse	P Capretta/ F Ostrowski	C St John/ L Williams
SUN 3rd	11.00 am	Int. Paul Bobbet (Sick - for healing)		R Evans/J Hurst	M & J Franta	Jimerez Family
MON 4th	9.30am@ Hethe	Melanie Mulheran (RIP)	Lent Feria	R Deane		
	12 noon	Jim Bridle (RIP)		M Daniel	J Kokore	
TUE 5th	8.00 am	Forsaken Souls in Purgatory	Lent Feria	J Kokore	Sr Sani	
WED 6th	9.30 am	Peter & Mary Heron (RIP)	Lent Feria	L Cleeve	Sr Rose	
	12 Noon	Funeral service of Theresa Robertson At North Oxford Crematorium				
	6.00 pm	Reception of Mee Yung Sze (RIP)				
THU 7th	8.00am @Sch	Holy Souls	Lent Feria	H King	Frankie	
	10.30 am	Requiem Mass of Mee Yung Sze (RIP)				
	7.00 pm	"The Chosen" Video				JPII Centre
FRI 8th	11.00 am	Requiem Mass of Jim Bridle (RIP)	Lent Feria			
	7.00 pm	Stations of the Cross				
SAT 9th	4.00 pm @Hethe	Wellbeing of Helen McDermott	Lent Feria			
Vigil	6.00 pm	Catenians Mass intention for Vocations		R John/T Nugent	L & D Jiminez	M Marrs/P Behan
SUN 10th	9.00 am	Ladislav Cigoho (RIP)	4th Sunday of Lent	M Daniel/L Cleeve	L & R weaver	Volunteers
	11.00 am	Canon John's 32nd Priestly Ordination Anniversary - Thanksgiving	Mothering Sunday	J Franta/A Kearsley	J Kokore/Sr Rose	Kokore Family

This week we pray for...  
**SANCTUARY LIGHT: Stephen Gay**  
**OUR LADY'S LIGHT: Canon John Batthula**



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: **My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.**

## First Reading

*"The Law given at Sinai."*

Exodus 20: 1-17

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me. 'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. 'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. 'You shall not kill. 'You shall not commit adultery. 'You shall not steal. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. 'You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Responsorial Psalm

**You, Lord, have the message of eternal life. (4)**

## Second Reading

*"The crucified Christ, the power and wisdom of God"*

1 Cori. 1: 22-25

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in me will never die.**  
**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

## Gospel

*"Destroy this sanctuary and in three days I will raise it up"*

John 2: 13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

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