

**Entrance antiphon:**

Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple.  
Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the end of the earth;  
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

**Psalm response: The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!****Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia. A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people, Israel. Alleluia.

The **Apostles Creed** is on page 456.

**After the Bidding Prayers:**

Hail Mary Full of grace, the Lord is with thee;  
blessed art thou among women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

**To conclude the bidding prayers:**

Heavenly Father, we ask you to send labourers into your harvest.  
Inspire, in the hearts of your people,  
vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life.  
Bless our families with a spirit of generosity, so that those whom you call  
have the courage to give themselves to your Church in faith.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.  
*(Diocesan prayer for vocations)*

**Communion Antiphon:**

My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of  
all the peoples.

*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 do return it to the console at the  
back of Church after Mass, so that it can be reused. Many thanks.*



## Catholic Parish of St Michael's Sonning Common

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



### PARISH NEWSLETTER The Presentation of the Lord 2nd February 2025

**Thought for the Week**

Hello, my name is Luke Theobald, a seminarian for the Archdiocese of Birmingham from Sonning Common, South Oxfordshire. I am in my fifth year of formation to the priesthood and currently on a pastoral year attached to a parish in Coventry. This month of February, the South Oxfordshire deanery, which includes your parish, is invited to pray for priestly vocations.

Currently in our diocese there are six seminarians: two in Rome, two in Birmingham and two in Valladolid Spain. While it's a privilege to be among such devoted men, the Church does need more good and faithful men to respond to the call. The parish priest I am attached to, ministers to two parishes St Thomas More (300-400 attendees), St Joseph the Worker (100-150 attendees), all their housebound, funerals, hospital visits, as well as a primary school, a secondary school, and chaplain at the University of Warwick (100-150 attendees). It is inspiring and very encouraging to see so much going on in each of these communities. However, with an expected 50% decline in active priests in the next decade, there is a pressing need for vocations. There is only so much a priest, who is just an ordinary man called to an extraordinary mission can do. As Christ said, "The harvest is rich, but the labourers are few."

Please pray for vocations this month, using the suggested prayer below, perhaps before your main family meal.

*"Heavenly Father, we ask you to send labourers into your harvest.  
Inspire, in the hearts of your people, vocations to the priesthood, diaconate  
and religious life.  
Bless our families with a spirit of generosity, so that those whom you call  
have the courage to give themselves to your Church in faith.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen."*

## WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

If you are a visitor or new to the parish, we welcome you warmly.

### Catholic Parish of St Michael,

18 Peppard Road, Sonning Common, RG4 9SU Tel: 0118 972 3418

Email: [stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk)

Website: [www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk](http://www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk)

**St Michael's Hall Hire** Tel:01189723418

**St Martin's Catholic Primary School**

Pendennis Avenue, Caversham Park. 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)

All Masses are live streamed and Mass streaming links can be found on our website

### MONTH OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

The seven parishes of our Deanery have been asked to make a special effort to pray for vocations during the whole of February. In response, there will be a Holy Hour from 7pm every Monday in February. For the same intention, the rosary will be prayed, starting 15 minutes before each of the weekend Masses and after the weekday liturgies. Please also do continue your prayers at home.

### PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR MASS.

If you can help please speak to Deacon Brian. It means arriving about 30 minutes before Mass-time, to open the church and prepare it for Mass if Deacon Brian or other keyholders are away.

### JOIN US ON SATURDAY 15TH FEBRUARY...

for our **Parish Quiz Night with Fish and Chip Supper** Tickets:£10 per person which includes fish & chips, are available at the back of Church. Please, only take a ticket once you have paid. Payments can be made by cash or via the Dona machine. Once you have paid, please sign the sheet indicating your food choice. Teams should be no more than 4 people. Prizes for the winners!

### SANTA DOESN'T ALWAYS GET IT RIGHT RAFFLE

Tickets - £1 each or £5 a strip - will be on sale at the Family Mass this Sunday (2 Feb) & at all Masses on 8/9 and 15/16 February.

The Raffle will be drawn after the 10.30am Mass on 16 February.

All money raised will go to CIRDIC and the Reading Refugee Support Group..

### THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

Information about the Year of Jubilee can be found at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk).

**Our Lady & St Anne's Pilgrimage to Rome** 24 - 28 November. There are a few places available. If you are interested, contact Keven Nutt ([khfrnutt@gmail.com](mailto:khfrnutt@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 is **Mary Lewis** who 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 2 February 2025

This weekend we welcome Fr Andrew Foster and Fr Michael Doyle

### 1/2 February

### The Presentation of the Lord

<b>Saturday Vigil</b>	5.30pm	Vocations to the Religious Life
<b>Sunday</b>	9.00am	People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	10.30am	Family Mass / Maddy Sharman RIP
<b>Monday</b>	9.30am	Eucharistic Service
<b>Tuesday</b>	12.00pm	Eucharistic Service
<b>Wednesday</b>	2pm	Mass at St Martin's School - all welcome
<b>Thursday</b>	9.30am	Mass
<b>Friday</b>	9.30am	Eucharistic Service

### 8/9 February

### 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

<b>Saturday Vigil</b>	5.30pm	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday</b>	9.00am	Vocations to the Religious Life
<b>Sunday</b>	10.30am	People of the Parish
<b>Confessions</b>	Available before and after each of the weekend Masses	
<b>Sacrament of the Sick</b>	On request: tel. 0118 972 3418	

### Dates for YOUR Diary

<b>Monday, 3rd February</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Holy Hour and every Monday in February</b>
Saturday 15th February	7.30pm	Quiz with Fish and Chip Supper
Sunday, 16th February	10.30am	Youth Mass
Sunday, 16th February	11.30am	'Santa' Raffle Draw

### 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, Liz Bouchier, Joe Bunton, Savanna Clark, Mary Edwards, Mary Hagger, Rogan Hodgson, Vivien Kear, Jennifer Learmouth, Fr. Paul Rowan, Dominic Sakrouge, Peppin Sanz.

*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: Margaret Ely; Marie King; Joe Root; Dee Keogh; Jimmy Thompson; Lilian Tresham; Max Noothout; Derrick Palman; Richard Hoban; Jill Brown; Margaret Morey; Bill Hoban; Peter Smith; Anna Keen; Eileen (Nevin) Leech; Dennis Goodehied; Kathleen Warren  
**May the light and joy of God's peace shine upon them.**