

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PPC MEETING

29TH AUGUST 7PM IN THE PRESBYTERY

Minutes for the last meeting are now available at the back of Church
Please put any comments or suggestions on any aspect of
Parish Life you would like discussed at the next meeting
in the silver box at the back of church

THE THAMES CLEAN UP

Saturday 9th September

Come and join a group from St Michael's clean up the River
Banks near Sonning. Meeting at Sonning bridge
10am - 12pm - followed by tea and sandwiches.
Please see the sign up sheet at the back of church

ST MICHAEL'S PATRONAL WEEKEND

29TH SEPTEMBER—1ST OCTOBER

Fr Paul Fitzpatrick will give a talk on
Friday evening and Saturday morning.

Saturday, 30th September - St Michael's Ceilidh 7pm - 11pm

Sunday, 1st October - Produce sale on behalf of CIRDIC
Shared Lunch after the 10.30am Mass & AGM

MASSES FOR THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Saturday 14th and Sunday, 15th October

DAY FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Saturday, 14th October. 9.45am—3.00pm

An opportunity for spouses to remember their wedding day
and reflect on their marriage journey together.

The day will be led by couples from St Michael's and
St Anne's using words, images and music.

Drinks will be provided. Bring your lunch.

There is no cost

Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216

Thought for the week

20th August, 2023

20th Sunday in Ordinary time

As you read this, I hope I will be on a family holiday in Croatia about 80 km south-east of Split. Continuing a further 60 km will bring you to Medugorje in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Medugorje has been a place of Catholic pilgrimage since 1981 after six teenagers claimed to have had visions of Our Lady. For some of the visionaries the apparitions continue to this day. The Church has not made a declaration on the authenticity of these visions, but seeing the fruits of people gathering in prayer the Church has allowed officially organised pilgrimages since 2019.



Whatever the final conclusion by the Church on what is happening in Medugorje, Mary and her role has a very important place in our Catholic faith. Only this week we celebrated the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary as a Holyday of Obligation. What the Catholic Church believes about Mary is based on what it believes about Jesus. We believe that Jesus is God, hence Mary who is the mother of Jesus is also called Mother of God. At our baptism we became adopted children of God and brothers and sisters of Jesus. Due to our relationship with Jesus, we look upon Mary as our mother too.

St Luke's gospel says in reference to Mary, "*All generations will call me blessed.*" She is called 'blessed' not due to her natural, human capabilities, but because of the action of God, through the Holy Spirit in her life, and her humble response to God's call. This is where Mary is both our mother and model. As a mother she encourages us to listen to God as he speaks to us through the Holy Spirit. As a model, we are invited to follow her example and respond, "*Let it be done to me according to your word.*"

If we manage to get a day in Medugorje I will say a prayer for our parish community, that we as individuals and as a community will be more attentive to God's word and respond in humility as Mary did.

Deacon Brian



We ask you please, to pray for the following people who continue to ask for your prayers;

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who is 10 and whose Leukaemia has returned. Rogan had a bone marrow transplant, so he continues to need our prayers.

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy. Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who has had his stem cell transplant to treat the Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers please for a successful outcome.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan who continues to recover after chemotherapy.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 2 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.

Please pray for the residents and staff of Abbeycrest and St Luke's.

Please pray for the pupils, teachers and parents of St Martin's school.



Please remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur at this time including;

Rita Conlon, Huberta Kingsbury, George Crabb,
Sr M. Audrey (Barbara Rebeiro), Winifred Eve James,
Jude D'Souza, Tony and Peggy Brennan, Jay Colley,
Deidre Keogh, David White.