

Entrance antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth,
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

Psalm response: Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia. The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor; to proclaim liberty to the captives. 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:

We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have gained for us,
for all the pains and insults you have borne for us.
Most merciful Redeemer, friend and brother,
may we know you more clearly,
love you more dearly
and follow you more nearly. Amen.
(St Richard of Chichester)

Communion Antiphon:

Look toward the lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

The newsletter is also available at 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.



**Roman Catholic Parish
of St Michael's
Sonning Common**

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



**PARISH NEWSLETTER
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
26th January 2025**

Thought for the Week

One of my favourite gospel readings is one of the shorter parables of Jesus.

"The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

Appreciating the little things in life is a phrase often used in today's society to encourage us to focus on what brings us joy and happiness instead of those things that are negative. It encourages practicing gratitude for those everyday moments that are so easy to take for granted or forget. Those little things are the things we often end up cherishing the most.

Definitely, a sentiment worth bearing in mind in this parish - as we continue to be able to celebrate all our weekend Masses by the grace of the Priests in the deanery and the resourcefulness of Deacon Brian.

But, taking this theme further perhaps it becomes more an important outward goal rather than a message for just ourselves. When we focus on those around us, both personally, locally and globally, those acts of kindness and compassion take on still greater significance: when self-interest is not the ultimate goal, but instead the desire to make a real difference, however small, to others, the parable takes on even greater significance.

The mustard seed parable is an important part of understanding how important, and how powerful, our faith in Jesus is and can be. It reminds us that we have the power of Jesus within us as long as we have even a little bit of faith in his power and might. Jesus used the mustard seed as an analogy to illustrate the power of even the smallest amount of faith. He emphasized that faith, no matter how small it may appear, can grow and produce remarkable outcomes.

February is the month for our Deanery when we are asked to pray for Vocations to the priesthood, so let us pray and remember

The faith of a mustard seed is a powerful faith indeed.

Emily

WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

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

Parish Contact Details

Roman Catholic Parish of St Michael,

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

Email: stmichael.sonningcommon@rcaob.org.uk

Website: www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk

St Michael's Hall Hire Tel: 01189723418

St Martin's Catholic Primary School, Caversham. Tel: 0118 901 5544

Website: 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

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

**We welcome Father Andrew Foster and Father Michael Doyle
who will be celebrating the weekend Masses.**

MONTH OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS.

The 7 parishes of our deanery are asked to make a special effort to pray for vocations during the whole of February.

In response, there will be a Holy Hour at 7pm each Monday in February.

Also, the rosary will be said for vocations beginning 15 minutes before each of the weekend Masses and after the weekday liturgies in February.

Please do also continue your prayers at home.

PREPARING THE CHURCH FOR MASS.

If you are willing to help please speak to deacon Brian

It means arriving about 30 minutes before Mass starts, to open the church and make it ready 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 are £10 per person which includes the fish & chips - Tickets 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 for your tickets please sign the sheet indicating your food preference. Teams should be no more than 4 people. Prizes for the winners.

"SANTA DOESN'T ALWAYS GET IT RIGHT" RAFFLE

If you have a gift for our fundraising raffle please do drop it off at the back of Church or pop it in to the sacristy before the end of January.

Tickets will be on sale the first three weeks of February after all Masses and the The raffle draw will take place on the 16th February.

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

More information can be found at www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk.

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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted by telephoning: 0121 230 6240 or emailing safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns

Parish Liturgies for the week commencing 26th January 2025

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am Private Intentions (RT)
Monday	9.30am Eucharistic Service
Tuesday	12.00pm Mass—St Thomas Aquinas
Wednesday	No Liturgy
Thursday	9.30am Mass
Friday	9.30am Eucharistic Service

1st/2nd February *Feast of the Presentation of the Lord*

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am People of the Parish
Sunday	10.30am Maddy Sharman RIP / Family Mass
Confessions	Available before and after each of the weekend Masses
Sacrament of the Sick	On request tel. 0118 972 3418

Dates for YOUR Diary

Sunday, 2nd February	10.30am	Family Mass
Monday, 3rd February	7.00pm	Holy Hour and every Monday in February
Saturday 15th February	7.30pm	Quiz with Fish and Chip Supper
Sunday, 16th February	10.30am	Youth Mass
Sunday, 16th February	11.30am	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.

For All Deceased Members of our Parish Family

We pray for all who have died, and for those whose anniversary occurs about this time:
Alan Graves, Rev. Canon Frederick Smythe, William Woodward, John Cano,
Kieran Cotter, Briget Gurney, Carlos Ramirez, Leopold James, Denis and Nora Fogarty
Anne Marie Agnes, Chancellor-Wheale, Judith Over, Barbara Pike, Irene George,
Eugene Herbert, May McGrath, Noel Pearce, Sean Regan, Margaret Ely, Marie King.

May the light and joy of God's peace shine upon them.