

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

Thought for the Week Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 3rd September 2023

Last weekend over a hundred thousand young people gathered in Reading for the music festival. It's something of a rite of passage for many teenagers, and was for our own.

For many it comes after weeks of exam revision and is part of a Summer celebration of good results achieved; for others it is a brief escape from disappointment. When this sinks in fully there may be disillusionment and a big loss of confidence.

The move from school or college to a university or to a job is a challenge we can all relate to. At that age, most of us still have a lot of growing up to do, while tasked with learning new 'real world' skills and responsibilities. To maintain self-belief and confidence is for many a big hurdle. Even after becoming highly qualified for a role, we may feel what is known as 'imposter syndrome' – not quite believing in ourselves in our appointed role. Faith is replaced by doubt then fear.

Last week father Michael spoke about St Peter and the occasions his faith faltered and he was gripped by fear. For example, when Jesus called on to him to walk across the water during the storm. He began with faith and courage but then doubts crept in, leading to fear, and he began to sink.

“Take courage. It is I; do not be afraid.” (Matthew 14:27)

With the Lord's encouragement he regained his faith and reached safety. The other well known occasion that St Peter lost faith and was overcome by fear was after Jesus' arrest when he denied three times that he even knew Him. Yet Jesus forgave these lapses, helped him strengthen his faith and he became 'the Rock' the Church was built on.

As many thousands of young people move on this autumn from school to college or to jobs, let us pray for them, asking that their self-confidence is nourished by their tutors, employers, work colleagues and they are supported spiritually and practically by their friends, families, churches and local communities.



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

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan whose further recovery from cancer surgery is proving difficult.

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 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;

Mina Findlay, Helen Newman, Nikki Wells, Margaret Aldworth, Claude Buike, Sean Smyth, Michelle Dobson, Deacon Francis Andrews, Marcus Luis Xavier Perreira, Ella Crabb, Michael Parsons, Victor Rahal, Margaret Lawless, Rita Walker, Josefa Cano, Margaret Walter, Pay Walton, Thomas Nevin.