

Entrance Antiphon:

Let us all rejoice in the Lord, as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints, at whose festival the Angels rejoice and praise the Son of God.

Psalm response:

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

Acclamation:

Alleluia! Alleluia! Come to me, all who labour and are heavy laden, says the Lord, and I will give you rest. *Alleluia!*

The Apostles Creed is on page 456. / Nicene Creed is on page 455

After the Bidding Prayers:

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee...

To conclude the Bidding Prayers:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me sow love;

where there is injury, pardon;

where there is despair, hope;

where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek

to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;

it is in pardoning that we are pardoned;

and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Communion Antiphon:

Blessed are the clean of heart for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

*The newsletter is also available at www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk
If you do not need to take this one home, please return it to the console at the back of Church after Mass, so that it can be reused. Many thanks.*

If you would like to receive the Archdiocese weekly newsletter you can sign up at
<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news>



Catholic Parish of St Michael's Sonning Common

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

www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk



PARISH NEWSLETTER

ALL SAINTS

1/2 November 2025

Today is the feast of All Saints when we celebrate not only the saints that have been named, but all those that have entered the glory of heaven. Amongst the latter there may be many we have known personally.

While preaching on this feast day St Bernard asked:

Of what profit to the saints are our prayers and the honour we pay them?

Of what use is this feast day?

Of what use to them are honours paid on earth when our Father in heaven, fulfilling the truth of his Son's promise, has raised them to glory?

His answer:

*"Our songs of praise do not profit them nor do they need our honours, nor anything our service can offer. **Surely, we are the ones to benefit.**"*

That is the point, it is we who benefit from this feast. As this *Year of Jubilee* draws to a close, this feast day brings into focus our final destination as *Pilgrims of Hope*. That one day we hope to enjoy their company in the presence of God.

It was only later in life that I began to realise more fully that the saints are not remote from us. We already enjoy their company while continuing our pilgrimage on this earth. Together with them we make up the Church, the Body of Christ. Whenever the Church celebrates the sacraments it is the whole Church that gathers to give praise and worship to God, not just those of us sitting in the pews. Do we appreciate that St Michael's welcomes the angels and saints when we gather for Mass?

On this feast day we are reassured that being more closely united to Christ, those who dwell in heaven have our wellbeing at heart. They want us to experience what they already enjoy, interceding for us to help us to follow their example.

I will leave the final word to two other saints:

"Do not weep, for I shall be more useful to you after my death and I shall help you then more effectively than during my life."

The dying St Dominic to his brothers.

"I want to spend my heaven doing good on earth." St Thérèse of Lisieux.

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

Website: www.saintmichaelsonningcommon.org.uk

St Michael's Hall Hire Tel: 01189723418

St Martin's Catholic Primary School

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

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

7PM, MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER - ALL SOULS DAY

A Prayer Service will be held to remember our deceased loved ones.

You'll be invited to light a special Commemorative Candle.

Do bring photos of your loved ones if you wish.

Requiescant in pace.

NOVEMBER DEAD

Envelopes are available at the back of the church for you to enclose a list of your deceased loved ones. They will then be remembered at every Mass during November. *No stipend is necessary but if you do wish to make a donation please indicate on the envelope that you have included one. Thank you.*

SECOND COLLECTION: FOR THE JOHNSON ASSOCIATION

(Retired and Infirm Clergy)

This association supports diocesan priests who, on account of age, infirmity or sickness need financial help. Some facts: Of 190 Diocesan priests, 59 are aged over 75; 65 are aged between 65 and 75. 24 are under the age of 50! Last year grants of over £375,000 were given. The annual collection raised £44,191...

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 9 November : 2pm Blessing of Graves at Kidmore End Cemetery
- 11 November 11am - Concelebrated Mass at Our Lady & St Anne, Caversham for deceased clergy of our deanery. *All very welcome.*
- 15 November **£10 Charity shop – Christmas Gift Challenge!**
Please sign the sheet at the back of the church.
- 21 November **Christmas Pudding-Making Evening 7.30pm**
Please use the order form at the back of the church.
- 13 December **Christmas Flower-Arranging Workshop 9.30-Midday**

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 week commencing 2 November 2025

Weekend Celebrants: Fr Andrew Foster & Fr Michael Doyle

1/2 NOVEMBER

ALL SAINTS

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Holy Souls
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Sunday	10.30am	Maddy Sharman, R.I.P.
Monday	9.30am 7pm	Eucharistic Service Prayer Service for Deceased Loved Ones
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass
Wednesday	-	No liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Mass
Friday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service

8 / 9 NOVEMBER

DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Helen Williams
Sunday	9.00am	Holy Souls
Sunday	10.30am	People of the Parish
Confessions	Available before and after each of the weekend Masses	
Sacrament of the Sick	On request: ☎ 0118 972 3418	

FUNERAL MASS FOR ROSALYN THOMAS , R.I. P.

will be at St Michael's, 11.30am, Tuesday 18th November.

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; Joe Bunton; Savanna Clark;
Mary Edwards; Mary Hagger; Rogan Hodgson; Vivien Kear; Jennifer Learmouth;
Dominic Sakrouge; Peppin Sanz, Richard Szulc; Daniel Carroll.

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:

Archbishop Maurice Couve de Murville; Fr Frank Dawson; Suzanne Meyers;
Anna-Maria White; Margot Gubbin; Patrick Barke; Rita Creighton; Henry Prendergast;
Bertha Rementina Rodrigues; Paloma Evans; Ester and Charlie; Alfreda Hubbard;
Mary Hunt; William Bill Walton; Bernard Lovegrove; Lilian McLewee; John Roughneen.

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