

**Entrance Antiphon:**

Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

**Psalm response:**

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Acclamation:**

*Alleluia! Alleluia!* Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.  
*Alleluia!*

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

**After the Bidding Prayers:**

Remember, O most loving Virgin Mary,  
that it is a thing unheard of  
that anyone ever had recourse to your protection,  
implored your help, or sought your intercession, and was left unaided.  
Filled, therefore, with confidence in your goodness,  
I fly to you, O Mother, Virgin of Virgins.  
To you I come, before you I stand, a sorrowful sinner.  
Despise not my poor words, O Mother of the Word of God,  
but graciously hear my prayer. Amen.

**To conclude the Bidding Prayers:** [Diocesan Prayer for Vocations]

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

**Communion Antiphon:**

Let your face shine upon your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord,  
never let me be put to shame, for I call on you.

*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 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 Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No 234216*

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

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

**PARISH NEWSLETTER****Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time****31 Jan./1 Feb. 2026****Week 1 - Prayer**

As we enter the month of February the South Oxfordshire Deanery has been asked to pray intentionally for vocations to the priesthood. Once again it is my privilege to have been invited to write four short reflections this month. My name is Luke Theobald and I am diocesan seminarian, born and raised in Sonning Common. I am currently in my 6<sup>th</sup> and penultimate year of formation.

The heart of this month is prayer. As Pope Leo recently said “we are called to live and cultivate friendship with the Lord” through prayer. While the heart of prayer is listening to God and hearing his voice, it is also an opportunity for us to speak and to share what is in our hearts. This month I would ask that you bring daily to God, in prayer, our current desire and need for good, holy and sincere men to answer the call to priesthood. Please do support any activities in your parish and please try to find a regular time as a family, maybe after your evening meal or before bed, to say the Diocesan prayer for vocations:

*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.*

Thank you in advance for the generous gift of your time and support for praying for vocations. Next week I will share some recent highlights from Rome; meeting the King and serving for Pope Leo.

Luke Theobald

## WELCOME TO ST MICHAEL'S

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

### The Catholic Parish of St Michael's

St Michael's Hall Hire Tel:01189723418

St Martin's Catholic Primary School

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)

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

### SCRIPTURE REFLECTION COURSE WITH CANON PAUL

...continues this week Wed. 4th at 7.30pm on Zoom. Meeting ID 847 7279 9050.

Passcode: 034423 OR Thurs. 5th at 10am in the church.

### HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS

The month of February has been designated in our deanery as a time to pray most especially for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. To help us focus on this vital cause, there will be a Holy Hour from 7pm every Monday in February.

### ALTAR SERVERS --TRAINING SESSIONS - 14 FEB & 14 MARCH AT 3PM

All current servers and those interested in starting to serve (adult and young) are invited to two training sessions. They will last about two hours with a short break. Fr Michael Doyle will be present as we begin to think about Easter. Email Deacon Brian if you can attend.

### OPENING AND CLOSING THE CHURCH.

Thanks to those who have started to come forward to assist. A few more people are needed at each Mass so please email Deacon Brian if you can help.

### "SANTA DOESN'T ALWAYS GET IT RIGHT" CHARITY RAFFLE... 8TH FEB.

Please leave any unwanted Christmas gifts at the back of the church.

Raffle tickets - on sale this weekend and next.

### ST MARTIN'S BUILDING FUND

The Diocesan Education Service has changed how capital funding is processed - it is now going into the school's bank account rather than a separate diocesan one. If you have been donating to St Martin's building fund, please will you change the bank details to St Martin's school account. The school is still ring fencing funding, and donations, which are vital for the school as we need to contribute 10% to all building projects. Thank you for your support We will keep you updated with progress.

### PATRICIA ALLEN - R.I.P.

4pm -11 February -Reception of the Body. 2pm Thurs.12 February - Funeral Mass

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative 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 1s February 2026

Weekend Celebrants: Fr Andrew Foster & Fr Michael Doyle

*assisted by Deacon Tenny*

### 31 JAN/1FEB

**4th Sunday in O.T.**

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Joseph Rush, R.I.P. <i>Anniversary</i>
Sunday	9.00am	Katie MacDonald R.I.P.
Sunday	10.30am	Maddy Sharman, R.I.P. <b>FAMILY MASS</b>
Monday	9.30am <b>7pm</b>	Eucharistic Service <b>Presentation of the Lord</b> <b>HOLY HOUR</b>
Tuesday	12 noon	Mass
Wednesday	-	No liturgy
Thursday	9.30am	Mass <i>[St Agatha]</i>
Friday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service <i>[St Paul Miki]</i>

### 7/8 FEBRUARY

*Rev. Andrew Foster & Michael Doyle* **5TH SUNDAY IN O.T.**

Saturday Vigil	5.30pm	Anthony Paviour, R.I.P.
Sunday	9.00am	Patricia Miles, R.I.P.
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	

**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, Daniel Carroll; TJ.

*If circumstances change please ask for the name to be removed from the list.*

### For All Deceased Members of our Parish Family

Philomena Smith; William Tillotson; Frederick Wareham; Alan Graves;  
Rev. Canon Frederick Smythe; William Woodward; John Cano; Kieran Cotter;  
Briget Gurney; Carlos Ramirez; Anne Marie Agnes Chancellor-Wheale; Leopold James;  
Denis and Nora Fogarty; Judith Over; Barbara Pike; Irene George; Eugene Herbert;  
May McGrath; Noel Pearce; Sean Regan; Joseph Rush; Antoinette Rosario.

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