

Teams for :	22/12	29/12	5/1	12/1	19/1	26/1
Children lit. (4)	none	none	none	tbc	tbc	tbc
Coffee 9am (11)	9	10	11	1	2	3
Coffee 11am (9)	8	9	1	2	3	4
Flowers	All	All	All	All	Sally &	Jan



As I celebrate my first Christmas here, in Bicester and Hethe, I pray that the peace and joy of Christ may fill our hearts and homes anew this year. I pray also that the New Year may bring many blessings upon our parish as we grow together in the service of the Lord.
Fr Craig Davies.



The Catholic Parishes of Immaculate Conception @BICESTER



And **Holy Trinity** @Hardwick Rd, HETHE OX27 8AW

Henley House, 12 Causeway, Bicester OX26 6AW

Parish website: <https://www.immaculate-conception.org.uk>

Archdiocesan website: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk>

Deanery website: <https://banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk>

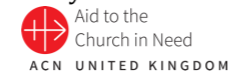
The Parishes of the Immaculate Conception & Holy Trinity are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No: 234216

OFFERINGS Collections during masses at Christmas will be our traditional offerings to our Parish Priest. By card: option Christmas-Parish Priest. Envelopes are available with bulletins this weekend.

ST STEPHEN'S DAY Mass will be held at 12 noon on Thursday, 26th December. Many of our altar servers will be receiving medals and a few very special ones will also be rewarded for longstanding service to the Guild of St Stephen. All altar servers and their families are invited for a pizza lunch in the centre afterwards.

WELCOMERS—CHRISTMAS MASSES As usual we will expect a lot of visitors to pass through our doors over Christmas. Because of family obligations many of our usual welcomers are unable to minister. If you are able to help with giving out hymn books or service sheets and help with collections please let the sisters or clergy know. Thank you.

The CRIB collection this year will go towards Aid to the Church in Need. Charity number:1097984



Church will be open daily from 9am-3pm.

LET US PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:
Mary Lynch, K Cashman, Jean McIntosh, Gerry Wright, Marie Oke.

ROSARY: Daily 25 minutes before Mass starts.
DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Every Tuesday at 2.00pm in Church
BAPTISMS/WEDDINGS: Please contact the Parish Office through email or phone.
CONFESSIONS: Hethe: Saturday from 3.15pm - 3.50 pm (in the Sacristy) Bicester: 5.15 pm - 5.45pm
EAST TIMOR COMMUNITY PRAYER: First Sunday of the month at 5.00pm @ Ursuline Convent
HOLY HOUR: Every First Friday from 6.00pm to 7.00pm (Not during Lent)
PARISH OUTREACH GROUP: Please contact the Office if you need some form of practical help -252 277.
PIETY SHOP: Open Friday, Saturday and Sunday around Masses.
URSULINE LAY ASSOCIATES MEETING: 2nd Wednesday of every month at 2pm @ Ursuline Convent.

FUNDRAISING - RAFFLE TICKETS The raffle draw will take place this weekend after the 11am mass in the centre. Please come along for a coffee and see if you have won! We have some great prizes this year. Thank you to all who generously donated items.

PIETY SHOP Christmas stock still available along with a delightful selection of hand made cards by Fr Craig's mother (fundraising for our church), which are selling very quickly. Advent candles & calendars, cards, gifts, 2025 calendars & more. Come and have a browse...

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS The flower ladies would be grateful of any donations of potted poinsettia plants to go towards decorating the church for Christmas. These can be purchased from Sainsburys, medium or large in red pots, £6/£8. Please leave in our Lady's Chapel by Monday.

BICESTER FOOD BANK—CHRISTMAS REQUEST New toys, wrapping paper, toiletries, cakes, mince pies, selection boxes. Please consider other extra food. Place in the container at the back of the church or deliver directly to the Food Bank, The Beacon, Wesley Lane. 10am-12

RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation The group will now have a break for Christmas and the next session will be on Thursday, 15th January at 7.30pm at the Centre. Topic: The Creed.

COFFEE MORNING The team will have a well deserved rest in January and look forward to seeing you all in February.

CHURCH CLEANING More help on the cleaning teams is needed for next year. If you can spare a few hours every 6-7 weeks please contact the parish office or speak to Sr Rose.

PARISH OFFICE The Parish Office will be closed from 25th December and reopen on Wednesday, 15th January.

ST JOHN PAUL II CENTRE The centre office will be closed from 25th December and reopen on Monday, January 6th.

BAPTISMS 2025 If you are considering having your child baptised in the first few months of the new year, please contact the office to register onto the first Baptism Course that will be held on Saturday, 15th February from 10am-12 noon in the St John Paul II Centre. Baptisms will be held on Sundays at 1pm in the new year.

BAPTISMS CATECHISTS We are looking for parishioners who may like to become involved as catechists for Baptisms and help run Baptism courses 3/4 times a year, full training will be given. A training session for this will be held on Monday, 27th January at 7pm for anyone who may be interested. If you are not sure but would like to find out more info come along, no commitment needed.

TIPS FROM OUR ENVIRONMENTAL TEAM: Plan your food preparations and cooking times as efficient as possible. Food waste reduction-only use what you need. Share with family what food to bring.

DIRECTORIES Archdiocesan Directories 2025 are now available from the piety shop. £5 each.

WREATH MAKING EVENING Thank you to all who came along to this event. Some beautiful wreaths were created and it was a spiritual and social event, (not fundraising) the donations covered the cost of the materials—thank you.

PARISH FINANCE MEETING Will be held on Monday, 20th January at 7pm in the Centre.

SATURDAY MORNING MASS From Saturday, 11th January 2025 there will be a 10am Saturday morning mass celebrated here at the Immaculate Conception followed by Benediction. Confessions will also take place from 10.30am-11.30am every Saturday instead of 5.30pm. If any parish readers would like to read at this mass please contact the parish office.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

SECOND COLLECTIONS
22nd & 29th December: Parish Maintenance
24th & 25th December : Offerings to Parish Priest

PARISH GIVING
BICESTER LINK TO DONATE:
<https://portal.mydona.com/assets/webPay/index.php?cid=528>
Standing Orders/Donations/Payments
Bicester: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02342731
Hethe: Sort Code: 51 70 15 Acc. No: 02301466
Mass intentions offerings currently by cash in offering envelopes from the back of church please.

CONTACTLESS You can also donate by scanning the QR code with your phone or by card at the machine in the church porch. If you pay tax, please consider Gift Aiding your donation. Each time you make a subsequent donation using the same card, Gift Aid will be collected automatically. Gift Aid it!! You could add 25% to the value of your donation. Contact Sr Sani the Parish Gift Aid Co-ordinator.

HETHE BICESTER

Church	First Collection	Second Collection	Standing Orders	Card (Dona)	Mass Attendance
Bicester	£434.20	£244.08	£1157	£210	424
Hethe	£50	N/A	£185	—	28

An Induction Loop system is provided. Please switch Hearing Aid to "T"

This church live streams Mass and other events. Parish YouTube 'Bicester Catholic Church' Channel Go to the website or follow this link
<https://camstreamer.com/redirect/SfORcspHjzNr8niFC4ls5oIQBgoc37B8YBCjKvPc>
Follow the readings at Mass: <https://universalis.com/mass.htm>



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Sunday Cycle C - Weekdays - Advent - Psalter Week 4
22nd December—29th December 2024
Pope's Prayer Intention for December: For pilgrims of hope: we pray that this Jubilee Year strengthens our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

	TIME	INTENTIONS	FEASTS	LECTORS	E O MINISTERS	WELCOMERS
SAT 21st	4.00pm@Hethe	People of the Parish				R Deane & S Wilde
Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Don Burton (RIP)	Fourth Sunday in Advent	R John/Sr Sani	M & S Doherty	McArdle Family
SUN 22nd	9.00am	Ints of Kim Carneiro -16th Birthday		C Moyse/A Jiminez	L & D Jiminez	C St John/volunteer
	11.00am	Norma Santiago (RIP)		A Kearsley/E Green	J Marshall/J Franta	Kokore Family
MON 23rd	9.30 am	Ints of Anne Kearsley	Advent Feria	A Fitzpatrick		
		The Season of Christmas				
TUE 24th	9.30am	Jim & Joan Bridle (RIP)		Sr Molly	volunteers	
	2.00pm IC	Terence Thompson & Alison Blacklock (RIP)	Advent Feria	L Cleeve/ Sr Rose	volunteers	volunteers
	6.00pm IC	Bill & Kitty Hornby, Angela Nelson & Hilda McNicholl (RIP)		S McCarthy/ A Orleans	volunteers	volunteers
	8.00pm Hethe	People of the Parish				
	11.30pm IC	Carols & Midnight Mass Louisa Hook (RIP)		H King/ Sr Sani	J Marshall/ Sr Rose	Hattam family
WED 25th	9.00am	Mike Gosling (RIP)	Solemnity of the	C Moyse/Sr Rose	C St John/Sr Sani	volunteers
	11.00am	Fiona Mary Beasley & Eithine McDonagh (RIP)	Nativity of the Lord	T Lane/ J Franta	M Franta/A Mutton	Jiminez Family
THU 26th	12 noon	Anita Magleo (RIP) followed by Altar Servers Christmas Social	<i>Feast of St Stephen, M</i>	J Kokore	volunteers	volunteers
FRI 27th	12 noon	Elizabeth & Thomas Thompson (RIP)	<i>Feast of St John, A, E</i>	E King	volunteers	volunteers
SAT 28th	4.00pm@Hethe	People of the Parish				R Deane & S Wilde
Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Deceased of the Vettikkattil Family (RIP)	<i>Feast of the Holy Innocents, M</i>	Sr Sani/P Cousins	M Kelly/volunteer	volunteers
SUN 29th	9.00am	Lucia Ostrowska (RIP)	<i>Feast of the Holy Family of</i>	L & S Taylor	M & A Brown	L & C Cleeve
	11.00am	Abilio Soares (RIP)	<i>Jesus, Mary & Joseph</i>	H King/T lane	Sr Sani/Sr Rose	Franta Family

This week we pray for...

SANCTUARY LIGHT: For World Peace
OUR LADY'S LIGHT: John Snape (RIP)
If you wish to sponsor one of the sanctuary lamps which perpetually burn in the Church, please complete and return a slip to the parish office or sisters.

Archdiocese of Birmingham: "Our Vision is to be a Catholic Diocese which is faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour".

Safeguarding: Both our Parishes operate in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding. Guidance & the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parishes Safeguarding Representatives are:
Elizabeth Green: sg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk &
Les Cleeve: sg.holytrinity.hethe@rcaob.org.uk
Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 2306240 or safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Parish Priest: Father Craig Davies BA (hons) STB
fr.craig.davies@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Deacons: Rev Mr Michael Panejko MA 01869 246 459
Rev Mr Nick St John: 01869 246 787

Retired Priest: Rev. Fr. Pat Armstrong

Parish Sisters: Ursuline Convent - Sr Rose Mathew - 01869 327 689

Parish Office: Wednesday & Friday 9am-4pm

Parish Secretary: Lucia Hattam 01869 253277 / tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk

St John Paul II Centre Bookings: Sr Sani Vijayan,
Monday-Friday 10am-4pm 01869 324 307 / office@johnpaulcentre.co.uk

Gift Aid: Sr Sani Vijayan [email: ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ga.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk)

St Mary's Catholic School Head Teacher: Mr Daniel O'Connor
01869 252035 / office.3824@st-marys-bicester.oxon.sch.uk

Blessed George Napier Catholic School Headteacher: Mrs Niamh Dolan
01295 264216 / office.4600@bgn.oxon.sch.uk

Parish Sacramental Programme - Clare St John psc.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Children's Liturgy - Elspeth Morgan pcl.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Health & Safety - Les Cleeve hs.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Altar Servers - Deacon Michael Panejko dce.michael.panejko@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Youth - Deacon Nick St John yth.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Environmental & Peace and Justice Group - J Marshall peg.tic.bicester@rcaob.org.uk



Fourth Sunday of Advent

First Reading 'From you shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel.' Micah 5:2-5a

Thus says the LORD: You, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

The word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm *Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.*

Second Reading 'Behold, I have come to do your will.' Hebrews 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book." '

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings' (these are offered according to the Law), then he added, 'Behold, I have come to do your will'. He does away with the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord;
let it be to me according to your word. Alleluia.

Gospel 'Why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?' Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

The Gospel of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God

HOLY MASS DURING ADVENT

Priest: In the name of the Father
People: Amen

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People And with your spirit.



Penitential Act

Everyone: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done, and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

After the first and second readings
Reader The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God

Gospel acclamation

Reader Alleluia, Alleluia
... (a few words)

People Alleluia

Before the Gospel reading

Priest/Deacon: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest/Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to..

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

After the Gospel reading

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Creed - The Nicene Creed

Everyone: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Bidding Prayers

All: Hear our Prayer



THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Priest: Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

People: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

The Eucharistic Prayer

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right and just.

Everyone: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

Priest: The mystery of faith.

People: ONE OF THESE:

A We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

B When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again.

C Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

Doxology

Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

People: Amen

Priest: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say: Our Father....

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every

People: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

Sign of Peace

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And with your spirit.

Priest/Deacon: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

To each other: Peace be with you

Lamb of God

People: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. (2)

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God,

People: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Concluding Rites

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit

Priest: May almighty God.....

All: Amen

Priest/Deacon: Go & announce the Gospel of the Lord