THE CATHOLIC CHURCH of SAINT BIRINUS
DORCHESTER-on-THAMES

SUNDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 2026
MONTH OF THE HOLY ANGELS
PENTECOST XVI
SUNDAY XXIV (A) Year II

Sunday	**13th**	SUNG ENLISH MASS at Berinsfied	**9.30am**	*Lisamma Joseph RIP*
Sunday	**13th**	SUNG LATIN MASS	**11.00am**	*pro populo*
Mon	**14th**	THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	**9.30am**	*For Eunice Finch (sick)*
Tue	**15th**	Our Lady Of Sorrows	**9.30am**	*Ian Judg (A)*
Wed	**16th**	SS Cornelius & Cyprian (B,M) *(Latin)*	**8.00am**	*Fr Richard Dinnis(A)*
Thu	**17th**	St Robert Bellarmine (B,D)	**9.30am**	*Stanley Leonard Osman*
Fri	**18th**	Feria VI *Fast & Abstinence*	**9.30am**	*Martin Bardsley RIP*
Sat	**19th**	of Our Blessed Lady *(Latin)*	**9.30am**	*Eric Pass (A)*
		VIGIL MASS of Sunday (XXV -A)	**6.00pm**	*Aileen Slattery (A)*

***CONFESSIONS:* Saturday 5:15-5.45 pm or by appointment with the Priest.**

*BPMF *Birmingham Perpetual Mass Fund*

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

The Feast of the Triumph of the Holy Cross which falls on Monday 14th invites us to meditate on the indissoluble bond that unites the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass with the Mystery of the Cross.

Every Mass in fact, actualizes the redeeming Sacrifice of Christ. Every priest who celebrates the Holy Mass, together with the Christian community that takes part in it, is led back in spirit to Golgotha and the Hour of the Saviour's death on the Cross. The Holy Mass makes present the entire Paschal Mystery, the Passion, Death, descent into Hell, Resurrection and Ascension into Heaven: and the Cross is the moving manifestation of the act of infinite Love with which the Son of God saved mankind and the world from sin and death. For this reason, the Sign of the Cross, which should be made with care and devotion, is the fundamental act of our prayer as Catholics. On making the sign of the Cross we make a visible and public "yes" to the One Who died and rose for us, to God, Who in the humility and weakness of His Love is the Almighty, stronger than all the power and intelligence of the world.

After the Consecration of the Sacred Host at Mass, the congregation, with the eyes of faith, recognize the Living Jesus in the Host by the signs of His Passion, and with Thomas can complete, full of wonder: "MY LORD AND MY GOD". This is the most beautiful act of Faith in the Holy Eucharist, an act of Love in response to His Sacrifice on the Cross and made present on the Altar. With Thomas we can repeat, full of wonder, "MY LORD AND MY

GOD" (John 20:28) The Mass is a mystery of death and of glory like the Crucifixion, which is not an accident on the journey, but the way in which Christ entered into His glory (Luke 24:26) and reconciled the whole of humanity, overcoming all enmity. This is why the Liturgy invites us to pray "Mane nobiscum, Domine!" Stay with us Lord, Who has redeemed the world with Your Holy Cross! Death which is the consequence of sin and disobedience comes through the Tree and it's fruit eaten by Eve and Adam. Salvation comes to us through the New Eve and the New Adam – the fruit of whose Tree – the Cross – undoes the damage of the first Tree and brings us salvation. On Tuesday we remember Our Lady of Sorrows – how Our Lady, standing by the Cross joined in the suffering of Her Son with great sorrow and love. That is why the Church calls Her "Redemptrix" (see the ancient hymn the Stabat Mater). The New Eve – Mary – our Mother in the order of Grace -enables us through Her obedience, to share in Christ's redeeming act, as She did. That is why the Church calls Her "Mediatrix"
After the 11.00am Mass you are invited to venerate a Relic of the True Cross.
WE ADORE THEE O CHRIST AND WE PRAISE THEE: BECAUSE BY THY HOLY CROSS THOU HAST REDEEMED THE WORLD.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING GENEROSITY TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER Jane Grenfell. 07833915724

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