

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time C

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (Ch) *(T & S Boyd)*

9am (Cor) Sung Mass *(Pro Populo)*

*with Children's Liturgy*

11am (Ch) Sung Mass *(Pro Populo)*

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September

Feast of the Nativity

of the Blessed Virgin Mary No Mass

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12pm Mass (Cor)

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

*(60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary*

*of Ian & Phyllis Stewart)*

*followed by Eucharistic Adoration*

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Most Holy Name of Mary

12.10pm Mass (Ch) *(Fr Millet)*

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September

Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop,

Doctor of the Church

2-4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm-4.45pm (Sat) Confessions

4.45pm Benediction (Ch)

THE FEAST OF THE EXALTATION  
OF THE HOLY CROSS

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (Ch)

9am (Cor) Sung Mass *(Pro Populo)*

11am (Ch) Sung Mass *(Pro Populo)*

*with Children's Liturgy*

## 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

**INTERNATIONAL HARVEST SUPPER** Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm at St Patrick's Hall. If you are able to help, or you can contribute a hot or cold dish, please contact Teresa, or put your name down on the volunteer list which will be in both churches. It would be lovely to have food to share from every nationality represented in our parishes!

**RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH** A new programme will start in the Autumn for adults who wish to know Jesus Christ and his Church. This is for those enquiring about the faith leading to the possibility of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist (or reception into the full communion of the Church) next Easter. Now is the time to mention this to your family and friends who may wish to join us on this exciting journey in faith. There will be a 'Taste and See' Evening on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October in the parish office at St Mary's. Please call the office for more details and register your interest.

**CLIFTON ANNUAL DIOCESAN FORMATION DAY** 11<sup>th</sup> October at St Brendan's College, Brislington, with Mgr John Armitage as the keynote speaker. He will be reflecting on the theme of 'Being an Evangelist Today: the tools required to be a joyful witness of Jesus.' There will also be several workshop options for people to attend. More information to follow.

**MISSIO MASS** During this Jubilee year of Hope, Missio will be celebrating Masses in our diocese. The main diocesan celebration will be Mass with Bishop Bosco at 7pm on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at Holy Family Catholic Church, Southsea Road, Patchway, Bristol. All are welcome.

**ST PATRICK'S MEMORIAL GARDEN** Last year we confirmed that it would no longer be possible to inter or scatter ashes in the grounds of St Patricks. Two weeks ago, our diocese reminded us that this is no longer possible within existing legislation. Our garden will shortly be restructured as it is looking rather untidy. People are kindly asked not to place any further memorial/funeral artifacts in the garden or place plants or flowers in the flower beds without consulting the parish priest as they will need to be removed. Thank you.

**PARENT HUB** Come and listen to a talk about the joys and challenges of family life and meet other parents in the area. The next Parent Hub will take place at 3pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September at St Patrick's Hall in Corsham. Parents are most welcome to attend with their children. Tea/coffee and cake will be provided. Any enquiries, contact Sarah & Sam: 07907732997.

**STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE – ACTION NEEDED!** The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September. Right To Life UK has launched an *EasyAction* tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. Please visit [www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers) to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds! Please help us to witness that as a Catholic Community we are prolife.

**MARRIAGE HELP** - Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th Oct [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 0788 7296983.

**SUNDAY CHOIRS** Both of our Sunday Choirs in Chippenham and Corsham would welcome new members as we recommence our rehearsals. If you would like to sing with us, please have a word with Irene Wilke in Chippenham or Guy Tomlinson at Corsham or chat with Fr Michael.

**ST PATRICK'S ALTAR SERVERS** We are looking for new altar servers, both young and older people to assist at the 9am Sunday Mass as our current team are going to university. Please see Fr Michael or Diane if you can help. It would be lovely to see some of our first communicants take up this ministry.

**ST MARY'S ALTAR** We are drawing up plans for the decoration of St Mary's and we would like to see photographs of the sanctuary after the church was built. If you have any photos of St Mary's altar from the 1930's pre-Vatican II, then please could you email them or give them to Fr Michael or to Teresa.

**CAFOD RESPONSE IN GAZA** Your donations to Gaza since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). Thank you for backing our work through holding collections for our Family Fast Day appeals and for continuing to [pray for peace](#) in the Middle East.

**EDUCATION MASS** The Diocesan annual Education Mass will be celebrated this year on Education Sunday. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Bosco at SS Peter & Paul Cathedral, Bristol, at 6pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September. The singing will be led by the pupils of Downside School. Everyone is welcome to attend this special Mass, particularly teachers, pupils, governors & anyone else who is involved in our schools & colleges in any way. Catholic education is a wonderful achievement – and so should be celebrated!

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** Corsham after weekday mass. Chippenham on Sat 4.15-4.45pm.

### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**The Sick:** Corsham: Mo Brinn, Richard Keat, Anne Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price, Robert Wilkins. Chippenham: Ann Sutton, Michael Millard, David Lunt, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Chris Rosario, Victoria Kiss, Pamela Naylor, Anne Martin, Agnes Tegner. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**RIP Anniversaries:** Lottie Grogan, Mary Snow, Antonio Checchia, Fr Denis Kavanagh, Pat Porter, Gary Willcox, Michael Rigby, John Byrne, Teresa Boyd.

**For Peace:** in Ukraine, Gaza and all the places of warfare throughout the world.

**The Holy Father's August Intention:** Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious or ideological reasons.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** Saint Bonaventure, Bishopston, Bristol.

*In compliance with the requirements of GDPR permission must be sought from an individual (or next of kin) before their name can be added to a list of those who are sick. Do please advise us of any changes to be made to this list.*

## September – The Month of Our Lady of Sorrows

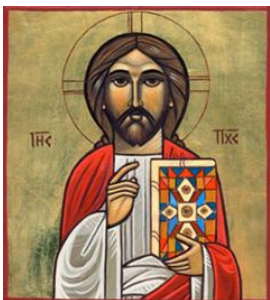


Over the centuries there grew a custom of devoting certain months of the year to specific spiritual themes. September became known as the month of “Our Lady of Sorrows.” Initially this might seem like a strange designation, as Our Lady of Sorrows is usually connected to Jesus’ crucifixion, which in the Church’s liturgical year is celebrated in March or April. However, early on a feast developed on 14 September named “The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.” Originally this feast celebrated the finding of the Holy Cross by St Helena and the consecration, on 14 September, 335, of the basilicas built by Constantine on the sites of the Holy Sepulchre and Calvary at Jerusalem. This brought into September a particular meditation on the cross of Jesus Christ, and by the 17th century there developed a complementary Marian feast on 15 September.

In the 17th century the Servites celebrated a solemn feast of the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady, which in 1817 was extended to the whole Church by Pope Pius VII as a memorial of his sufferings in exile and captivity and of his deliverance through the Blessed Virgin’s intercession. Furthermore, Pope St Pius X transferred this feast from the third Sunday of September to this octave-day of Our Lady’s Nativity (8 September), in 1912.” Originally this feast was more concerned with Mary’s sufferings throughout her early life, excluding the Passion of Jesus, her Son, but over time it has come to represent all of Mary’s suffering.

### Collect for Our Lady of Sorrows

O God, who willed that, when your Son was lifted high on the Cross,  
his Mother should stand close by and share his suffering,  
grant that your Church, participating with the Virgin Mary in the Passion of Christ,  
may merit a share in his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.



### THE WORD THIS WEEK

### THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

#### First reading

*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

**Wisdom 9:13-18**

What human being can learn the counsel of God? Or who can discern what the Lord wills? For the reasoning of mortals is worthless, and our designs are likely to fail, for a perishable body weighs down the soul, and this earthly tent burdens the mind full of thoughts. We can hardly guess at what is on earth, and what is at hand we find with labour; but who has traced out what is in the heavens? Who has learned your counsel, unless you

have given wisdom and sent your holy spirit from on high? And thus the paths of those on earth were set right, and people were taught what pleases you.

The Word of the Lord

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 90(89)**

*O Lord, you have been our refuge,  
from generation to generation.*

You turn man back to dust,  
and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'  
To your eyes a thousand years  
are like yesterday, come and gone,  
or like a watch in the night.

You sweep them away like a dream,  
like grass which is fresh in the morning.  
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;  
by evening it withers and fades.

Then teach us to number our days,  
that we may gain wisdom of heart.  
Turn back, O LORD! How long?  
Show pity to your servants.

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;  
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.  
Let the favour of the LORD our God be upon us;  
give success to the work of our hands.  
O give success to the work of our hands.

**Second reading**

**Philemon 9-10, 12-17**

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to Philemon*

Beloved: I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus — I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother — especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Let your face shine forth on your servant,  
and teach me your decrees. Alleluia

**Gospel**

**Luke 14:25-33**

*A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke*

At that time: Great crowds accompanied Jesus, and he turned and said to them, 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother, and wife and children, and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, "This man began to build and was not able to finish." Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.'

The Gospel of the Lord