

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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## 22<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

*Please note there is no Mass on Friday at St Mary's.*

**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!

**ST MARY'S ALTAR** We are drawing up plans for the decoration of St Mary's and we would like to see how the sanctuary was originally designed and its colour scheme in the 1930's. If you have any photos of St Mary's pre-Vatican II then please could you give/send them to Fr Michael or to Teresa. Thank you.

**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.

**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.

**CLIFTON ANNUAL DIOCESAN FORMATION DAY** will

take place on 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.

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time C

Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (Ch) *(Fr Millett)*

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

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

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Weekday in Ordinary Time No Mass

(World Day of Prayer  
for the Care of Creation)

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

*(Intention of the Donors)*

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Feast of Saint Gregory the Great,

Pope, Doctor of the Church

12pm Mass (Cor)

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Saint Cuthbert, Bishop

12.10pm Mass (Ch) *(Intention of V. Kiss)*

*followed by Eucharistic Adoration*

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass (Ch)

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September

Weekday in Ordinary Time

2-4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm-4.45pm (Sat) Confessions

4.45pm Benediction (Ch)

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)*

**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 20th 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

**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.

**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!

**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.

**ST PATRICK'S ALTAR SERVERS** We are looking for new altar servers, both young and older people for the 9am Sunday Mass as our current team are going to university in the autumn. 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.

**THE CLIFTON DIOCESAN ANNUAL LOURDES PILGRIMAGE** is well underway. The Virtual Pilgrimage is available on our Facebook site and website: [Lourdes | Clifton Diocese](http://Lourdes | Clifton Diocese)

**UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY – VACANCIES** Clifton Diocese owns and operates a university hall of residence in Queen Road, Clifton, Bristol. We have availability of rooms for the academic year from September 2025. If you'd like to register your interest, please contact our Property Service Department on [property.services@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:property.services@cliftondiocese.com) for further information.

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

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

**The Sick:** Corsham: Richard Keat, Anne Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price, Robert Wilkins. Chippenham: Ann Sutton, 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:** Claudio Fernandes, Bob Kucharek, Peter Hanratty, June Broom, John Naylor.

**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:** Holy Family, Patchway, 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

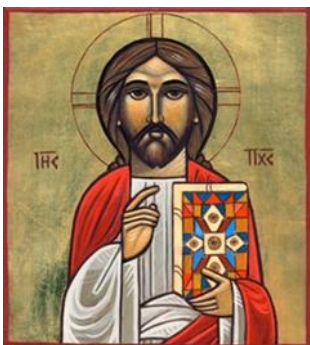


Over the centuries there grew a custom of devoting certain months of the year to specific spiritual themes. September became known as the month of “Our Lady of Sorrows.” Initially this might seem like a strange designation, as Our Lady of Sorrows is usually connected to Jesus’ crucifixion, which in the 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-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C

#### First reading

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29

*A reading from the Book of Sirach*

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness

has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

The Word of the Lord

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 68(67)**

*In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.*

The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God;  
they shall exult with glad rejoicing.  
O sing to God; make music to his name.  
The LORD is his name.

Father of orphans, defender of widows:  
such is God in his holy place.  
God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity.

You poured down, O God, a generous rain;  
when your heritage languished, you restored it.  
It was there that your flock began to dwell.  
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor.

### **Second reading**

**Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a**

*A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews*

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

The Word of the Lord

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord,  
and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.  
Alleluia.

### **Gospel**

**Luke 14:1, 7-14**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'

He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'

The Gospel of the Lord