

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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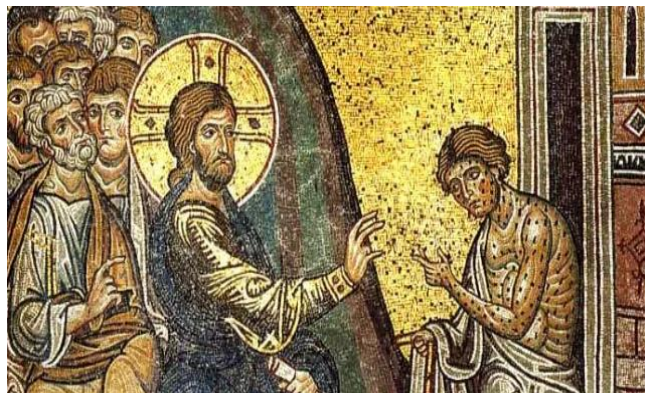
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SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Pro Populo*)

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*Mary Patrick*)

Monday 12th February

Weekday in OT No Mass

Tuesday 13th February

Weekday in OT

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Frank Harvey*)

Wednesday 14th February

ASH WEDNESDAY

Day of Fasting & Abstinence

12pm Mass (Cor) 6pm Mass (Ch)

Both with giving of ashes.

Thursday 15th February

Thursday after Ash Wednesday

12.10pm Funeral Mass

of James Carine (Ch)

(No Eucharistic Adoration today)

Friday 16th February

Friday after Ash Wednesday

12pm Funeral Mass of

Frank Harvey (Cor)

Adoration 5pm to 6pm after Mass

Saturday 17th February

Saturday after Ash Wednesday

2- 4.45pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm - 4.45pm Confessions (Ch)

4.50pm Benediction (Ch)

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT B

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Pro Populo*)

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*Anthony Cassell*)

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME B

THE SEASON OF LENT is a 40-day season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends at sundown on Holy Thursday. It's a period of preparation to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection at Easter. During Lent, we seek the Lord in prayer by reading Sacred Scripture; we serve by giving alms; and we practice self-control through fasting. We are called not only to abstain from luxuries during Lent, but to a true inner conversion of heart as we seek to follow Christ's will more faithfully. We recall the waters of baptism in which we were also baptized into Christ's death, died to sin and evil, and began new life in Christ. In Lent, the baptized are called to renew their baptismal commitment as others prepare to be baptized through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, a period of learning and discernment for individuals who have declared their desire to become Catholics at the Easter Vigil. Masses on Ash Wednesday with giving of ashes: Corsham 12noon & Chippenham 6pm.

PARISH LENT FILM NIGHT – THE CHOSEN Please join us on Thursday 22nd February to start watching Season 1 of 'The Chosen' on the big screen in St Patrick's Parish Hall. Free snacks & drinks provided. 7.30pm start. Each episode is approx. 60mins long. E1: I Have Called You By Name.

LENT LECTIO DIVINA "divine reading." Lectio divina is a method for praying with the Scriptures. As we read and invite the Word to become a transforming lens that brings the events of daily living into focus, we can come to live more deeply and find the presence of God more readily in the events of each day. The method of lectio divina follows four steps: lectio (reading), meditatio (meditation), contemplatio (contemplation), and oratio (prayer). During Lent we have the opportunity to experience 'Lectio' at St Mary's. More details to follow on the time and the venue. Do come along and join us this Lent.

LENT COURSE with Corsham Churches Together 'You Cannot Be Serious' every Monday evening at St Aldhelm's at 7.30pm and repeated on a Thursday morning at St Patrick's beginning the week of 19th February at 10am. Please see the posters for details. Chippenham parishioners are warmly invited too.

RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH Tuesday 13th Feb at 7pm in the office at St Mary's Chippenham. Theme: "The Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation", The power of the sacraments and the liturgy. How baptism can change your life. Confirmation and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Also, do join our candidates for the Rite of Election, celebrated by Bishop Declan in Clifton Cathedral on Saturday 17th February at 11am. Parishioners are very welcome.

LENTEN RETREAT ‘TRANSFORMED BY LOVE’ Clifton Diocese in partnership with ‘Light of Truth’ is offering a [Lenten retreat: ‘Transformed by Love’](#) in six online sessions, contemplating God’s grace at work in the lives of six people, through scripture and artworks: 7.30pm on a Tuesday evening: 20 Feb, 27 Feb, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March, 26 March. To sign up, they just need to click on the Zoom link: [Meeting Registration](#) or go to the [diocesan website](#).

ST MARY’S PRESBYTERY As you may be aware, we have for some time been trying to let St Mary’s Presbytery to Ukrainian refugees. Unfortunately, even though we have been in touch with charities that house Ukrainian refugees, we have been unsuccessful, and we are now starting to look for a commercial tenant instead. The large size of the house makes it unsuitable for most refugee families unless they use it as a house of multiple occupation, but this would require significant building modification and licensing by the local authority. Also, the lack of parking is putting off tenants too. Some of you have donated furnishings and furniture and the Diocese has told us to let the Presbytery empty. *Please get in touch with Teresa on the above telephone number if you would like to take back your items **by Thursday 29th Feb***. We know that this is a disappointing outcome, but the parish costs of the upkeep of having the presbytery unoccupied is increasing, and the Diocese has recommended this course of action.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024 Please keep in your prayers our first communion candidates. We ask all candidates to participate in Mass each Sunday and to ensure their participation register is signed each week by the priest or a catechist. Participation in Mass is the most important aspect of a child’s preparation for the sacraments. We would expect children to attend a minimum of two thirds of Sunday masses as part of this preparation, taking into account illness and holidays. Let us ensure that our children come to know the presence of the Lord in the Mass.

READING AT MASS Thank you to all who proclaim the scriptures and introduce the Universal Prayer at Mass. A little reminder regarding pausing and silence which is so important in the liturgy: When a reader has concluded the reading, please pause before saying ‘The Word of the Lord’. This enables the hearers to briefly reflect before affirming, ‘Thanks be to God’. Likewise, when leading the bidding prayers, it is vital to pause and give people time to pray for the intention announced, before saying ‘Lord in your mercy,’ otherwise no prayer is actually made after the prayer bidding is announced as they are not prayers in themselves. Thank you.

LITURGIES OF RECONCILIATION Bishop Declan will celebrate a liturgy of Reconciliation on Wed 21st Feb at St Anthony’s Melksham at 7pm. There will be priests available to celebrate sacramental reconciliation.

CLIFTON LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 23RD TO 30TH AUGUST 2023 Details can be found on the Diocese website [Lourdes | Clifton Diocese](#) or by contacting lourdes@cliftondiocese.com / 0117 902 5590 for an information pack.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - CONFESSIONS St Mary’s on Saturday between 4.15 pm and 4.45pm and at St Patrick’s after the weekday masses or by prior arrangement with Fr Michael.

NEWSLETTER The deadline for items for next week’s newsletter is TUESDAY 13th at noon. Thank you.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Corsham: Richard Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price. Chippenham: Brian Tuersley, Lydia Connell, David Lunt, Jon Taylor, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Chris Rosario, Elena Alberti, Sue Sheehan, Victoria Kiss. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

World Day of Prayer for the Sick & Day of Prayer for the Unemployed

Recently Departed: James Carine, Frank Harvey, Tony Cassells, Roy Fillingham

RIP Anniversaries: Nico Ruggiero, Joyce Hopper, Bill Canning, Nuala Clinton, Fran Canning, Shaun O’Donnell, Arthur Hopper, Pat Farrant, John Jones.

The Holy Father’s Prayer February Intention: We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Holy Rood, Swindon, St Peter, Swindon, Sacred Heart, Royal Wootton Bassett.

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.

February – The Month of the Holy Family



February is dedicated to the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. On 2nd Feb we see the Holy Family go to the Temple for the Presentation of Jesus. The family is together. The Holy Family. This month-dedication traces back to the 17th century. But how much do we remember or hear that today? This February we should restore that devotion. It would both honour the Holy Family and at the same time becomes a reminder to strengthen family life. After all, the Church has taught how the Holy Family is the model, the example, for all families. So said St John Paul II in a 2001 Angelus address, as he called “the family of Nazareth a model for every home.” These are perfect reasons to start honoring the Holy Family this month. “The Holy Family is the beginning of countless other holy families,” John Paul II said earlier in his *Letter to Families*. He stressed, “The history of mankind, the history of salvation, passes by way of the family.” In fact, the saintly pope made it plain that he was trying “to show how the family is placed at the center of the great struggle between good and evil, between life and death, between love and all that is opposed to love.”

Collect for the Feast of the Holy Family

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practicing the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Prayer for Reconciliation and Peace in the Holy Land



God of justice and peace
We bring before you the Israeli and Palestinian people
in all their need, pain and fear.
Bring an end to humiliation and injustice, corruption and violence.
Prosper those who work for peace with justice.
May all peoples enjoy security and prosperity.
We ask this through your Son, the Prince of peace,
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

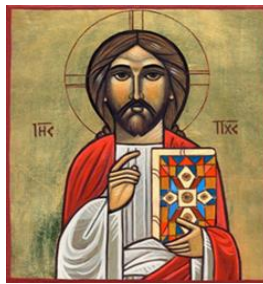
A Prayer for Ukraine



Loving God,
We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid,
that you will be close to them and protect them.
We pray for world leaders,
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.
We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis,
we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.
May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice
become a reality for the people of Ukraine
and for all the world.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)



First reading

Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46

A reading from the book of Leviticus

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a swelling or scab or shiny spot appears on a man's skin, a case of leprosy of the skin is to be suspected. The man must be taken to Aaron, the priest, or to one of the priests who are his sons.

'The man is leprosy: he is unclean. The priest must declare him unclean; he is suffering from leprosy of the head. A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry, "Unclean, unclean." As long as the disease lasts he must be unclean; and therefore he must live apart: he must live outside the camp.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 31(32):1-2,5,11

*You are my refuge, O Lord;
you fill me with the joy of salvation.*

Happy the man whose offence is forgiven,
whose sin is remitted.
O happy the man to whom the Lord
imputes no guilt,
in whose spirit is no guile.

But now I have acknowledged my sins;
my guilt I did not hide.
I said: 'I will confess
my offence to the Lord.'
And you, Lord, have forgiven
the guilt of my sin.

Rejoice, rejoice in the Lord,
exult, you just!
O come, ring out your joy,
all you upright of heart.

Second reading

1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians

Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God. Never do anything offensive to anyone – to Jews or Greeks or to the Church of God; just as I try to be helpful to everyone at all times, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved.

Take me for your model, as I take Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Mark 1:40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

A leper came to Jesus and pleaded on his knees: 'If you want to' he said 'you can cure me.' Feeling sorry for him, Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. 'Of course I want to!' he said. 'Be cured!' And the leprosy left him at once and he was cured. Jesus immediately sent him away and sternly ordered him, 'Mind you say nothing to anyone, but go and show yourself to the priest, and make the offering for your healing prescribed by Moses as evidence of your recovery.' The man went away, but then started talking about it freely and telling the story everywhere, so that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay outside in places where nobody lived. Even so, people from all around would come to him.

The Gospel of the Lord.