

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

Website: www.chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Fountaine

Presbytery: 30 Park Lane, Corsham, SN13 9LG

Tel: 07552859147

Email: michael.fountaine@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Administrator: Teresa Gosling

Tel: 07552859160

Parish Administration Emails:

chippenham.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

corsham.stpatrick@cliftondiocese.com



SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (*Isabel Pycroft*)

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

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

Monday 13th May

Our Lady of Fatima No Mass

Tuesday 14th May

Feast of Saint Matthias, Apostle

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Rosy Figueira*)

Wednesday 15th May

Weekday of Easter

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Holy Souls*)

Thursday 16th May

Weekday of Easter

11am Mass (Ch) with St Mary's School Yr 4
(*Bob Woodward*)

followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 17th May

Weekday of Easter

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Vera Bradfield*)

Saturday 18th May

Weekday of Easter

2- 4.45pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15 - 4.45pm (Sat) Confessions (Ch)

THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY B

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (*John Cavaciuti*)

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

Childrens' Liturgy

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

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK Today is World Communications Sunday and there will be a second collection for the Catholic Communications Network. We are asked to keep those who work in the media in our prayers. The CCN provides support for the bishops of England & Wales and the Church more widely in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues.

NEXT SUNDAY THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST marks the end of the Easter Season paving the way for the Ordinary time. We celebrate the Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. This is a fulfilment of the promise of Jesus that his and the Father's Spirit shall be sent to the apostles and eventually to us. Moreover, the Spirit will be the one to guide and give us courage to continue the mission of Jesus. Equally important in Pentecost is the courage that the Spirit can give us if we are open and generous enough to receive the Spirit in our life. Just look at what happened to the apostles. They all fled from Jesus during his passion for fear of their lives. But upon the descent of the Holy Spirit, these fearful apostles were gradually transformed. On this great feast of Pentecost, may we truly welcome the Holy Spirit in our lives and see our great transformation, something that we probably never imagined could happen to us.

CANON BOSCO MACDONALD was ordained as the 10th Bishop of Clifton at Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday of last week. Please keep our new Bishop in your prayers as he begins his new ministry.

BISHOP DECLAN If you would like to contribute towards a retirement collection for Bishop Declan you can do so via the Dona machines in church, or you can hand in an envelope to the parish office by 20th May 2024 or via the diocese at <https://donate.mydona.com/clifton-diocese>.

THIRD WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB Wednesday, 15th May, after the 12noon Mass at St Patrick's. Come along to Mass and stay afterwards for a light lunch and a chat. All very welcome.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES The teaching first session for our Confirmation candidates will take place on Wednesday 15th May at 7pm in the Parish Office. Naturally, it is important that our candidates **are practicing** the faith in order to receive the sacrament, that is they are participating in the Mass each Sunday. The Confirmation will be on Thursday 11th July at 7pm celebrated by Bishop Bosco.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD We are hoping to commence CLOW at St Mary's twice monthly as in Corsham. Thank you to those who have expressed an interest in becoming CLOW facilitators. There will be a formation session on Thursday 16th May in St Mary's Office at 6pm. CLOW leaders from St Patrick's are also invited to attend this session. This will explain CLOW and the role of the liturgical facilitator. Please could you confirm to Fr Michael your attendance at this session this weekend.

MYSTAGOGIA The next opportunity for our newly initiated to reflect on their experience of Easter and the risen Lord will be held on Tuesday 14th May in St Mary's office at 7pm. All welcome.

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – ST MARY'S SUMMER CEILDH There will be a St Mary's Summer Ceilidh on Friday 5th July. Further information and tickets will be available soon -watch this space.

RIGHT TO LIFE: Sir Liam Fox MP has tabled an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill that seeks to end abortion up to birth for unborn babies with Down's syndrome. Please lobby your MP in support of this motion which is being debated on Wednesday 15th. Please use this link to do so: [Little Fighters - Campaign to lower the abortion time limit to 22 weeks \(righttolife.org.uk\)](https://www.righttolife.org.uk)

MISSIO & MISSION MASS Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries needs a dedicated volunteer to take care of the Red Boxes ensuring they are emptied and organizing the distribution of the free magazine, *Mission Today*. We need a volunteer for Chippenham! More information at [missio.org.uk](https://www.missio.org.uk). Our volunteers have the full support of the Mission team who will support you at every stage and answer all queries. The Mission Mass will be celebrated at Sacred Heart Church, Royal Wootton Bassett SN4 7AH, on Tuesday 21st May at 7pm.

DEMENTIA FRIENDLY CHURCH, 8TH JUNE 2024 This is a great opportunity for Parishes to support our aging population to continue to worship safely in the Church. If you have any questions, please contact the Safeguarding Coordinator on 01179540993. Please book at www.bit.ly/dementia-friendly-church.

ADOPTION If you, your family, or friends are interested in adoption, CCS Adoption would love to hear from you. For more information visit the CCS website www.ccsadoption.org or call 0117 935 0005 for an informal discussion.

LIVING FOR THE COMMON GOOD: DISCERNING CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES will take place 18th May from 10am to 4pm at St Brendan's Sixth Form College, Bristol. This is a day of formation and community, bringing people together in prayer to discern the practical ways to live the common good. Please register at [cliftonlivingthecommongood.eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.cliftonlivingthecommongood.eventbrite.co.uk)

LGBT+ MASS A monthly celebration of the Mass for LGBT+ Catholics, family and friends, Sunday 19th May at 3pm at St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Bristol. All are welcome. A Clifton Diocese initiative.

ST MARY'S PRESBYTERY Please note that tenants are now installed in the presbytery.

PARKING BEHIND THE CHURCH The car park at the back of St Mary's Church is becoming increasingly busy and there is sometimes no availability for Fr Michael and staff working in the Church. If there are two cars parked already without Fr Michael's car, then kindly do not park there.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Confessions are heard in Corsham after the weekday masses and in Chippenham on Saturday 4.15-4.45pm or by arrangement with Fr Michael.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Corsham: Richard Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Browl, Lindsay Price, Robert Wilkins. Chippenham: Lydia Connell, David Lunt, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Chris Rosario, Elena Alberti, Victoria Kiss, Richard Jones, Raymond Johnson, Pamela Naylor. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

RIP Anniversaries: Martin O'Donnell, Richard Surawy.

The Holy Father's Prayer May Intention: We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Hospital and Prison Chaplaincies.

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.

May – The Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



(The statue of Our Lady at Saint Mary's Church)

“I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May.” Pope Francis

The month of May is traditionally considered the month of Mary, a month especially dedicated to devotion to Our Lady, the Mother of God and the Mother of all of us. We spend a whole month celebrating especially the Mother, who is model of all mothers, the Mother God chose for His own Son.

This is a month to grow in devotion to Mary as Our Mother. At the foot of the cross, Jesus said to His mother, who was standing with the beloved disciple (who represents each one of us), “Woman, behold your son.” And then to the beloved disciple—and to each of us--“Behold your mother.” And then, the Gospel tells us, “From that hour the disciple took her into his home.” (John 19:26-27) In the month of May, Jesus invites us in a special way to take Mary into our homes, to show her a special honour, to receive her as our Mother in the spiritual life, and to let her lead us closer to the heart of Jesus.

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.
“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.
For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.
(Pope Francis)

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

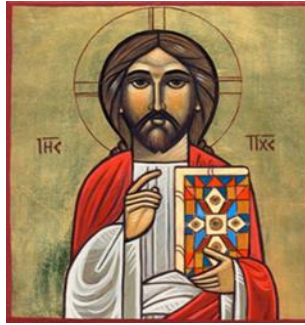
A Prayer for Ukraine



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

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B



First reading

Acts 1:15-17,20-26

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: ‘Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours.

In the Book of Psalms, it says:

Let someone else take his office.

‘We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.’

Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, ‘Lord, you can read everyone’s heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.’ They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 102(103):1-2,11-12,19-20

The Lord has set his sway in heaven.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.
My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.

The Lord has set his sway in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.
Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels,
mighty in power, fulfilling his word.

Second reading

1 John 4:11-16

A reading from the first letter of St John

My dear people,
since God has loved us so much,

we too should love one another.
No one has ever seen God;
but as long as we love one another
God will live in us
and his love will be complete in us.
We can know that we are living in him
and he is living in us
because he lets us share his Spirit.
We ourselves saw and we testify
that the Father sent his Son
as saviour of the world.
If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,
God lives in him, and he in God.
We ourselves have known and put our faith in
God's love towards ourselves.
God is love
and anyone who lives in love lives in God,
and God lives in him.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you,
and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 17:11-19

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Holy Father,
keep those you have given me true to your name,
so that they may be one like us.
While I was with them,
I kept those you had given me true to your name.
I have watched over them
and not one is lost
except the one who chose to be lost,
and this was to fulfil the scriptures.
But now I am coming to you
and while still in the world I say these things
to share my joy with them to the full.
I passed your word on to them,
and the world hated them,
because they belong to the world
no more than I belong to the world.
I am not asking you to remove them from the world,
but to protect them from the evil one.
They do not belong to the world
any more than I belong to the world.
Consecrate them in the truth;
your word is truth.
As you sent me into the world,
I have sent them into the world,
and for their sake I consecrate myself
so that they too may be consecrated in truth.’

The Gospel of the Lord.