

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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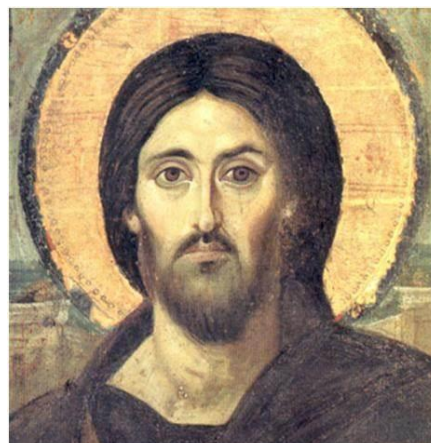
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## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (*Ellen Murray*)

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

with Childrens' Liturgy

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

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May (Bank Holiday)

Weekday of Easter

No Mass

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Weekday of Easter

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Tony Cassell*)

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May

No Mass

(Ordination of Bishop-Elect Bosco)

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May

SOLEMNITY OF THE

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

(HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Bridie Ryan*)

followed by Eucharistic Adoration

6pm (Cor) (*Pro Populis*)

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May

Weekday of Easter

12pm Mass (Cor)

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May

Weekday of Easter

2- 4.45pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15 - 4.45pm (Sat) Confessions (Ch)

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B

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

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

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

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B

**CANON BOSCO MACDONALD** will be ordained as the 10<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Clifton at Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon. Please keep Bishop-Elect Bosco in your prayers as he prepares for his episcopal ordination. Please note that there is no mass on Wednesday in Corsham as Fr Michael is attending the ordination.

**BISHOP DECLAN** The Diocese has received a number of requests from individuals wanting to contribute towards a retirement collection for Bishop Declan. If you would like you can do so via the Dona machines in church, or you can hand in an envelope to the parish office by 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024. The Diocese has set up an online donation button on the Diocesan website under Finance and the Dona page <https://donate.mydona.com/clifton-diocese> if you would like to make a donation directly to them.

**THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION DAY** is celebrated on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May. Mass at Chippenham at 12.10pm and Corsham at 6pm. This is a holyday of obligation when all Catholics should try to attend Mass.

**THANKS TO** Fr Bill who celebrated some midweek masses at St Patrick's and St Mary's last week.

**CAFOD – LETS PREPARE FOR PENTECOST** As a community of believers, we know the power of prayer. After Jesus's Ascension into heaven, Mary, the apostles, and some of the other followers of Jesus went back to Jerusalem and for nine days they “with one accord devoted themselves to prayer” (Acts 1:14). In this Year of Prayer, we'd like to invite you to join us in prayer for the nine days between the Solemnity of the Ascension and Pentecost Sunday. Each day, from 10-18 May, you'll be sent an email containing an intention to pray for, a Bible passage to focus on, a short reflection, some inspiring prayers and links to ways that you can support our work. Go to: Pentecost Novena ([cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk))

**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES** There will be a meeting with Fr Michael for candidates seeking Confirmation at 6pm on Tuesday

7<sup>th</sup> May in the Parish Office. Confirmation classes will be held on Wednesday evenings. Fr Michael will introduce the confirmation program and set out what is expected of candidates. 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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.

**MYSTAGOGIA** The next opportunity for our newly initiated to reflect on their experience of Easter will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 5<sup>th</sup> July. Further information and tickets will be available soon -watch this space.

**MISSIO** Our local secretaries are the 'engine room' of the work of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Each parish has 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](http://missio.org.uk). Our volunteers have the full support of the Mission team who will support you at every stage and answer all queries. Please make yourself known to Fr Michael who will contact Missio to get you started.

**ADOPTION** If you, your family, or friends are interested in adoption, CCS Adoption would love to hear from you. You may be single, a couple, with or without children, a homeowner or in rented accommodation. Age is not a barrier – many adopters are in their 40s and 50s. For more information visit the CCS website [www.ccsadoption.org](http://www.ccsadoption.org) or call 0117 935 0005 for an informal discussion. Don't forget that CCS Adoption relies on vital charitable donations to provide support to adoptive families, and you can do so by clicking on the donate button on the website.

**CAFOD EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR SUDAN** The people of Sudan need our help urgently. CAFOD are launching an emergency appeal for donations to get aid to them on the biggest scale we can muster. The situation has gone from serious to desperate very quickly. The UN is calling it 'the world's worst displacement crisis'. At least 8 million people have had to flee their homes; famine looms. At least 25 million Sudanese need immediate, emergency help. Families are already going hungry and famine is looming. This crisis threatens to become the worst in living memory." You can give on the link below: <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis-appeal>.

**LIVING FOR THE COMMON GOOD: DISCERNING CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES** will take place 18<sup>th</sup> 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](http://cliftonlivingthecommongood.eventbrite.co.uk)

**THE EUCHARIST: A BOND OF LOVE WHICH CAN NEVER BE UNDONE** Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June at St Bernadette's Secondary School, Whitchurch, Bristol. This is an opportunity to deepen our understanding and love for the Eucharist. Leader: Fr Michael McAndrew. The day will include a time of prayerful Adoration with words, music, and silence. Refreshments will be available from 9.30am. Attendees are asked to bring a packed lunch. We will finish by 4pm. Go to <https://cliftoneucharist.eventbrite.co.uk/> to register for the day.

**CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK** Next Sunday is World Communications Sunday and there will be a second collection for the Catholic Communications Network.

**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, Sue Sheehan, Richard Jones, Michael Waters, Raymond Johnson, Pamela Naylor. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**RIP Anniversaries:** John Delaney, Josef Nowak, Joe Walsh, Alan Hince, John Bullock.

**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:** Chaplaincies to HM forces in the diocese.

*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

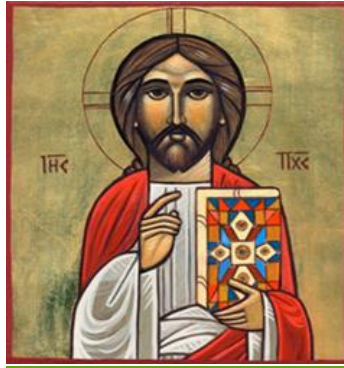


Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.  
We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.  
We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in 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

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER B



#### **First reading**

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

As Peter reached the house Cornelius went out to meet him, knelt at his feet and prostrated himself. But Peter helped him up. 'Stand up,' he said 'I am only a man after all!'

Then Peter addressed them: 'The truth I have now come to realise' he said 'is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.'

While Peter was still speaking the Holy Spirit came down on all the listeners. Jewish believers who had accompanied Peter were all astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit should be poured out on the pagans too, since they could hear them speaking strange languages and proclaiming the greatness of God. Peter himself then said, 'Could anyone refuse the water of baptism to these people, now they have received the Holy Spirit just as much as we have?' He then gave orders for them to be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterwards they begged him to stay on for some days.

The word of the Lord.

#### **Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 97(98):1-4

*The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.*

**OR**

*Alleluia!*

Sing a new song to the Lord  
for he has worked wonders.  
His right hand and his holy arm  
have brought salvation.

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
has shown his justice to the nations.  
He has remembered his truth and love  
for the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen  
the salvation of our God.  
Shout to the Lord, all the earth,  
ring out your joy.

#### **Second reading**

1 John 4:7-10

*A reading from the first letter of St John*

My dear people,  
let us love one another  
since love comes from God

and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Anyone who fails to love can never have known God,  
because God is love.  
God's love for us was revealed  
when God sent into the world his only Son  
so that we could have life through him;  
this is the love I mean:  
not our love for God,  
but God's love for us when he sent his Son  
to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

The word of the Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him.'  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

John 15:9-17

Jesus said to his disciples:

'As the Father has loved me,  
so I have loved you.  
Remain in my love.  
If you keep my commandments  
you will remain in my love,  
just as I have kept my Father's commandments  
and remain in his love.  
I have told you this  
so that my own joy may be in you  
and your joy be complete.  
This is my commandment:  
love one another, as I have loved you.  
A man can have no greater love  
than to lay down his life for his friends.  
You are my friends,  
if you do what I command you.  
I shall not call you servants any more,  
because a servant does not know  
his master's business;  
I call you friends,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
You did not choose me:  
no, I chose you;  
and I commissioned you  
to go out and to bear fruit,  
fruit that will last;  
and then the Father will give you  
anything you ask him in my name.  
What I command you  
is to love one another.'

The Gospel of the Lord.