

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Fontaine

Presbytery: 30 Park Lane, Corsham, SN13 9LG

Tel: 07552859147

Email: michael.fontaine@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Administrator: Teresa Gosling

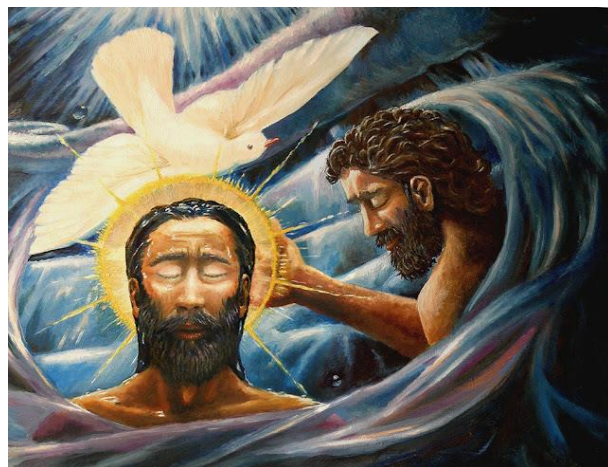
Tel: 07552859160

Parish Administration Emails:

chippenham.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

corsham.stpatrick@cliftondiocese.com

Associate Priest: Mgr Keith Newton Tel: 07976585891



THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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

9am (Cor) Sung Mass (*Pro Populo*) with
Children's Liturgy

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*P & K Mollaghan*)

Monday 13th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday 14th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Wednesday 15th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12pm Mass (Cor) (*John Falvey*)

Thursday 16th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

Followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 17th January

Saint Anthony, Abbot

No Mass (Cor)

Saturday 18th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions (Ch)

4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.45pm Benediction (Ch)

SECOND SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME C

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

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*Moyra O'Donnell*)
with *Children's Liturgy*

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Please note the changes to midweek Mass times for this week.

TODAY'S FEAST of the Baptism of Our Lord brings to an end the season of Christmas. The Baptism of the Lord marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and confirms his identity as the Son of God. This event is documented in all the gospels except John. Christ's baptism remarkably shows all three Persons of the Trinity at the same time: the Son being baptized, the Holy Spirit descending, and the Father speaking from the heavens. In this event, the Father and the Holy Spirit confirm the deity of Christ, and Jesus submits to his Father's will. Why is Jesus Baptized? When Jesus comes to John, John hesitates to baptize him. John's is a baptism of repentance, and Jesus has nothing for which he needs to repent. Why then does Jesus insist on being baptized? By choosing to be baptized, Jesus fulfils all righteousness – preparing himself to be a perfect sacrifice for us. In the uncertainty and anxiety of the beginning of this new year, we are invited to renew the commitment of our baptism. May the Holy Spirit inspire us by his gifts of wisdom, counsel and courage to abide in him who has loved us and to live our baptismal calling with deep faith and commitment.

2025 JUBILEE YEAR Pope Francis has named 2025 Jubilee Year, Pilgrims of Hope. There's a new page on the Clifton Diocese website to share news about the jubilee year, resources to deepen your prayer life and point towards celebrations in 2025. Pope Francis is also encouraging us to rediscover the ancient practice of pilgrimage during 2025. All are invited to join our diocesan pilgrimages, such as the Clifton Diocese Pilgrimage to Rome, with Bishop Bosco and 27th September to 2nd October 2025, our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes and our Diocesan Glastonbury pilgrimage, which takes place on 7th September 2025.

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY begins on Saturday 18th January and concludes on the 25th, the Feast of the Conversion of St Paul. This worldwide week of prayer encourages all Christians to pray that all be one as Christ desires. Let us pray that one day, all may be one at the Eucharistic table of the Lord and rejoice in our shared baptismal unity.

RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH continues this Wednesday, 15th January, at 7pm in the office at St Mary's Chippenham. Please keep those who journey in faith your prayers.

ALTAR SERVERS AT CHIPPENHAM we still urgently need more altar servers at St Mary's, particularly for the 11am Sung Mass on Sunday. Children who have made first communion are welcome as are women and men. Please speak to Father Michael asap. No experience necessary as formation will be given.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CORSHAM & CHIPPENHAM 2025

The second teaching session for children follows on Saturday 25th January at 4pm. The most important part of preparation for the first Holy Communion is the weekly celebration of Sunday Mass each week.

CHOIRS IN OUR PARISHES We thank our choirs and musicians for the great work they do in supporting worship in both parishes. It was good to see all our choirs coming together for the Christmas Vigil this year. As we move towards Holy Week and Easter, we are looking for more singers to swell the ranks. If you like to sing, then please do join us. You will receive a warm welcome in both churches.

PEACE SUNDAY Pax Christi promotes Peace Sunday with the support of the International Affairs Department of the Bishops' Conference. Advocating for a just peace in Palestine and Israel is a part of the ongoing work of Pax Christi, alongside building a culture of nonviolence, campaigning against war, nuclear weapons and the arms trade. This year, Peace Sunday falls on the 19th January and the theme is the theme chosen by Pope Francis for the World Day of Peace is 'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace'. The message speaks of how we must listen to the 'pleas of an endangered humanity', how the year of Jubilee inspires us to seek the liberating justice of God in our world and how by 'opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, we will restore God's justice on earth' and 'move forward to achieve the goal of peace'. You can make donations at: www.paxchristi.org.uk.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND OUR CALLING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES Wednesday 29th January 7pm in St John the Evangelist Church, South Parade, Bath. An introduction to Catholic Social Teaching by Jenny Sinclair.

REGISTRATION If you have recently moved, or you have a new telephone number please could you let the Parish Office know so that records can be updated. Also, if you are new to the parish and would like to register, then please do so via the parish website (see front of the bulletin), or ask Teresa, our administrator, for a registration form.

BEYOND THE THRESHOLD create safe spaces for people to find out who we are, what we believe and what we're like! On Saturday 18th January we will explore the key principles that we need to employ as we embark on programs of catechesis: St Brendan's College, Brislington 10am. To register go to Eventbrite link: <https://beyondthethreshold.eventbrite.co.uk>

WORKSHOP ON DOMINICAN CHANT Combining theory and practice this workshop invites us to learn about Dominican Chant on Saturday, February 15th, 10:30am - 4:30pm, St James' Priory, 1 Whitson Street, Bristol, BS1 3NZ. We will celebrate mass together and the hands-on exercise allows them to immerse themselves into the beautiful tradition of Dominican chant, elevating their prayer life and understanding the offices, whilst learning about the Dominican Lay community in the South-West.

TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering [Essential Training for Catechists](#). This will include six sessions for the formation of catechists, beginning at 7.30pm on a Thursday evening. The first session on 16th January is 'Introduction to catechesis'. Please click on the link to join.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - CONFESSIONS are heard at 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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Corsham: Richard Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price. Chippenham: David Lunt, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Chris Rosario, Victoria Kiss, Pamela Naylor, Anne Martin. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

Recently Departed: Lydia Connell.

RIP Anniversaries: Margaret T Comport, Jane Kelson, Tom Allen, Drew Masters, Malcolm Hayward.

Peace in the Holy Land and in Ukraine

The Holy Father's Prayer January Intention: Let us pray for migrants, refugees and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Catharine, Frome; St Dominic, Mells.

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.

January – The Month of the Holy Name of Jesus



January is the month of the Holy Name of Jesus, and it's an ideal time to strengthen our connection to the beautiful name of our Lord. In fact, all names are to be treated with respect. Do you know the meaning of your own name? It's interesting to discover. A name is an emblem of one's dignity but the name of Jesus in particular should be held in the highest regard; spoken and heard only in a sacred way. The beautiful name "Jesus" means, "God saves." So the name of Jesus is not only the name of our Saviour but also, by its meaning, states the purpose of His existence, reminding us of the incredible blessing of salvation. Let us therefore give that name great honour! Also, let us remember that Jesus's name in Aramaic is "Yeshua" So that is what Jesus was called in his own native language (the name Joshua is derived from this name, too).

You may wish to adopt the pious practice (that used to be more widely practiced and is so meaningful and fitting) of bowing your head whenever you say or hear the name of Jesus. Scripture tells us: "At the name of Jesus every knee should bend of those in heaven, on earth, and under the earth" (Phil 2:10). The Council of Lyons in 1274 stated: "Each should fulfill in himself that which is written for all, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow; whenever that glorious Name is recalled, especially during the sacred Mysteries of the Mass, everyone should bow the knees of his heart, which he can do even by a bow of his head."

Philippians 2:9-11

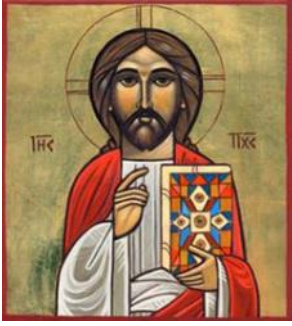
"Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Collect of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

O God, who founded the salvation of the human race on the Incarnation of your Word, give your peoples the mercy they implore, so that all may know there is no other name to be invoked but the Name of your Only Begotten Son.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Finding Comfort in the Holy Name of Jesus

Lord Jesus, when the storms of life rage and troubles surround me, I find comfort in Your holy name. Your presence brings solace and peace to my troubled heart. In times of distress, I turn to You, knowing that You are my refuge and strength. Your name is a source of unending comfort and assurance, and I am grateful for the peace it provides.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)

First reading

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her
that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries:

'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.'

Go on up to a high mountain,
O Sion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not;
say to the cities of Judah,
'Behold your God!'
Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 104(103):1b-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-28. 29-30. R1

*Bless the LORD, O my soul!
My God, how great you are!*

O LORD my God, how great you are,
clothed in majesty and honour,
wrapped in light as with a robe!
You stretch out the heavens like a tent.

On the waters you lay the foundation for your dwelling.
You make the clouds your chariot;
you ride on the wings of the wind.
You make the winds your messengers,
flame and fire your servants.

How many are your works, O LORD!
In wisdom you have made them all.
The earth is full of your creatures.
Vast and wide is the span of the sea,
with its creeping things past counting,
living things great and small.

All of these look to you
to give them their food in due season.
You give it, they gather it up;
you open wide your hand, they are well filled.

You hide your face, they are dismayed;
you take away their breath, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.
You send forth your spirit, and they are created,
and you renew the face of the earth.

Second reading

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness, and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
He who is mightier than I is coming, said John.
He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 3:15-16,

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, 'I baptise you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.'

Now when all the people were baptised by John the Baptist and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'

The Gospel of the Lord.