

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

Associate Priest: Mgr Keith Newton Tel: 07976585891



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

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

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

with *Children's Liturgy*

11am (Ch) Sung Mass

(*John Steve Dawber*)

Monday 27th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time No Mass

Tuesday 28th January

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest,

Doctor for the Church

12.10pm (Ch) Mass (*Pat Booker*)

Wednesday 29th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Mary Barr*)

Thursday 30th January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Canon J Cronin*)

Followed by Eucharistic Adoration until 1.30pm
then 2.30pm to 6pm

Friday 31st January

Saint John Bosco, Priest

12pm Funeral Mass of James Biggins
(Cor)

Saturday 1st February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions (Ch)

4.45pm Benediction (Ch)

FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (Candlemas)

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

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

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

with *Children's Liturgy*

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME C

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD This Sunday is designated the 'Sunday of the Word of God' - a day, instituted by Pope Francis on the Feast of Saint Jerome in 2019, devoted to the celebration and study of Sacred Scripture. As Pope Francis said, "Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world."

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.

RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH continues this Wed, 29th January, at 7pm in the office at St Mary's Chippenham. Please keep those from both our parishes who journey to Baptism at the Easter Vigil your prayers, together with those to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

JOINT PARISH COUNCIL The next Joint Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 6th February at 7pm at St Mary's Parish Office. Any AOB to the Administrator please, 48 hours in advance of our meeting please. It is postponed from 23rd January due to several people unable to attend.

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 next session for children is Sat 25th January at 4pm. The most important part of preparation for the first Holy Communion is the weekly celebration of Sunday Mass each week. Parents, please ensure that the children's participation cards are signed each week.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING AND OUR CALLING IN UNCERTAIN TIMES 29th January. An introduction to Catholic Social

Teaching by Jenny Sinclair founder and director of Together for The Common Good. Wednesday 29th January at 7pm at St John the Evangelist Church, South Parade, Bath. All are welcome

CHIPPENHAM FOODBANK Thanks to all the really kind parishioners for their continued support of the foodbank via their donations. We are in need of instant potato (eg Smash), rice, tinned meat, pot noodles, tinned fish, teabags and coffee. Donations can be left in the church porch as usual or taken straight to the Salvation Army Hall in Foghamshire on a Tuesday or a Friday between 9.30am and 11.15am.

CORSHAM LENT GROUP St Patrick's usually hosts an ecumenical lent group on a Thursday morning 10-12 in the hall, for the first 5 weeks of lent. If we are to continue with this, we need volunteers to run this group, and people to volunteer to lead a session- even if it's only 1 session. Please contact Ann-Marie on rnclapp@icloud.com if you are able and willing to help in any way. Thank you.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER On Friday 7th March St Patrick's is hosting World Day of Prayer at 2 pm in the Church. We need readers, helpers etc. Please could you contact Ann-Marie or Lorna if you are to attend that day and help make the service a success.

LENT LITURGIES OF RECONCILIATION Bishop Bosco is to celebrate Liturgies of Reconciliation during the Season of Lent at five venues across the diocese. The closest to our parishes is on Thursday 20th March starting at 7pm at St Peter's, Swindon. Please see the poster for more information. Building upon the beautiful gatherings during Lent he is inviting our diocesan community to gather with him in celebration of God's merciful love as part of our Lenten journey. There will be priests available at each venue to celebrate sacramental reconciliation.

MARRIAGE HELP Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped because it only makes it worse? For confidential information about the next programme hosted on Zoom from 27 February to 2 March 2025. Email: info@retrouvaille.org.uk Call or text 0788 7296983. www.retrouvaille.org.uk

CHOIRS IN OUR PARISHES 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.

ENCOUNTER 2025 is a Diocesan wide programme between Easter and Pentecost. It will empower parishioners to have a better understanding of the Holy Spirit, a closer relationship with God and to be able to explain the reasons for their faith. For more information, email pentecost@cliftondiocese.com.

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, Anne Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price, Robert Wilkins. 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: Maureen Fry, Colin Gabriel (*husband of Mrs Gabriel, a teacher at St Mary's*)

RIP Anniversaries: Margaret Jennings, Ellen Melchert, James Carine, John Burke, Bob Moran, Queenie Lyons.

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 Augustine of Canterbury, Matson; English Martyrs, Tuffley, Gloucester.

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.

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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

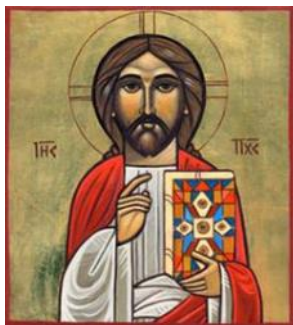
"Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

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 THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (C) Sunday of the Word of God

First reading

Nehemiah 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10

A reading from the prophet Nehemiah

In those days: Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it, all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, 'Amen, Amen,' lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground. Ezra and the Levites read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the meaning, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, 'This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.' For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, 'Go on your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 19(18):8. 9. 10. 15. R John 6:63

Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

The law of the LORD is perfect;
it revives the soul.

The decrees of the LORD are steadfast;
they give wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the LORD are right;
they gladden the heart.

The command of the LORD is clear;
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the LORD is pure,
abiding for ever.

The judgements of the LORD are true;
they are, all of them, just.

May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O LORD,
my rock and my redeemer!

Second reading

12:12-30

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and Sisters: Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptised into one body — Jews or Greeks, slaves or free — and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you’, nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’ On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honourable we bestow the greater honour, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the Church first Apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor;
To proclaim liberty to the captives.
Alleluia

Luke 4:18

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

At that time: Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll, and found the place where it was written, ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.’

And he rolled up the scroll, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, ‘Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

The Gospel of the Lord.