

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



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

Monday 3rd February

Weekday in Ordinary Time No Mass

Tuesday 4th February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm (Ch)

Funeral Mass of Lidia Connell

Wednesday 5th February

Saint Agatha, Virgin, Martyr

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Martin Donoghue*)

Thursday 6th February

Saints Paul Miki and Companions,
Martyrs

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Kiss Miklos Sr*)

Followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 7th February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Frank Harvey*)

Saturday 8th February

Weekday in Ordinary Time

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions (Ch)

4.45pm Benediction (Ch)

FIFTH 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 (*Eve McCarthy*)

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

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, 5th February, 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.

COMMUNITY OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM – HOUSE APPEAL In honour of the Presentation of the Lord on 2nd February - the World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life - could you help a new, growing, religious community? The Community of Our Lady of Walsingham seeks assistance to establish a mission house in Walsingham where they can expand their work of spiritual accompaniment, hospitality and supporting young people to grow in faith. The community will pray for all benefactors and are grateful for donations of any amount which can be made at www.walsinghamcommunity.org/maryshouseappeal Thank you and may God bless you! (Catherine Preston from St Mary's and daughter of Stuart and Rosemary, is a member of this community).

SOUND SYSTEM AT ST MARY'S We apologize that our sound system has not been functioning for the past few weeks. A sound engineer looked at the system this week and has enabled the microphone on the ambo. However, we have major problems with a rather old system needing a complete overhaul as many of the very old speakers are not functioning. Please bear with us as we look at the best way to move forward to update our system.

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 being unable to attend.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CORSHAM & CHIPPENHAM The next session for children is Sat 8th February 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.

CHIPPENHAM FOODBANK Thanks to all the really kind parishioners for their continued support of the foodbank via their donations. We need 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 this event at 2 pm in the Church. We need readers, helpers etc. Please contact Ann-Marie or Lorna if you are to attend and help make the service a success.

PARENT HUB Come and listen to a talk about family life and meet other parents in the area. The next Parent Hub will take place at 3pm on Saturday 8th March at St. Patrick's Parish Hall in Corsham.

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: Elaine Ransom.

RIP Anniversaries: Frank Harvey, William Drury, Julie Tonge, Chris Chappell, Anne Keeper, Tony Cassell, Jimmy Byrne, Seraphina Pons Sanchez, David McGrattan, Hazel Donaldson, Betty O'Neill, Joan Tilbury, Dobs Price.

Peace in the Holy Land and in Ukraine

The Holy Father's Prayer February Intention: Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Benet, Kemerton/St Joseph, Tewkesbury, St Nicholas, Winchcombe.

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.

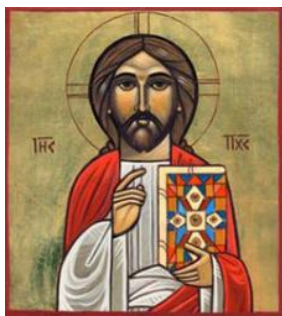
February – The Month of the Holy Family



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 as the Holy Family. This month-dedication traces back to the 17th century. This February, let us begin to restore a little devotion to the Holy Family. It would both honour the Holy Family and at the same time become 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 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,” St 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 centre 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.



THE WORD THIS WEEK

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

First reading

Malachi 3:1-4

A reading from the prophet Malachi

Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his Temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

24(23):7. 8. 9. 10. R8a

The LORD of hosts, he is the king of glory!

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory?
The LORD, the mighty, the valiant;
the LORD, the valiant in war.

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory!

Who is this king of glory?
He, the LORD of hosts,
he is the king of glory.

Second reading

2:14-18

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Since the children share in flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore, he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
A light for revelation to the Gentiles,
And for glory to your people Israel.
Alleluia

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.'

And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed — and a sword will pierce through your own soul also — so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.'

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the Temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord.