

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

Website: [www.chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk](http://www.chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk)

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Fountaine

Presbytery: 30 Park Lane, Corsham, SN13 9LG

Tel: 07552859147

Email: [michael.fountaine@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:michael.fountaine@cliftodiocese.com)

Parish Administrator: Teresa Gosling

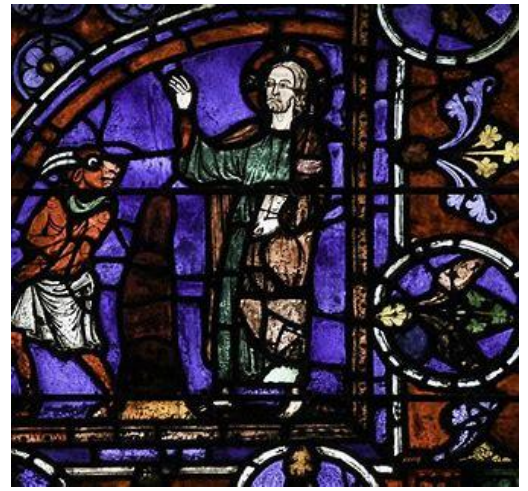
Tel: 07552859160

Parish Administration Emails:

[chippenham.stmary@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:chippenham.stmary@cliftodiocese.com)

[corsham.stpatrick@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:corsham.stpatrick@cliftodiocese.com)

Associate Priest: Mgr Keith Newton Tel: 07976585891



## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT C

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

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

with Children's Liturgy

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*Fr Millett*)

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Weekday of Lent No Mass

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

Weekday of Lent

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*M & S Lawlor*)

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March

Weekday of Lent

12pm Mass (Cor)

(*Candidates for the Easter Sacraments*)

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Weekday of Lent

12.10pm

Funeral Mass of Jo Naylor (Ch)

*Eucharistic Adoration 2pm to 6pm*

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March

Weekday of Lent

12pm Mass (Cor)

12.10pm Funeral Mass of

Peter Cavaciuti (Jr) (Ch)

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March

Weekday of Lent

11am First Reconciliation Liturgy

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions (Ch)

4.45pm Benediction (Ch)

## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT C

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

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass

(*Mervyn Hollamby-Jones*)

(with Children's Liturgy)

## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CORSHAM & CHIPPENHAM

First Reconciliation (Confession) for first communion candidates is celebrated at St Mary's Church on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March at 11am. Please bring your children to the parish office at **10.30am** for a final briefing on celebrating this sacrament. 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 as attendance at Mass is naturally a prerequisite of completing the course. Parents who cannot bring children to the Saturday preparation sessions or to Sunday Mass will be asked to defer for a year until their children are able to do so. Our children must receive catechesis before celebrating the sacraments.

**SOUND SYSTEM AT ST MARY'S** Our new sound system has now been installed at St Mary's. The hearing loop system is fully working too. We ask readers to speak directly into the microphone and not stand back from it or they may not be heard.

**CAFOD LENT APPEAL - FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH** Kindly donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a Pilgrim of Hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT** If we have sufficient volunteers, stations will be prayed during Lent at Chippenham on Tuesdays at 11.20am and at Corsham on Wednesdays at 11.15am. Would you please sign the list in Church if you are able to lead one.

**WALK WITH ME** booklets for Lent are now available in our Churches. They cost £1 each. They are a lovely guide through the Lenten season.

**RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH** The next meeting is Wed 12<sup>th</sup> March, at 7pm in the office at St Mary's Chippenham. Please keep in your prayers those from both our parishes who journey to Baptism at the Easter Vigil, together with those to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church.

**JOIN CAFOD'S BIG LENT WALK IN THE JUBILEE YEAR** You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big

Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE** We are inviting passionate and dedicated parishioners to consider becoming a Foundation governor at St Augustine's Catholic College, Trowbridge. As a governor, you will play a crucial role in guiding the mission and vision of the school, ensuring that it remains rooted in our Catholic values while fostering academic excellence and personal growth for our students. If you feel called to serve and support Catholic education, please contact the Chair of Governors, Jo Birkett-Wendes for further details ([birkettj@st-augustines.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:birkettj@st-augustines.wilts.sch.uk))

**WE BELIEVE FESTIVAL** We Believe is a Catholic festival celebrating 'the ultimate adventure of a life lived with God.' With worship, workshops, classes, music, theatre and more it will be a gathering 'unlike anything you've seen before.' Being held in the beautiful Oscott College from 25th – 28th July 2025 early bird tickets are now at a heavily discounted price. Please see [www.webelievefestival.com](http://www.webelievefestival.com)

**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.

**LGBT+ MASS** A monthly celebration of the Eucharist for LGBT+ Catholics, family and friends, Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm at St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Bristol. All are welcome. A Clifton Diocese initiative.

**LENT LITURGIES OF RECONCILIATION** Bishop Bosco will celebrate Liturgies of Reconciliation during Lent at five venues across the diocese. The closest to our parishes is on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm at St Peter's, Swindon. Please see the poster for more information. There will be priests available for individual confessions.

**CATHOLIC HOMESCHOOL INFORMATION MEETING**, St John the Evangelist Church, Bath, Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 10.30am to 12pm. Have you heard about homeschooling and wondered how it works? Come and hear from experienced Catholic mums who will share their insights and answer your questions. Contact: Helen Harrold (07425 154592) or Hannah Grimes (07801 566626)

**SISTERS OF HOLY CROSS ABBEY** In this Jubilee Year 2025, they will be hosting two 'Come and See' Weekends, to continue this 'Pilgrims of Hope' from Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May to Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and Friday 8<sup>th</sup> to Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August, to discern a Cistercian vocation. Please see the posters in both churches.

**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:** Our Holy Father, Pope Francis. 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, Sue Sheehan. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**RIP Anniversaries:** Kath Dearden, Sue Pollastrone, Ray Brigden, Margaret Sawyer, Margaret Beaven, Arthur Riley.

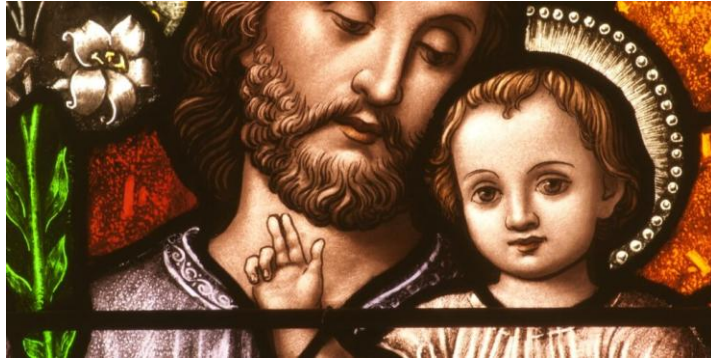
#### **Peace in the Holy Land and in Ukraine**

**The Holy Father's Prayer March Intention:** Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** St Joseph, Stonehouse; Annunciation, Woodchester.

*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.*

## March – The Month of Saint Joseph



The month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph. We don't know much about him except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection.

In the litany of St Joseph, we say, "*St Joseph, Head of the Holy Family, pray for us.*" There is more hidden behind this invocation than meets the eye. We know, of course, that Mary is the Virgin Mother of Jesus Christ. We know that the Saviour was not conceived of a human father. Yet the Church has never tired insisting on the fatherhood of Saint Joseph in the Holy Family. It is crucially important to understand that there are two levels to fatherhood. There is the physical level of providing for the conception of a human body. In this sense, Christ did not have a human father. But a father is not only to cooperate with his wife in generating a child. He is also to cooperate with her in rearing the offspring which his spouse brings into the world. From all eternity, Joseph was destined to be the spouse of the Blessed Virgin. They were truly married. Joseph was Mary's husband, and she was his wife.

Marriage is the most intimate of all unions between two human beings. It imparts a community of gifts between those joined together in matrimony. Consequently, in giving Joseph the Blessed Virgin as his spouse, God appointed him to be not only her life's companion, but also the witness of her virginity, the protector of her honour. No, by reason of his conjugal tie to Mary, he participated in her sublime dignity.

We cannot exaggerate the importance of seeing Saint Joseph as the true spouse of Mary. Under God, he was to share in her unique role as Mother of the Word made flesh who dwelt among us. Saint Luke tells us that, on returning to Nazareth after Mary and Joseph found the young Christ in the temple, "*Jesus advanced in wisdom and age and grace before God and men (Luke 2:52)*". What are we being told? We are being told that the Christ child constantly manifested greater wisdom as he grew in age. In God's mysterious providence, both Mary and Joseph contributed to this manifestation of greater wisdom in Jesus. *Father John Hardon*

## Collect for the Solemnity of Saint Joseph

Grant, we pray, almighty God,  
that by Saint Joseph's intercession your Church  
may constantly watch over the unfolding of the mysteries of human salvation,  
whose beginnings you entrusted to his faithful care.  
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 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

#### First reading

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

*A reading from the book of Deuteronomy*

Moses spoke to the people: 'The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God. And you shall make response before the LORD your God, "A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me." And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God.'

The word of the Lord.

#### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91(90)

*Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.*

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,  
and abides in the shade of the Almighty,  
says to the LORD, 'My refuge,  
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!'

Upon you no evil shall fall,  
no plague approach your tent.  
For you has he commanded his angels  
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you upon their hands,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread,  
and trample the young lion and the serpent.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him,  
protect him, for he knows my name.  
When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will be with him in distress;  
I will deliver him, and give him glory.

*A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans*

Brothers and Sisters: What does Scripture say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, ‘Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.’ For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For, ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved’.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.  
One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

**Gospel****Luke 4:1-13**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “Man shall not live by bread alone.” ’

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, ‘To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.’ And Jesus answered him, ‘It is written, “You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.” ’

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, ‘If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, “He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you”, and “On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.” ’ And Jesus answered him, ‘It is said, “You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.” ’

And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord.