

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

19TH APRIL

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (*In Thanksgiving*)

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

with Holy Baptism and Children's liturgy

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

Monday 20th April

Weekday of Easter No Mass

Tuesday 21st April

Saint Anselm of Canterbury

Bishop and Doctor of the Church

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

Wednesday 22nd April

Weekday of Easter

12pm (Cor)

Thursday 23rd April

SOLEMNITY OF SAINT GEORGE,

PATRON OF ENGLAND

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Bp Donal McKeown*)

followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 24th April

Weekday of Easter

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Anne Martin*)

Saturday 25th April

Feast of Saint Mark, Evangelist

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm-4.45pm (Sat) Confessions

4.45pm Benediction

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

26TH APRIL (Good Shepherd Sunday)

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

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass with Children's Liturgy

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER A

RCIA – JOURNEY IN FAITH The last gathering for the newly baptised and those received into the full communion of the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil will take place on Wednesday 3rd May at 7pm in St Mary's Parish Office. Please continue to pray for all the newly baptised and received.

NEXT SUNDAY VOCATIONS SUNDAY – GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY Next Sunday is the Day of Prayer for Vocations. We pray for all vocations in the Christian Life but especially for vocations to the Priesthood, Permanent Diaconate and the Religious Life. The second collection is for our Diocesan Clergy Training Fund. This supports our Seminarians in formation for Priestly Ministry and our Permanent Diaconal Programme.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN Our next session is Sat 18th April at 4pm. Parents, please ensure that the Mass children's participation cards are signed each week as attendance at Mass and the Catechetical sessions are a prerequisite of completing the course and receiving the Holy Eucharist.

ENCOUNTER 2026 – FROM EASTERTIDE TO PENTECOST "Mission – How the Holy Spirit Guides Me in My Vocation". Join us for a series of inspiring evenings exploring how the Holy Spirit calls, guides and sends each of us on mission. Our first speaker is Harry Sadd, aged 16. Clifton Cathedral (or livestream or YouTube after the event) Tuesdays, 21st April – 19th May, 7pm-9pm. For more information, contact Encounter@cliftondiocese.com or ring Ann on 07815 751 556.

'NOW IS THE TIME' is a Symposium to explore the teachings of Pope Leo in his Apostolic Exhortation 'Dilexi te' (Love for the Poor) at St Brendan's College, Brislington, on Saturday 30 May. Our keynote speakers will be Bishop Bosco MacDonald, Sir John Battle KCSG and Raymond Friel (CSAN). We start the day at 10am (refreshments from 9.30am) and finish at 4pm. You can register for the day through this Eventbrite link: <https://dilexite.eventbrite.co.uk> You will be most welcome.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND if anyone is sick or housebound in the parishes and would like to receive the sacraments, would you or family member please contact Fr Michael who will happily arrange this for you.

DIOCESAN DAY: 'JOY OF LOVE' On Saturday 4th July, Bishop Bosco warmly invites you to join him for the diocesan day at Downside Abbey to celebrate the 'Joy of Love'. In addition to the adult programme there will be a children's and young people's programme. For your free ticket you need to book. Please see the following link: <https://joyoflove.eventbrite.co.uk>

MISSIO Our Missio volunteer, Marion Hamilton, will no longer be visiting St Mary's from around the end of May due a change in family circumstances. Therefore, Marion has asked if you could bring in your red boxes for counting, even if they are not full, so she can count them before she leaves us. Please bring your red box to church and leave it in the office, or hand it to Teresa who will pass it on.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 11AM MASS AT ST MARY'S It was lovely to see so many of you at refreshments after the 11am Mass last Sunday. The next refreshments will be on Sunday 3rd May. We look forward to seeing you there.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES - BOOKINGS NOW OPEN This Pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Bosco with the Catholic Association of Lourdes UK. Friday 21st - Friday 28th August 2026. Price includes airport transfers from Bristol to Birmingham Airport, flights to Tarbes–Lourdes–Pyrénées Airport, hotel transfers and the full pilgrimage programme (including visits to the Grotto of the Apparitions, Mass each day, Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, Sacrament of Reconciliation, visits to sites related to St Bernadette, Open air Mass in the Cite-San– Pierre, Water Gesture, Station of the Cross). For an extra charge there will be a Diocesan Day Trip to Bartres. For more information or to book please see: <https://cliftondiocese.com/pilgrimage/lourdes/>

CALLING YOUNG PEOPLE Incoming Ministries is launching a cross-denominational community for young adults aged 18s–30s on Friday 1st May, 7pm at Station Hill Baptist Church, Chippenham. The all-age launch event will include live worship, refreshments and a time of prayer for young adults. For more details visit: www.incomingministries.com.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT: From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443.

YOUTH MINISTRY GAP YEAR OPPORTUNITY Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. Interested? Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or www.castleriggmanor.com

THE REGINA CAELI (Queen of Heaven) replaces the saying of the Angelus during the Easter season.

NEXT WEEKEND there will be a second collection for the Clergy Training Fund.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Confessions are heard in Corsham after the weekday masses and in Chippenham on Saturday 4.15-4.45pm.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Corsham: Kath McDonald, Linda Scott, Nick King, Mo Brinn, Richard Keat, Anne Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price, Robert Wilkins. Chippenham: David Lunt, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Victoria Kiss, Pamela Naylor, Agnes Tegner, Michael Millard, Frank Hill, Nigel Tolley. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

RIP Anniversaries: Jim Curran, Michael Vickers, Tony Witts, Eddie Porter, Tony Keeper, Sheila Gadsden, Kelly Brock, Frances Elgie, Mary Marshall, Maggie Buchanan.

For Peace: in the Middle East, Ukraine, Gaza and all the places of warfare throughout the world.

The Holy Father's April Intention: Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities my support them with understanding and prayer.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Dunstan, Somerton; Holy Ghost, Yeovil, with South Petherton.

*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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April – The Month of the Blessed Sacrament & the Holy Spirit



The month of April is dedicated both to devotion to the Eucharist and devotion to the Holy Spirit. This tradition has developed because Easter Sunday often falls in April, and when it does fall in March, the Easter season continues on through all of April. In essence, April is a month of Easter, and during the Easter celebration we remember the Eucharistic sacrifice Christ gave us and the baptism in the Holy Spirit, which would come after Jesus's resurrection. This month we might commit ourselves to a period of Eucharistic adoration and pray a Holy Spirit prayer every day. There are periods of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our parish. The goal is to be able to gaze lovingly and in awe at the Consecrated Host and share that love with others with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. "I put before you the one great thing to love on earth: the Blessed Sacrament," J.R.R. Tolkien

Prayer to Jesus in the Holy Eucharist

My Lord Jesus Christ, Your Eucharistic presence teaches me how to love as you have loved me. In your great love for me you continue to give yourself, body, blood, soul, and divinity in this sacrament of your love. As I pray in your Eucharistic presence, enkindle in me the fire of your gospel. Nourish me with your love and compassion, so that I may be sent out in the power of the Holy Spirit to be your living presence to all I meet. Amen.



THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER A

First reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 2:14, 22-33

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst — as you yourselves know — this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

'For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore, my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

'Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up,

and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you yourselves are seeing and hearing.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 16(15)

*O Lord, you will show me the path of life.
or Alleluia.*

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord.'
O LORD, it is you who are my portion and cup;
you yourself who secure my lot.

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel,
who even at night directs my heart.
I keep the LORD before me always;
with him at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
even my flesh shall rest in hope.
For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
nor let your holy one see corruption.

You will show me the path of life,
the fullness of joy in your presence,
at your right hand, bliss for ever.

Second reading

1 Peter 1:17-21

A reading from the first letter of Saint Peter

Beloved: If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 24:13-35

A reading from the holy Gospel of Luke

On the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, 'What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?' And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' And he said to them, 'What things?' And they said to him, 'Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.' And he said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going further, but they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, for it is towards evening and the day is now far spent.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?' And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the Eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.