

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19TH JULY

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass

(*Chacko & Mary*)

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

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

Monday 20th July

Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday 21st July

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Fr Millett*)

Wednesday 22nd July

FEAST OF ST MARY MAGDALENE

APOSTLE TO THE APOSTLES

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Donors*)

Thursday 23rd July

FEAST OF ST BRIDGET

OF SWEDEN, RELIGIOUS,

PATRONESS OF EUROPE

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Joyce Unwin*)

followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 24th July

Saint Sharbel Makhluf, Priest

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

Saturday 25th July

FEAST OF SAINT JAMES, AP

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm–4.45pm (Sat) Confessions

4.45pm Benediction

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

26TH JULY

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Antonio*)

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

with Children's Liturgy.

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

16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

THE ANNUAL BBQ AT SAINT PATRICK'S is held this Sunday today from 11.30am onwards. Donations of desserts/puddings are most welcome. All are welcome to join us from both our parishes.

RCIA – JOURNEY IN FAITH For adults who are curious and want to explore the Catholic faith in more depth, you are invited to take part in 'The Journey of Faith' (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). This starts in the autumn and covers the main teachings of the Catholic faith. The journey is rooted in the Sunday celebration of the Liturgy. For those who then wish, this can lead to baptism/ formal reception into the Church and the celebration of Confirmation and First Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil. Please call the Parish Office to register your interest and we look forward to warmly welcoming you.

TASTE & SEE The first gathering of our journey in faith will be our 'taste and see' session on Wednesday 23rd September in St Mary's Office, Chippenham at 7pm. Come and ask questions over a glass of wine or a soft drink. There is no obligation to attend the RCIA program. This is just as preliminary introduction. All most welcome. The RCIA sessions begin on 30th September at 7pm.

PARISH CATECHISTS Would you be interested in joining our team of parish catechists? Our catechists assist in the Catholic formation at all levels from the preparation of parents for the baptism of their children to first communion preparation for children, children's Sunday Liturgy of the Word and adult formation on our RCIA journey. This is a wonderful and rewarding way to assist in the mission of the Church. Please have a word with Fr Michael if you would like more details.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY St Patrick's will have their last Children's Liturgy before the summer break on 26th July, and like St Mary's, it will resume in September. Many thanks to our catechists who carry out this important ministry for our churches.

FR MICHAEL thanks everyone for their kind cards and gifts celebrating his 30th anniversary of Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood. Thank you to Saint Mary's for the beautiful cake and reception after the Sunday Mass. It was much appreciated.

SVP LUNCH The next SVP lunch at St Mary's takes place on Friday 4th September after the 12.10pm Mass.

WALKING PILGRIMAGE - ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI This year marks 800 years since the death of St Francis of Assisi and Pope Leo XIV has declared a special year to commemorate this. Saturday 3rd October 2026 is exactly 800 years since St Francis died and the day before his feast day. For more details and to register see: <https://www.pilgrimways.org.uk/a-franciscan-pilgrimage-in-the-diocese-of-clifton>

GREETINGS CARDS Matthew Hendricks-Birtles is desperate for more used cards, so he can continue making cards to sell for charity. Please bring to St Mary's and leave them in the back porch.

MARRIAGE SUPPORT Is your marriage in a rut? Or do you need help with deeper issues? Retrouvaille has helped thousands of couples find hope and healing in their marriage. Next dates: 2nd – 4th Oct. For more information or booking please see www.retrouvaille.org.uk/info or telephone 07887296983

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION The Bishop's Office has clarified that the minimum age to receive Confirmation on the Clifton diocese is 14 years of age. Although we are unable to accept applications under the age of 14 at the time of confirmation in 2027, if you are 13, and will be 14 in 2027, you are welcome to begin formation. Please notify the parish office asap if you would like to join a possible confirmation formation group. If there are sufficient candidates, we plan to hold Confirmation next year. Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church, alongside Baptism and First Holy Communion. It seals the believer with the gift of the Holy Spirit and strengthens them for their lifelong Christian journey. Both young people and adults are invited to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

VACANCIES FOR CLIFTON SCHOOLS AND FINANCE SECTION OF THE NEWMAN EDUCATIONAL TRUST Please have a look on the Diocesan website: [Vacancies | Clifton Diocese Schools and Colleges](#)

LGBT+ MASS A monthly celebration of the Eucharist for LGBT+ Catholics, family and friends, Sunday 19th July at 3pm at St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Bristol. All are welcome. A Clifton Diocese initiative.

THE BISHOP'S CHARITABLE FUND Next weekend there will be a second collection for The Bishop's Charitable Fund, which is the annual collection that enables Bishop Bosco to respond to the many charitable causes that appeal to him. The money is used to reach out to the little causes we never hear about. It enables the Bishop to be charitable on behalf of the Diocese, to respond both immediately and at his discretion to those who seek his help.

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, 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, Harry Purdon. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

Recently Departed: Lena.

RIP Anniversaries: Jessie Kent, Elena Alberti, Tim Dawber, Mary Jones (St Patrick's), Dorothy Hughes, Kathleen Davies, Brendon Hughes, Mary Conway.

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

The Holy Father's July Intention: Let us pray for the respect and protections of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Religious Communities.

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.

July - The Month of the Precious Blood



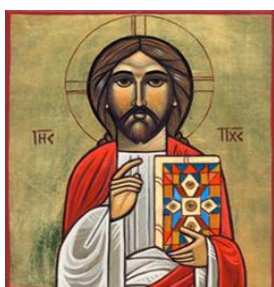
The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood. The feast of the Precious Blood of our Lord was instituted in 1849 by Pius IX, but the devotion is as old as Christianity. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood.

"The Precious Blood which we venerate is the Blood which the Saviour shed for us on Calvary and reassumed at His glorious Resurrection; it is the Blood which courses through the veins of His risen, glorified, living body at the right hand of God the Father in heaven; it is the Blood made present on our altars by the words of Consecration; it is the Blood which merited sanctifying grace for us and through it washes and beautifies our soul and inaugurates the beginning of eternal life in it."

One of the oldest documents, outside of sacred scripture, from the first century of the Christian era of Pope St Clement I, dated about 96 A.D. says: "Let us fix our gaze on the Blood of Christ and realize how truly precious It is, seeing that it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world."

Collect from the Mass of the Precious Blood

"O God, who by the Precious Blood of your Only Begotten Son have redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of your mercy, so that ever honouring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits. Through Our Lord. Amen.



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

First reading

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

Neither is there any God besides you, whose care is for all,
to whom you should prove that you have not judged unjustly.
For your strength is the source of righteousness,
and your sovereignty over all causes you to spare all.
For you show your strength
when men doubt the completeness of your power,
and you rebuke any insolence among those who know it.
You are sovereign in strength but you judge with mildness,
and with great forbearance you govern us;
for you have power to act whenever you choose.
Through such works you have taught your people
that the one who is righteous must be kind,
and you have filled your sons with good hope,
because you give repentance for sins.

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 86(85)

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.
Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer,
and attend to my voice in supplication.

All the nations you have made shall come;
they will bow down before you, O Lord,
and glorify your name,
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God.

You, O God, are compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abundant in mercy and fidelity;
turn and take pity on me.

Second reading

Romans 8:26-27

A reading the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and Sisters: The Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-30

A reading from the holy Gospel of Matthew.

At that time: Jesus put another parable before the crowd, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?" He said to them, "An enemy has done this." So the servants said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" But he said, "No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, 'Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' " "

The Gospel of the Lord.