

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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Associate Priest: Mgr Keith Newton Tel: 07976585891



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*)

Monday 27th July

Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday 28th July

Weekday in Ordinary Time

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

Wednesday 29th July

Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus

12pm Mass (Cor)

Thursday 30th July

Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop,

Doctor of the Church

12.10pm Funeral Mass

of Helen Gorman (Ch)

Eucharistic Adoration will be from 2pm to 6pm

Friday 31st July

Saint Ignatius Loyola, Priest

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Donors*)

Saturday 1st August

Saint Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm–4.45pm (Sat) Confessions

4.45pm Benediction

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2nd August

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass

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

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

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

THE ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL is returning to the House of Commons on 11th September virtually unchanged from last time. Please lobby your MP using the tool on the Right to Life website. [Right To Life UK: Pro-life Advocacy on Abortion & Euthanasia](https://www.rtlife.org.uk/)

PARISH BBQ It was lovely to see so many at the BBQ last weekend. We thank Guy, Jane and Peter for all their hard work to make this such an enjoyable afternoon for our parishes. For photos go to: [Parish Barbecue 2026 - The Catholic Churches of Saint Patrick, Corsham & Our Lady of the Assumption, Chippenham](https://www.parishbarbecue2026.co.uk/)

RCIA – JOURNEY IN FAITH For adults wanting to explore the Catholic faith in more depth, you are invited to take part in 'The Journey of Faith 2026/7' (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). This starts in on 30th September at 7pm in St Mary's Chippenham 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 Eucharist at the Easter Vigil. Please call the Parish Office to register your interest and we look forward to warmly welcoming you.

TASTE & SEE A prior gathering to our 2026/7 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 and nibbles. There is no obligation to attend the RCIA program. This is just as preliminary introduction. All most welcome.

CONFIRMATION This is the final week to notify the parish office to participate in a possible 2027 celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation if we have sufficient numbers. Candidates should be aged 14 or over.

MARCH FOR LIFE in London on Saturday 5th September. Religious services happening at various places in the morning along with the pro-life family summit at the Emmanuel Centre in Westminster (there are children and teen streams). The March starts at 1.30pm with speeches at 3pm in Parliament Square. Unite with thousands of others at this family-friendly event, where we recognise the value of life from conception and help all people understand why abortion is a tragedy and harms every family to its very core. More

info: <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/2026-event-page>

PARISH CATECHISTS Would you be interested in joining our team of parish catechists? Our catechists assist in the formation at all levels from the preparation of parents for the baptism of their children to first communion preparation, children's Sunday Liturgy of the Word and adult formation on our RCIA journey, accompanying and supporting them Sunday by Sunday at the Parish Mass. 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 break for the summer on 26th July. Both St Patrick's and St Mary's CLOW will resume in September. Many thanks to our catechists for their wonderful work week by week.

ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO GLASTONBURY 'Mary – Mother of the Faithful' on Sunday 6 September from 11am to 4.15pm. There will be the Rosary, Exposition, Confessions, Benediction, a youth procession to the Tor, and an afternoon procession through the town, ending with a Pilgrim Mass, celebrated by Bishop Bosco. May this day be one of grace, fellowship, and deep peace for all who come.

ADOREMUS 2026 The National Eucharistic Congress, takes place in London on Saturday 10th October. Adoremus is a national celebration of the Eucharist, bringing together Catholics from across England and Wales for prayer, worship, catechesis, and public witness. Our Diocese has been allocated 45 places, and we are inviting people from across our pastoral areas and parishes to participate in this important event. Register Your Interest: if you would like to represent your parish or pastoral area please register your interest through Eventbrite: <https://adoremusclifton2026.eventbrite.co.uk>

ADVISER FOR EVANGELISATION AND MISSION (Full time) Further Information and Application form can be found here <https://cliftondiocese.com/diocese/working-for-us/>. Applications to Sarah.Adams@cliftondiocese.com by 28th August. For more info contact Sarah Adams on 0117 902 5595.

EDEN BRIDGE FESTIVAL is a free Christian event taking place near Calne on Saturday 22nd August from 11am to 6pm. See the poster on the noticeboard for more information.

THE BISHOP'S CHARITABLE FUND second collection this weekend enables Bishop Bosco to respond to the many charitable causes that appeal to him both immediately and at his discretion.

GREETINGS CARDS Matthew Hendricks-Birtles ask for used greetings cards to enable him to recycle and sell for charity. Please place them in the back porch at St Mary's

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: John Maloney.

RIP Anniversaries: Pam Walsh, Giuseppe Pollastrone, Helen Baggs, Kath Hower, Alan Colesby, Noel Buddle, Judith Harris, Kathleen Quince.

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: St Ambrose/Diocesan Curia/Diocesan Services.

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



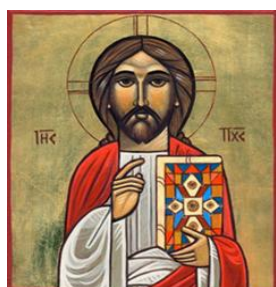
The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood. The feast of the Precious Blood of our Lord was instituted in 1849 by Pius IX, but the devotion is as old as Christianity. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through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



SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

First reading

1 Kings 3:5-6a, 7-12

A reading from the First Book of Kings

In those days: The LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, 'Ask what I shall give you.' And Solomon said, 'O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?'

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life, or riches, or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.'

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 119(118)***O LORD, how I love your law!*

You, O LORD, are my portion;
I have promised to obey your words.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than large quantities of silver and gold.

Let your merciful love console me
by your promise to your servant.
Show me compassion, that I may live,
for your law is my delight.

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways.

Your decrees are wonderful indeed;
therefore my soul obeys them.
The unfolding of your word gives light,
and understanding to the simple.

Second reading**Romans 8:28-30***A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans*

Brothers and Sisters: We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

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 13:44-46***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.*

At that time: Jesus said to the crowd: 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.