

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

2nd August

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Evans Family*)

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

with Holy Baptism

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

Monday 3rd August

Weekday in Ordinary Time

No Mass

Tuesday 4th August

Saint John Mary Vianney, Priest

No Mass

Wednesday 5th August

Dedication of the Basilica

of Saint Mary Major

12pm Mass (Cor)

Thursday 6th August

THE FEAST OF THE

TRANSFIGURATION

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Marion Hill*)

Followed by Eucharistic Adoration

Friday 7th August

Weekday in Ordinary Time

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

Saturday 8th August

Saint Dominic, Priest

2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.15pm–4.45pm (Sat) Confessions

4.45pm Benediction

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9th August

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass

with Holy Baptism

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

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

18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

Please note that there is no Mass on Tuesday at St Mary's

URGENT: CONTACT YOUR MP TO OPPOSE ASSISTED

SUICIDE The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill is back in the House of Commons and seeks to legalise assisted suicide. It will have its Second Reading and vote on Friday, 11th September 2026. Please write to your MP to make your voice heard and oppose the Bill. "This bill is wrong in principle," says Archbishop Richard Moth, President of the Bishops' Conference, "It is also deeply flawed and, if passed, could lead to vulnerable people feeling pressured into ending their lives. The Bill has a serious lack of protection for health and social care staff and risks putting many wonderful hospices and care homes in the position of no longer being able to operate. Please write to your Members of Parliament to petition them to vote against the Bill at Second Reading." You can support the archbishop's call and contact your MP now as a matter of urgency. Even if you have already done so in the past, please speak up and voice your opposition. 'Right to Life UK' enables you to do this. For more information visit: cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suicide righttolife.org.uk/Sept11vot

OUR JOINT PARISHES PPC meets on Thursday 13th August at 7pm in the office at St Mary's.

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 We are unable to hold Confirmation in the Parishes next year as we have not received enough applications. Teresa will contact those that have asked for Confirmation to discuss alternative ways they can receive the sacrament.

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 resume on Sunday 6th September and St Mary's on 13th September. Many thanks to our catechists for their wonderful work week by week.

THIRD WEDNESDAY LUNCH CLUB The lunch club at St Patrick's on Wednesday 19th August has been cancelled. It will resume on Wednesday 16th September. Thanks to Jane and her team for their hard work.

FR MILLETT'S GRAVE CARERS Would you like to join the team who care for Fr Millett's grave? This is not a very onerous task and requires only one or two visits a year to lay flowers and tidy the grave. Please contact Teresa in the parish office if you are interested in joining the team.

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>

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. 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.

RIP Anniversaries: Desmond McKenna, Maureen Knight, Maurice Chave, Patrick Adams, Jose Manuel Marti.

Recently Departed: John Maloney (Funeral Mass at Saint Patrick's Thursday 13th August at 12 noon)

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

The Holy Father's August Intention: Let us pray that in large cities, often marked by anonymity and loneliness, we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

Diocesan Prayer Link: University/College/School Chaplaincies.

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

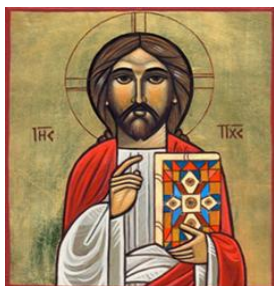
August – Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary



We know that traditionally May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, October to the Holy Rosary and Our Lady of the Rosary. Now it's time to also remember something little realised or often forgotten. August is the month traditionally dedicated by to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In fact, August once saw the celebration of the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In 1944 Venerable Pope Pius XII set this feast to be celebrated on 22nd Aug as the Octave of the Assumption. Two years earlier he had consecrated the Christian family and whole human race to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the 25th anniversary of the Fatima apparitions. Then in 1969, St Pope Paul VI moved the date to the Saturday after the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. August still has three Marian celebrations — the Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major (also remembering Our Lady of the Snows) on 5th August, the Assumption on 15th August and the Queenship of Mary on 22nd August. Well before August came to be dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary she was celebrated as such for centuries. In fact the roots of the devotion to Mary's Heart are in Scripture, where on two occasions reference is made to Mary's heart by St Luke. Luke 2:19 "Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart," and Luke 2:51 "His mother (Mary) meanwhile kept all these things in memory, meaning in her heart."

Collect of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Lord our God, you made the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary the home of your eternal Word and the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit. Give us a heart that is free from sin and attentive to your will, that, faithful to your commandments, we may love you above all things and seek to help others in their need. 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.



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

First reading

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord:
'Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;
and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.
Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labour for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.
Incline your ear, and come to me;

Isaiah 55:1-3

hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.'

The Word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 145(144)

You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

The LORD is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the LORD to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.

The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food in due season.
You open your hand and satisfy
the desire of every living thing.

The LORD is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The LORD is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.

Second reading

Romans 8:35, 37-39

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

Brothers and Sisters: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 14:13-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time: When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' But Jesus said, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They said to him, 'We have only five loaves here and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then he broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.