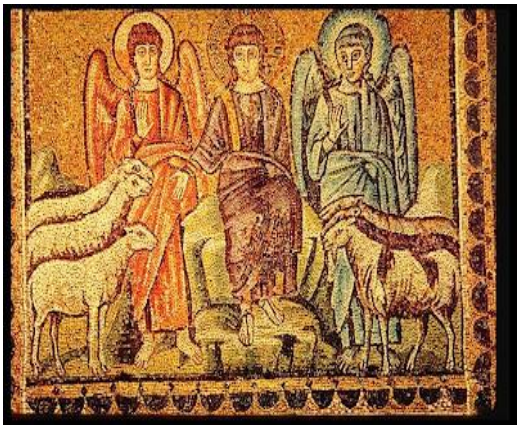
THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
(Last Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Sunday 22nd November
5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass
(Rosemary Chapman)
9am (Cor) Solemn Mass *(Pro Populo)*
11am (Ch) Solemn Mass *(Pro Populo)*
with Children's Liturgy

Monday 23rd November
Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Tuesday 24th November
Saints Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
No Mass
(Clergy at Safeguarding Conference)

Wednesday 25th November
Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin, Martyr
12pm Mass (Cor) *(Gerry McCoy)*

Thursday 26th November
Weekday in Ordinary Time
11am Mass with St Mary's School Year 6 in attendance (Ch)
(Family RIP'S of Pam Naylor)
Eucharistic Adoration until 5pm

Friday 27th November
Weekday in Ordinary Time
12pm Funeral Mass
of Jan Steadman (Cor)

Saturday 28th November
2pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)
4.15pm–4.45pm (Sat) Confessions
4.45pm Benediction

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT B
Sunday 29th November
5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass *(Pro Populo)*
9am (Cor) Solemn Mass *(Pro Populo)*
with Children's Liturgy
11am (Ch) Solemn Mass *(Fr Millett)*

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE A

THE SOLEMNITY OF JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE Today is the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year, and we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. His kingship is not built on power, wealth or authority, but on love, mercy and humble service. As we acknowledge Him as our King, may we recognise His presence in the poor, the suffering and the forgotten, and become His faithful witnesses. May the Eucharist nourish us to be worthy subjects of Christ the King and attain his Kingdom. Next weekend we begin our Advent journey to Christmas. We begin year B of the Liturgical cycle.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR YOUNG PEOPLE Today is dedicated to praying for our young people, recognising their role as bearers of hope for the Church and the world. Let us offer prayer to honour and uplift young people, emphasising their importance in the community and their potential for spiritual growth and service.

ST MARY'S ORGAN LOFT The new electrical points have now been installed and the new carpet fitted on Friday. We are awaiting the confirmation date for installation of the new organ. Thank you to those who helped to move furniture from the choir loft last Sunday.

GOD OF OUR SENSES What does the Bible have to say about our human senses? How can neuroscience and our faith help us understand our spiritual senses? These are just two intriguing questions posed in a series of articles commissioned by The Catholic Bishops' Conference and The Bible Society and currently available online. The articles are written by Professor Stephen Gomez, a member of Clifton Diocese and author of God of Our Senses. The God Who Speaks https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/sense-and-perception/

OCIA– JOURNEY IN FAITH The sixth session of 'The Journey of Faith 2026/7' OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) programme is on Wednesday 25th November at 7pm is 'Finding True Freedom.' Venue: The Parish Office, St Mary's Chippenham. Please keep all who journey to the Easter Sacraments in your prayers.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT (school year 3+) Please collect an application form from Fr Michael or the Parish Administrator after attending Saturday/Sunday Mass. To enrol, please ensure that you are attending Mass each Sunday with your child each week. The first communion Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 29th May 2027. Closing date for applications is Sunday 6th December.

SVP LUNCH AT ST MARY'S Friday 4th December after 12.10pm Mass in the church hall. Please sign-up on the sheets available at both doors.

ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE Bishop Bosco, Dr Austin Ivereigh and Dr Daniele Palmer recently gave talks examining how technology is impacting our world today and how to respond to it from a Catholic viewpoint. All three talks can be watched on YouTube: https://cliftondiocese.com/news/addressing-the-challenge-of-artificial-intelligence/.

CHRISTMAS LITURGIES If you are planning, you may like to know that Christmas Masses will be as follows: Chippenham Christmas Eve Sung Vigil Mass at 5pm and Christmas Day Solemn Mass at 11am. Corsham Solemn Mass of Christmas Day at 9am. Full details of Christmas will be available next week.

DAY OF REFLECTION FOR MARRIAGES Married couples are invited to a day of reflection on Saturday 23 January 2027, come along for a moment in time to nurture this amazing gift and celebrate its richness. The day will be led by Katherine Bergin who worked for the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton for 14 years as their Marriage and Family Life adviser. Our day will take place in the Apostle Room, Clifton Cathedral; 10am to 3.30pm (refreshments available from 9.30am). Soup, bread and refreshments will be provided for lunch. To register for the day, please use the Eventbrite link: https://marriedcouples.eventbrite.co.uk Places are limited to twenty couples, so please do book early!

ST PATRICK'S RESTORATION APPEAL – BOOK DONATIONS Many thanks for all your donations. We have raised over £300 so far. Please continue to donate. Please check your books have bar codes and leave them in the box at the back of the church.

ST PATRICK'S CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRAW Following the success of our draw last Christmas, we will hold a Christmas draw again with proceeds to our Church Restoration Fund. Donations of Christmas food (within a January 2027 sell by date) and drink etc will be most welcome. Please leave any donations in the Sacristy so that the hamper may be put together. Thank you.

PART TIME/SELF-EMPLOYED ROLE FOR AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED Do you want to do more to support Christians around the world who suffer for their faith? Aid to the Church in Need is seeking Parish Appealers to help share the stories of persecuted Christians in parishes near you. Spend a few weekends each year giving short appeals at Mass. Full training and support are provided, and no fundraising experience is necessary. This flexible, self-employed role is suitable for those who are working, retired, or semi-retired. To view the job description and apply, visit acnuk.org/apply-pa or email Aloma Do Rozario at aloma.dorozario@acnuk.org.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed from 11am on Friday 27th November.

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Corsham: Kath McDonald, Linda Scott, Nick King, Mo Brinn, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Browl, Lindsay Price. Chippenham: David Lunt, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Victoria Kiss, Pamela Naylor, Agnes Tegner, Michael Millard, Patrick Wicks. Pray for all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

Recently Departed: Richard Keat.

RIP Anniversaries: Liberato Pollastrone, Bill Jennings, Win Channon, Babies Freddie and Alfie Pickford, Maria Villar Garcia, Bernard Cavaciuti, Guiseppe Checchia, Frances Davis, Maria Woropay, Maria Standyk.

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

The Holy Father's November Intention: Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be at the service of the common good and in solidarity with those who have less.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Saint Gerard Majella, Knowle.

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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November – The Month of the Holy Souls

Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his faithful ones." Psalm 116:15

The month of November each year is dedicated to commemorating those who have died and departed to their heavenly home. It begins with All Saints Day celebrated to remember all the numerous holy souls who died and are believed to have entered into Heaven. As only some of the popular saints have specific dates dedicated as feasts for remembering them, this day is celebrated to mainly honour all those holy souls that have entered into Heaven and do not have any specific day dedicated in their honour.

The day after All Saints is celebrated as the Commemoration of all the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day) to remember all who have gone before us in the faith. This practice of remembering all the dead is believed to have been instituted by St Odilo of Cluny in the year 1030. He was the fifth Benedictine Abbot of Cluny and is believed to have instituted the annual commemoration of all the faithful departed on November 2nd every year in Cluny and his monasteries. He called for the day to be observed by the members of his community with almsgiving, prayers and sacrifices for the relief of the suffering souls in purgatory. This was eventually added to the calendar of the Catholic Church and today is celebrated to honour all the dead.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says *"Each man receives his eternal retribution in his immortal soul at the very moment of his death, in a particular judgement that refers his life to Christ: either entrance into the blessedness of heaven- through purification or immediately, or immediate and everlasting damnation." (CCC:1022).* Hence those who have lived in God's grace and friendship and are perfectly purified enter into Heaven immediately on death whilst those who die in God's grace and friendship but still are imperfectly purified will eventually enter Heaven but will undergo purification prior to that. The Church gives the name 'Purgatory' to this final purification of the elect. This month is dedicated to these holy souls who are in Purgatory and are being purified. We who are on earth can help these holy souls in their purification by praying for them. The Church from very beginning has always honoured the memory of the dead by offering Holy Masses and prayers, through almsgiving, indulgences and works of penances undertaken for the dead.

Let us dedicate ourselves to praying for the souls of all our departed loved ones as well as those who have no one to pray for them on earth.

Listen kindly to our prayers, O Lord,
and, as our faith in your Son, raised from the dead, is deepened,
so may our hope of resurrection for your departed servants also find new strength.
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 Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe A

(Last Sunday in Ordinary Time)

First reading — Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and male goats.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm — Ps 23(22)

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul.
He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.

Second reading — 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

A reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and Sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

The word of the Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!
Alleluia.

Gospel — Matthew 25:31-46

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." Then the righteous will answer him, saying, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit

you?" And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you did it to me."

'Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, saying, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?" Then he will answer them, saying, "Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'

The Gospel of the Lord.