

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

Website: [www.chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk](http://www.chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk)

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## THE TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*Canon Millett*)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September

Weekday in OT No Mass

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September

Saint Januarius, Bishop, Martyr

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Bridget Smith*)

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September

Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest,

Paul Chong Ha-sang and Companions,

Martyrs

12pm Mass (Cor) (*In thanksgiving*)

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Feast of Saint Matthew,

Apostle and Evangelist

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Ellen Donoghue*)

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Weekday in OT

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Ellen Donoghue*)

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September

Saint Pius of Pietrecina, Priest

4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.20pm – 4.50pm Confessions (Ch)

4.50pm Benediction (Ch)

## THE TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A

**EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY** formerly known as ‘Home Mission Sunday’ is celebrated this Sunday. We proclaim the unique message of the Gospel that brings joy to all people who receive it with an open heart. In 2013, the first year of his pontificate, Pope Francis released an Apostolic Exhortation on the joy of the Gospel titled *Evangelii Gaudium*. In it, he encouraged the Christian faithful to “embark on a new chapter of evangelisation” marked by this joy, whilst striving to find new paths to proclaim the Gospel in today’s world. We cannot forget that evangelisation is first and foremost about preaching the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus Christ or who have always rejected him. Many of these are quietly seeking God, led by a yearning to see his face. Christians have the duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone. *Evangelii Gaudium, §14* This is the challenge and opportunity we take up on Evangelii Gaudium Sunday. A key focus of work for the next few years is responding to Pope Francis’ calling of a Jubilee Year in 2025 with the theme *Pilgrims of Hope*. The Holy Father has invited the whole Church to prepare for the Jubilee in the two years prior through: Reflecting on the four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council in 2023 and deepening our prayer life, with a special focus on the Lord’s Prayer, in 2024. There will be a retiring collection today. This will help to develop new resources and strategies to serve and reach out to the millions who are no longer active in the heart of the parish family.

**RCIA CATECHISTS** The introductory meeting will be held this **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September at 7pm** in St Patrick’s Hall for Catechists from both parishes who would like to assist with the ‘Journey in Faith’ beginning in the autumn. Fr Michael will be outlining the process of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and will give an overview of the rites and the teaching program. Please speak to Fr Michael as soon as possible for more details.

**HARVEST SUPPER** is celebrated on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October in St Patrick’s Hall. Entrance by free ticket available shortly. There will be a raffle and donations are invited. Thank you. All are very welcome.

**ALTAR SERVERS & SAFEGUARDING** Would St Mary’s adult servers who still need to return their application for their DBS certification, please return their forms to the parish office as soon as possible please.

**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE** Bishop Declan is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October at 12noon and is inviting all married couples to join him. All are welcome. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, newly married or looking forward to marriage in 2023, then please contact us at: [adult.education@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com) or telephone 0117 902 5595.

**WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD** - Linking with the first Session of the Synod on Synodality in Rome (October 2023), Clifton Diocese will be exploring the same themes through a series of webinars (7.30-9pm) through September & October. For the series we are delighted to welcome: Bishop John Arnold - 21 September. Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ - 4 October. 'For a Synodal Church - an integral experience' Dr Greg Ryan - 10 October. 'A Communion that Radiates' Jenny Sinclair- 19 October. 'Co-responsibility in Mission - How can we better share gifts and tasks in the service of the Gospel?' Canon Christopher Thomas - 24 October (to be confirmed. 'Participation, governance and authority in a synodal Church' You can register at [Microsoft Virtual Events Powered by Teams](#)

**COVID CASES RISING** As we approach flu season and Covid cases are again rising, we ask all parishioners to be mindful of the elderly and the vulnerable. If you display any symptoms of Covid, do not come to Mass until you have tested negative. If you feel more comfortable coming to church in a mask, please feel free to do so.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** has started at St Patrick's Corsham. The Liturgy will be celebrated at the 9am Sunday Mass on the second and fourth Sunday of the month for children aged 4 to first communion.

**SPUC CAMPAIGN** meeting Wednesday 27 September at 7pm at St John's Catholic Church hall, Bath, BA2 4AF. If you would like to attend the meeting, then please email [katherinehampton@spuc.org.uk](mailto:katherinehampton@spuc.org.uk) or call her on 01892 542616.

**WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?** Would you like to be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist? Would you like to enter the communion with the Catholic Church? If so, our Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)/Journey in Faith might be an exciting journey of faith for you. Please let Fr Michael or our Administrator know if you or someone you know is interested. We will begin our program in the autumn.

**LGBT+ MASS** There will be a monthly celebration of the Eucharist for LGBT+ catholics, families and friends on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm at St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Bristol. All are welcome. The mass is being streamed on the parish website <https://tolentino.org.uk>.

**CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS** from both parishes are warmly invited to a meeting at 7pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November in the Parish office in Chippenham to begin planning for the course next year.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024** Bishop Declan will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation for our parishes on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July next year. Would any young people or adults wishing to be confirmed please contact the parish office to register as soon as possible. Candidates must be 13 or in Year 9 or over at secondary school.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)** Chippenham Saturday 4.20pm – 4.50pm and Corsham after Weekday Masses or by arrangement with Fr Michael.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. It will re-open on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September.

#### **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**The Sick:** Corsham: Richard Keat, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Lindsay Price. Chippenham: Brian Tuersley, Lydia Connell, David Lunt, Jon Taylor, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Nic Pollastrone, Anne Marie Naylor, Chris Rosario, James Carine, Michaela Finn, Alan Houghton, Elena Alberti, Adrian Pycroft, Henny Pycroft. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**RIP Anniversaries:** George Adair, Steve Dawber, Lydda Chave, Lyn James, Muriel Cavaciuti, Bridget Smith, Canon Millett, Ann Jones, Elsie Tovey, Eric Rosario, Helen Cooper, Maria Checchia.

**The Holy Father's Prayer September Intention:** We pray for those people living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** The Sacred Heart, Chew Magna, St Pius X, Withywood.

*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.*

## September – The Month of Our Lady of Sorrows



Over the centuries there grew a custom of devoting certain months of the year to specific spiritual themes. September became known as the month of “Our Lady of Sorrows.” Initially this might seem like a strange designation, as Our Lady of Sorrows is usually connected to Jesus’ crucifixion, which in the Church’s liturgical year is celebrated in March or April. However, early on a feast developed on 14 September named “The Exaltation of the Holy Cross.” Originally this feast celebrated the finding of the Holy Cross by St Helena and the consecration, on 14 September, 335, of the basilicas built by Constantine on the sites of the Holy Sepulchre and Calvary at Jerusalem. This brought into September a particular meditation on the cross of Jesus Christ, and by the 17th century there developed a complementary Marian feast on 15 September.

In the 17th century the Servites celebrated a solemn feast of the Seven Sorrows of Our Lady, which in 1817 was extended to the whole Church by Pope Pius VII as a memorial of his sufferings in exile and captivity and of his deliverance through the Blessed Virgin’s intercession. Furthermore, Pope St Pius X transferred this feast from the third Sunday of September to this octave-day of Our Lady’s Nativity (8 September), in 1912.” Originally this feast was more concerned with Mary’s sufferings throughout her early life, excluding the Passion of Jesus, her Son, but over time it has come to represent all of Mary’s suffering.

### Collect for Our Lady of Sorrows

O God, who willed that, when your Son was lifted high on the Cross,  
his Mother should stand close by and share his suffering,  
grant that your Church, participating with the Virgin Mary in the Passion of Christ,  
may merit a share in his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

### A Prayer for Ukraine

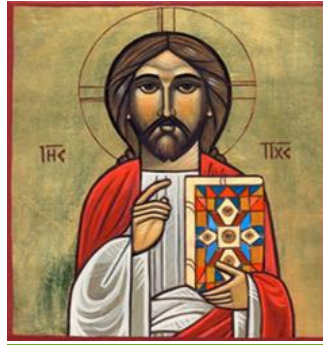


Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.  
We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need.  
May we walk in your ways so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE WORD THIS WEEK

### THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A



#### First reading

*A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus*

Ecclesiasticus 27:30-8:7

Resentment and anger, these are foul things,  
and both are found with the sinner.  
He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord,  
who keeps strict account of sin.  
Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you,  
and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven.  
If a man nurses anger against another,  
can he then demand compassion from the Lord?  
Showing no pity for a man like himself,  
can he then plead for his own sins?  
Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment;  
who will forgive him his sins?  
Remember the last things, and stop hating,  
remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments.  
Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will;  
remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The word of the Lord

#### Responsorial Psalm

*The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.*

Psalm 102(103):1-4,9-12

My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
all my being, bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord  
and never forget all his blessings.

It is he who forgives all your guilt,  
who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave,  
who crowns you with love and compassion.

His wrath will come to an end;  
he will not be angry for ever.  
He does not treat us according to our sins  
nor repay us according to our faults.

For as the heavens are high above the earth  
so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west  
so far does he remove our sins.

### **Second reading**

Romans 14:7-9

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans*

The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The word of the Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

Matthew 18:21-35

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times.'

'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord