

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Fontaine

Presbytery: 30 Park Lane, Corsham, SN13 9LG

Tel: 07552859147

Email: [michael.fontaine@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:michael.fontaine@cliftondiocese.com)

Parish Administrator: Teresa Gosling

Tel: 07552859160

Parish Administration Emails:

[chippenham.stmary@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:chippenham.stmary@cliftondiocese.com)

[corsham.stpatrick@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:corsham.stpatrick@cliftondiocese.com)



## THE THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*David Delaney*)

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass (*Millet family RIP'S*)

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November

Weekday in OT No Mass

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November

The Presentation of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary. 12.10pm Mass (Ch)

(*MacCallum/Hall/Simpkin RIP's*)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

Saint Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr

12pm Mass (Cor)

(*Requiem Mass for Fr John O'Brien*)

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Weekday in OT

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*O'Neill Family RIP's*)

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November

Saints Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and  
Companions, Martyrs

\*11am\* Mass (Cor)

with St Patrick's School joining us for Mass

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November

St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin, M.

4.15pm-4.45pm Confessions (Ch)

4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.50pm Benediction (Ch)

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

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass

(*Gosling Family RIP's*)

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

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

## THE THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A

**MISSIO** There will be a red box appeal for Missio by Dave Wheat this weekend at all masses, at all churches.

**CAFOD - COP28** Pope Francis has warned that recent climate disasters show we are reaching a "breaking point" and that time is running out to avoid even worse catastrophes for communities on the frontline of the crisis. See how you can add your voice to Pope Francis' call and urge leaders to make the most of the COP28 talks taking place this month. COP28: How you can campaign to call for action on the climate crisis ([cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk))

**FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER** Mass at St Patrick's will be at **11am** when the children of St Patrick's school will be joining us again.

**FIRST HOLY HOUR WITH ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** will take place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November in St Patrick's, Corsham, from 5pm to 6pm. The aim is to celebrate this fortnightly in Corsham. After the successful day of adoration recently, we hope that people will want to continue this lovely time of prayer in the presence of the Lord.

**CURRENT STANDING ORDER DONATIONS & ST MARY'S PARISHIONERS** Fr Michael and the Finance Committee of St Mary's thank all who contribute so generously to support our Parish. We are grateful and appreciative of that ongoing generosity. The way in which Standing Order donations are made is now changing due to a new computer system being used by the Diocese for Gift Aid claims. Donations will be paid directly into the Parish bank account rather than via a diocesan bank account. All new standing orders made in the last 18 months will already be making payments direct to the Parish and are not affected by the change, but most standing orders are currently paid to the Diocese and need to change. The Diocese will shortly be writing to you to complete a new Standing Order mandate payable to the parish and to cancel the existing Standing Order paid to the Diocese. This benefits the Parish as we will receive your donation directly each month without any processing delay. Paul Gosling, our new Gift Aid Officer, will be speaking at both masses at St Mary's next weekend and he will be able to help answer any questions you may have. New standing order donors are welcome to join at any time.

**RCIA - JOURNEY IN FAITH** For those interested in being baptized or becoming a Catholic or those who just want to know a bit more about the Catholic Faith, our 'Journey in Faith' sessions have now begun. They take place on Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the office at St Mary's Chippenham. We look forward to welcoming you.

**CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2024** Prior to registering, we ask families to attend Sunday Mass so that the child understands and experiences the presence of Christ in the liturgy

and we may welcome you as a family. Please join our database via the following link [Joint Parish Register - The Catholic Churches of Saint Patrick, Corsham & Our Lady of the Assumption, Chippenham \(chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk\)](https://chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk) Parents wishing to register their child are invited to register at <https://chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk/first-holy-communion/>.

**A REQUIEM MASS FOR FR JOHN O'BRIEN** will be celebrated on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 12noon at St Patrick's. May Fr John rest in peace and rise in glory.

**RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS** In 2021 abortion campaigners brought forward an amendment to the UK Government's flagship Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill that would have introduced abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth (including sex-selective abortion). Thanks to the support from people like you, this amendment did not go to a vote and pass, but we expect the abortion lobby to make another attempt to introduce this extreme abortion law change shortly. This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would leave England and Wales with one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. Please sign the petition to the Prime Minister, asking him to ensure that his Government does everything in its power to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth. Sign the petition to stop abortion up to birth being introduced – [Sign the petition to stop abortion up to birth being introduced – Right To Life UK](#)

**CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL** Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](https://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers."

**STARTING SCHOOL** If you have a child born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020, then now is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from September 2024 onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of Wiltshire Council. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**JOB VACANCY – FINANCE OFFICE SUPPORT** The Finance department based in Alexander House, Bristol, are looking to recruit a team administrator to strengthen its central Finance Office. The role is part-time, 12 hours across three days. Attention to detail, flexible can-do attitude, and the ability to be well organised are important. Experience in a similar role and knowledge of MS Outlook, Word and Excel would be highly beneficial.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - CONFESSIONS** are heard at St Mary's on Saturday between 4.15 pm and 4.45pm and at St Patrick's after the weekday masses or by prior arrangement with Fr Michael.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will be closed next week and re-open on Tuesday 28th November 2023.

#### **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, Chris Rosario, James Carine, Michaela Finn, Alan Houghton, Elena Alberti. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**Recently Departed:** Fr John O'Brien. Ann Marie Naylor (Funeral Mass St Mary's 30<sup>th</sup> November at 12.10pm)

**RIP Anniversaries:** Bill Tovey, Teresa Martin, Kaz Melchert, Richard Pierce, David Delaney.

**The Holy Father's Prayer November Intention:** For the Pope - We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfils his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** St Thomas of Canterbury, Fairford with Cricklade.

*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.*

## 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 on November 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

November 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## Prayer for Reconciliation and Peace in the Holy Land



God of justice and peace  
We bring before you the Israeli and Palestinian people  
in all their need, pain and fear.  
Bring an end to humiliation and injustice, corruption and violence.  
Prosper those who work for peace with justice.  
May all peoples enjoy security and prosperity.  
We ask this through your Son, the Prince of peace,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

## A Prayer for Ukraine

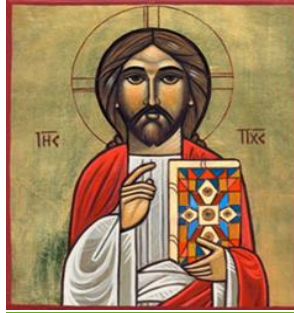


Loving God,  
We pray for the people of Ukraine, for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.  
We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.  
We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in 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 THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A



### First reading

*A reading from the book of Proverbs*

Proverbs 31:10-13,19-20,30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her?  
She is far beyond the price of pearls.  
Her husband's heart has confidence in her,  
from her he will derive no little profit.  
Advantage and not hurt she brings him  
all the days of her life.  
She is always busy with wool and with flax,  
she does her work with eager hands.  
She sets her hands to the distaff,  
her fingers grasp the spindle.  
She holds out her hand to the poor,  
she opens her arms to the needy.  
Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty;  
the woman who is wise is the one to praise.  
Give her a share in what her hands have worked for,  
and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

The word of the Lord

### Responsorial Psalm

*O blessed are those who fear the Lord.*

Psalm 127(128):1-5

O blessed are those who fear the Lord  
and walk in his ways!  
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.  
You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine  
in the heart of your house;  
your children like shoots of the olive,  
around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed  
the man who fears the Lord.  
May the Lord bless you from Zion  
all the days of your life!

## Second reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians*

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about ‘times and seasons’, since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, ‘How quiet and peaceful it is’ that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

The word of the Lord.

## Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Even if you have to die, says the Lord,  
keep faithful, and I will give you  
the crown of life.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: “The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out. “The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ‘Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. “Sir,” he said, “you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made.” ‘His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” ‘Next the man with the two talents came forward. “Sir,” he said, “you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master’s happiness.” ‘Last came forward the man who had the one talent. “Sir,” said he “I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so, I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back.” But his master answered him, “You wicked and lazy servant! So, you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.”

The Gospel of the Lord