

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

5pm (Sat) Vigil Mass (Ch) *(Laura Howlett)*

9am Sung Mass with Baptism (Cor)

(Pro Populo)

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

Monday 22nd May St Rita of Cascia, Rel

No Mass

Tuesday 23rd May Weekday of Easter

12.10pm Mass (Ch) *(Int George Varkey)*

Wednesday 24th May St Aldhelm, Bp

12.00pm (Cor)

Thursday 25th May

St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Dr

12.10pm Mass (Ch) *(Breda Hasberry)*

Friday 26th May St Philip Neri, Pr

12.00pm Mass (Cor)

Saturday 27th May

Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury, Bp

4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.20pm – 4.50pm Confessions (Ch)

4.50pm Benediction

THE SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

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

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass with Confirmation

(Ilaria Aveta)

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER A

WORLD COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY Please pray for all communicators on this World Communications Day, particularly for those who are responsible for communicating on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country. Do read Pope's message for this Sunday at [Pope's Communications Message 2023 - Catholic Bishops' Conference \(cbcew.org.uk\)](https://www.cbcew.org.uk) Today there is a special collection for the Catholic Communications Network.

PENTECOST NOVENA The 2023 Novena to the Holy Spirit began on Friday May 19th. The Church proposes a liturgical Novena, of biblical derivation, before Pentecost. The Roman Calendar speaks of the days between Ascension and Pentecost as "a preparation for the coming of the Holy Spirit," a time to prayerfully consider the role and power of the Holy Spirit in the Church. For the 2023 "Novena to the Holy Spirit," click this link: [Pentecost-Novena.pdf \(cbcew.org.uk\)](https://www.cbcew.org.uk)

ST MARY'S FINANCE COMMITTEE We are looking for people to join our new finance committee. Do you have experience in finance or work in this area or feel you could help in some way? We need your help. Please see Fr Michael or Teresa.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH IN COUNCIL On Thursday 11th May St Patrick's held its 'Parish in Council' meeting where ideas were put forward for developing the parish and helping the community as follows:

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be reintroduced twice a month in the parish for children of Year 3 and below. If you would like to assist, please see Guy Tomlinson.

Lifts to Church Would you like to come to church but cannot get there? Do you have a spare seat in your car, and would you like to bring someone to mass? We would like to offer this service to our parishioners once a month so please could you contact Teresa Gosling if you would like to offer a lift, or you would like one.

Monthly Lunch Would you like to attend a monthly lunch and meet with other parishioners, especially our elderly and housebound? Jane Wragg

has offered to run a lunch once a month after mass on a Wednesday. Please contact Teresa or Jane if you would be interested in this venture. Full details of the Parish meeting will be published on the website. Thank you to all those who attended.

SAFEGUARDING, CORSHAM Jane Wragg has been the parish representative for Safeguarding for eight years and she would like to hand it over to someone else. We thank her for all her hard work for our community and wish her well as she develops her pastoral ministry within the parish. Please speak to Fr Michael or Teresa Gosling if you would like to take on this important and necessary ministry for the parish. Ideally this is a ministry for two people.

CORSHAM FOODBANK urgently needs donations as demand is outstripping their supplies. Please bring your donations to church for the Foodbank to collect.

MUSIC AT MASS We have three groups providing music across our two parishes and we are very grateful for their music ministry. It enriches the celebration of the liturgy. If you would like to help them to sing the Mass, please do have a word as they always welcome new singers (and instrumentalists). We have successfully been singing several Mass settings and will shortly be learning another across the parishes. Do join us in song!

CAFOD Farmers Challenge to the World Bank - Across the world, millions of small-scale farmers are under threat from laws, pushed by the World Bank, that restrict or even criminalise their free access to seeds, and push them towards having to purchase more expensive commercial seeds. But farmers across the world are fighting back. All parishes are invited to take part in this action and show the World Bank that the Catholic community stands in solidarity with small-scale farmers [Fix the Food System \(cafod.org.uk\)](http://cafod.org.uk)

QUIZ NIGHT 'Back by popular request is our fun Quiz Night in aid of the Corsham Churches Foodbank Saturday 1st July at 6.30pm in St Patrick's Hall. Everyone is welcome and there will be a special round for children. Please bring your own drinks and snacks. There will be a raffle. Donations of prizes will be gratefully appreciated. Tickets will be available in due course. £5 per adult, children are free. Everyone will need a ticket to monitor numbers.'

RIGHT TO LIFE UK is asking for donations to support their work against three threats; firstly a change in the law concerning the use of embryos, secondly the assisted suicide lobby want the Government to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide and thirdly, in Scotland the abortion lobby has persuaded the new First Minister to commit to removing abortion from criminal law would be introduce abortion for any reason along with legalizing sex-selective abortion. Please click on this link to donate [Donate now – Right To Life UK](#)

THREE PARENT BABY – LIFE BISHOP'S STATEMENT Bishop John Sherrington, lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference, has made a statement on the use of mitochondrial donation treatment and the birth of a 'three parent baby' (MDT) Ethically this is deeply concerning. It shows a further step in the technical manipulation of new life with the loss of human life as part of the technique.

HOLY COMMUNION OF THE SICK If you are sick/housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion (or the Sacrament of the Sick) at home, please call or ask a member of your family to call Fr Michael or Teresa Gosling our Administrator and we will be very happy to arrange this.

THE PARISH OFFICE is closed on Tuesday 23rd May. It reopens on Thursday 25th May.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

The Sick: Corsham: Coleen Milne, 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, Eoin O Mahony, Alan Houghton, Elena Alberti. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

RIP Anniversaries: Sheila Gadsden, Mike Matthews, Ivan Quine.

The Holy Father's Prayer May Intention: We pray that the Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Cathedral Church of St Peter and St Paul, Clifton, Bristol.

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.

May – The Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary



(The new statue of Our Lady at St Mary's Church)

“I want to encourage everyone to rediscover the beauty of praying the Rosary at home in the month of May.”
-Pope Francis

The month of May is traditionally considered the month of Mary, a month especially dedicated to devotion to Our Lady, the Mother of God and the Mother of all of us. We spend a whole month celebrating especially the Mother, who is model of all mothers, the Mother God chose for His own Son.

This is a month to grow in devotion to Mary as Our Mother. At the foot of the cross, Jesus said to His mother, who was standing with the beloved disciple (who represents each one of us), “Woman, behold your son.” And then to the beloved disciple—and to each of us--“Behold your mother.” And then, the Gospel tells us, “From that hour the disciple took her into his home.” (John 19:26-27) In the month of May, Jesus invites us in a special way to take Mary into our homes, to show her a special honour, to receive her as our Mother in the spiritual life, and to let her lead us closer to the heart of Jesus.

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey
as a sign of salvation and hope.
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,
who, at the foot of the cross,
were united with Jesus' suffering,
and persevered in your faith.
“Protectress of the Roman people”,
you know our needs,
and we know that you will provide,
so that, as at Cana in Galilee,
joy and celebration may return
after this time of trial.
Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
to conform ourselves to the will of the Father
and to do what Jesus tells us.

For he took upon himself our suffering,
and burdened himself with our sorrows
to bring us, through the cross,
to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.
(Pope Francis)

*We fly to your protection,
O Holy Mother of God;
Do not despise our petitions
in our necessities,
but deliver us always
from every danger,
O Glorious and Blessed Virgin.*

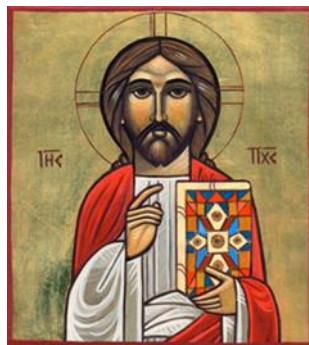
A Prayer for Ukraine



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.
Amen.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER A



First reading

Acts 1:12-14

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

After Jesus was taken up into heaven the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 26(27):1,4,7-8

*I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.*

The Lord is my light and my help;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
before whom shall I shrink?

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
for this I long,
to live in the house of the Lord,
all the days of my life,
to savour the sweetness of the Lord,
to behold his temple.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken:
'Seek his face.'

Second reading

1 Peter 4:13-16

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Jn14:18

Alleluia, alleluia!
I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you,
and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 17:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

‘Father, the hour has come:
glorify your Son
so that your Son may glorify you;
and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him,
let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him.
And eternal life is this:
to know you, the only true God,
and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
I have glorified you on earth
and finished the work that you gave me to do.
Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me
with that glory I had with you
before ever the world was.
I have made your name known
to the men you took from the world to give me.
They were yours and you gave them to me,
and they have kept your word.
Now at last they know
that all you have given me comes indeed from you;
for I have given them the teaching you gave to me,
and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you,
and have believed that it was you who sent me.
I pray for them;
I am not praying for the world
but for those you have given me,
because they belong to you:
all I have is yours
and all you have is mine,
and in them I am glorified.
I am not in the world any longer,
but they are in the world,
and I am coming to you.’

The Gospel of the Lord.