

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Rev J Loveday*)

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

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

Monday 24th July

St Charbel Makhoul, Priest. No Mass

Tuesday 25th July

Feast of Saint James, Apostle

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Anne and Dominic Hart*)

Wednesday 26th July

Saints Joachim and Anne,

Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Kate Godfrey*)

Thursday 27th July Weekday in OT

12pm Mass (Ch) (*Dolly McGovern*)

Friday 28th July Weekday in OT

12.00pm Mass (Cor) (*Brendan McDonald*)

Saturday 29th July

Saints Martha, Mary, and Lazarus

4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.20pm – 4.50pm Confessions (Ch)

4.50pm Benediction (Ch)

THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Newly Baptised*)
with Baptism

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

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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MARCH FOR LIFE UK is taking place in London on Saturday 2nd September. Many are concerned about restrictions on freedom but it's often not until these restrictions affect us personally that we speak up. Abortion destroys the most fundamental freedom, the freedom to live and leaves so many women and men deeply hurting. Join thousands of others for this family-friendly event to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. Full details can be found at marchforlife.co.uk.

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY Pope Francis has instituted this Sunday as World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The theme of the third World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly is, "His mercy is from age to age" (Lk 1:50) which takes us back to the joyful meeting between the young Mary and her elderly relative Elizabeth.

EVANGELIUM 2023 CONFERENCE for young Catholics is taking place from 18-20 August. Guest speakers include Fr Marcus Holden, Mgr Michael Nazir-Ali, Brenden Thompson, Dr Caroline Farey. Standard booking £149 (£129 "early bird" rate*) Concessions available for students £99. Venue: Oratory School, Reading Prices include conference entrance, participant packs, accommodation, full board, and refreshments. For more information or to book a place visit www.saintant.com or call St Anthony Communications on 01834 812643 for more information visit <https://saintant.com/product/evangelium-2023>

FACE COVERINGS & SANITISATION Although these are no longer required you may still wish to wear a mask and sanitize your hands on entering the church if you wish.

JOINT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING scheduled for 27th July has been postponed. Another date will be set shortly.

READERS AT MASS The ministry of proclaiming the Word at Mass is central to the Eucharist. We need more people to take on this ministry in both our Churches. Are you presently exercising a ministry? As a member of the community of the baptized you need to be. This is a wonderful opportunity to serve others. Please see Fr Michael or Teresa Gosling.

CONFIRMATION Would any young people or adults wishing to be confirmed next year please contact the parish office to register your interest. Please note the enquiry needs to come from the young person themselves! Thank you.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW) In the autumn, we hope to resume a CLOW in the parishes. This will take place twice a month so that children continue to experience celebrating all of Mass with the entire

community on other Sundays. CLOW is a lovely children's ritual prayer, and not a Sunday School or child minding. Its purpose is not to give the children colouring-in-type activities to keep them busy so the adults can listen to the homily in peace! It is a liturgical celebration and therefore all the principles of good liturgy (active participation, clear symbols, song etc) apply. It is Liturgy of the Word, centred on the proclamation and breaking open of the Sunday scriptures at a level appropriate to young children. The children do what the rest of the community is doing at this point of the Mass. They listen to the scriptures proclaimed and applied to contemporary life and respond in various ways. It is an experience of liturgical prayer. CLOW is open to children of primary school age who have not yet received their first communion. If you would like to help with this ministry, please see Fr Michael.

ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS SERIES Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering a six-week course for the formation of catechists. The six sessions cover: 1. Introduction to catechesis – 21 September 2. Proclaiming the Good News: Jesus Christ at the heart of catechesis – 28 September 3. The Faith of the Church: Introduction to the Catechism – 5 October 4. Scriptural catechesis: introduction to the Bible – 12 October 5. Methods and Resources – 19 October 6. Preparing a Catechetical Session - 26 October This training is for seasoned or new catechists working with children, young people or adults, for everyone involved in Children's Liturgy of the Word, and for anyone interested in passing on the faith. For parishioners to sign up for the series, they can click on the following link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

SINGING THE MASS During the pandemic we were unable to sing and so many people said they missed being able to praise the Lord in this way. We were cautious in reintroducing congregational singing to maintain safety. Yet, for some time now the congregation has been able to sing the Mass, Psalm responses and hymns. It does seem as if we have forgotten how to sing! Please do pick up your hymn book and join in the singing! This is a major way we actively participate in the Mass. As St Augustine said, 'He who sings, prays twice.' Let us begin to pray twice again.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH? Are you interested to know about the Catholic Faith? Would you like to be baptized, confirmed and receive the Eucharist? Would you like to become a Catholic? Do you know anyone who would like to know more about 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. We explore different aspects of the Catholic faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church. We listen to God's word in Scripture, and we pray together. We hope to begin the RCIA program this autumn. Please let Fr Michael or our Administrator know if you are interested.

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.

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

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, 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.

Recently Departed: Audrey Mallia

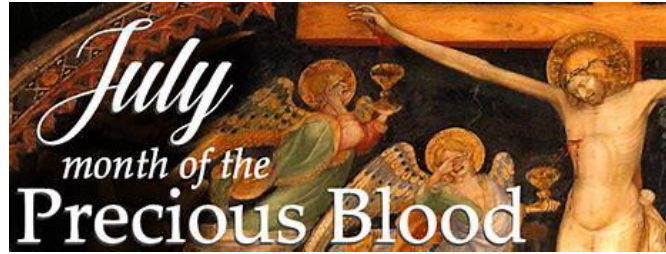
RIP Anniversaries: Tim Dawber, Dorothy Hughes, Kathleen Davies, Brendan Hughes, Mary Conway, Pam Walsh Giuseppe Pollastrone, Helen Baggs, Kath Hewer.

The Holy Father's Prayer July Intention: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Our Lady of the Rosary, Lawrence Weston; Saint Bernard, Shirehampton.

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.

July - The Month of the Precious Blood



The month of July is dedicated to the Precious Blood. The feast of the Precious Blood of our Lord was instituted in 1849 by Pius IX, but the devotion is as old as Christianity. The early Fathers say that the Church was born from the pierced side of Christ, and that the sacraments were brought forth through His Blood.

"The Precious Blood which we venerate is the Blood which the Saviour shed for us on Calvary and reassumed at His glorious Resurrection; it is the Blood which courses through the veins of His risen, glorified, living body at the right hand of God the Father in heaven; it is the Blood made present on our altars by the words of Consecration; it is the Blood which merited sanctifying grace for us and through it washes and beautifies our soul and inaugurates the beginning of eternal life in it."

One of the oldest documents, outside of sacred scripture, from the first century of the Christian era of Pope St Clement I, dated about 96 A.D. says: "Let us fix our gaze on the Blood of Christ and realize how truly precious It is, seeing that it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of conversion to the whole world."

Collect from the Mass of the Precious Blood

"O God, who by the Precious Blood of your Only Begotten Son have redeemed the whole world, preserve in us the work of your mercy, so that ever honouring the mystery of our salvation, we may merit to obtain its fruits.
Through Our Lord...

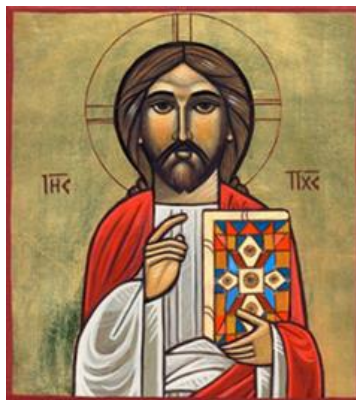
A Prayer for Ukraine



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

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A



First reading

A reading from the book of Wisdom

Wisdom 12:13,16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for every thing,
to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly.
Your justice has its source in strength,
your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.
You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned
and you expose the insolence of those who know it;
but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement,
you govern us with great lenience,
for you have only to will, and your power is there.
By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people
how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men,
and you have given your sons the good hope
that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Psalm 85(86):5-6,9-10,15-16

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice.

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God.

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me.

Second reading

Romans 8: 26-27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus put a parable before the crowds: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn."

He put another parable before them: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through."

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables
and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, "Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us." He said in reply, "The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!"

The Gospel of the Lord