

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

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THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Mrs Bowman*)

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

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

Monday 31st July

St Ignatius Loyola, Priest. No Mass

Tuesday 1st August

Saint Alphonsus Mary Liguori, Bp, Dr

12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*John Stephen Dawler*)

Wednesday 2nd August

Weekday in OT

12pm Mass (Cor) (*Private Intention*)

Thursday 3rd August Weekday in OT

*12pm Mass (Cor)

(*Mass for 10th Wedding Anniversary*)

Friday 4th August St John Vianney, Pr

*12.10pm Mass (Ch) (*Moyra O'Donnell*)

Saturday 5th August

Dedication of the Basilica
of Saint Mary Major

4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.20pm – 4.50pm Confessions (Ch)

4.50pm Benediction (Ch)

SUNDAY OF THE FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*Adrian Pycroft*)

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

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ARCHITECTURAL INSPECTIONS Church buildings are a precious gift from those who have gone before us in the Christian faith. They are places of prayer and contemplation, where we celebrate the faith and where people find courage at every stage of their lives. It is necessary to keep our buildings in good order and fit for purpose. In both our parishes we have commissioned an architect to make thorough architectural inspections of all our buildings, which have now been completed and we await the final reports. The report, which is recommended every five years, is one of the key documents which assists the Finance and Parish Councils in the care and repair of all our buildings and lists the defects observed according to their priority. More details to come.

NEXT SUNDAY we celebrate the beautiful Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord. Please note that the Sunday readings are of the Feast Day.

MIDWEEK MASSES Please note the change in venue of Mass on Thursday and Friday of this week.

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.

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.

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? This is a wonderful opportunity to serve others. Please see Fr Michael or Teresa Gosling.

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 liturgical prayer, and not a Sunday School or child minding. 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. 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.

CONFIRMATION Would any young people or adults wishing to be Confirmed next year please contact the parish office to register their interest. Would candidates please make the request themselves. Thank you.

CAFOD CAMPAIGN- FIX THE FOOD SYSTEM Fix the Food System Campaign is urging the UK government to protect the right of farmers around the world to use their own seeds. For further information on the Campaign please visit the CAFOD campaign website [Five reasons why seed sovereignty matters \(cafod.org.uk\)](https://www.cafod.org.uk)

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.

RCIA CATECHISTS Do you have experience of RCIA, or would you like to be part of the catechetical team? Thank you to those who have volunteered, we have room for more on the team! Please speak to Fr Michael for more details.

WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. It is also a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelisation for the youth world. Although its Catholic identity is clearly evident, WYD opens its doors to everyone, no matter how close to or distant from the Church they are. This year, WYD will take place on 1-6 August in Lisbon, Portugal.

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.

NEWSLETTER Items for inclusion in the weekly newsletter should reach the office by Wednesday please.

A WARM WELCOME to visitors and holidaymakers who join us for Mass over the summer. If you are new to the Parish, you too are very welcome! Please do introduce yourself to us after Mass so that we can properly welcome you!

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.

Funeral Mass: Colleen Milne on Tuesday 8th August at 12pm at St Patrick's.

RIP Anniversaries: Alan Colesby, Noel Buddle, Judith Harris, Kathleen Quince, Desmond McKenna.

The Holy Father's Prayer August Intention: We pray that World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Patrick, Brockworth, Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Church

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.

August – The Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary



We know that traditionally May is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary. October to the Holy Rosary, and Our Lady of the Rosary. Now it's time to also remember something little realised or often forgotten. August is the month traditionally dedicated by to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In fact, August once saw the celebration of the feast of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. In 1944 Venerable Pope Pius XII set this feast to be celebrated on 22nd August as the Octave of the Assumption. Two years earlier he had consecrated the Christian family and whole human race to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the 25th anniversary of the Fatima apparitions. Then in 1969, St. Pope Paul VI moved the date to the Saturday after the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. August still has three Marian feasts –the Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major (also remembering Our Lady of the Snows) on Aug. 5; the Assumption on Aug. 15; the Queenship of Mary on Aug. 22. The roots of the devotion to Mary's Heart are in Scripture, where on two occasions reference is made to Mary's heart by St Luke. He refers to Luke 2:19 "Mary treasured all these things and reflected on them in her heart," and Luke 2:51 "His mother (Mary) meanwhile pondered all these things in her heart."

The expression 'Mary's heart' is to be understood in a biblical sense: it denotes the person of the Blessed Virgin herself, her intimate and unique being; the centre and source of her interior life, of her mind and memory, of her will and love; the single-mindedness with which she loved God and the disciples and devoted herself wholeheartedly to the saving work of her Son.

Lord our God, you made the Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary the home of your eternal Word and the sanctuary of the Holy Spirit. Give us a heart that is free from sin and attentive to your will, that, faithful to your commandments, we may love you above all things and seek to help others in their need. 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.

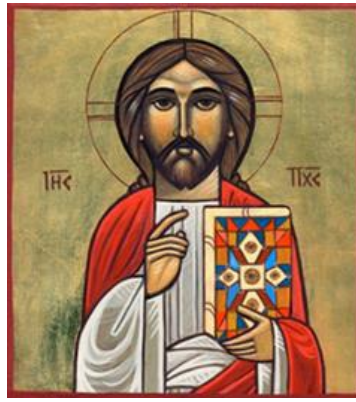
A Prayer for Ukraine



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 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A



THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First reading

A reading from the first book of the Kings

1 Kings 3:5,7-12

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, 'Ask what you would like me to give you.' Solomon replied, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its number cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. 'Since you have asked for this' the Lord said 'and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

Lord, how I love your law!

Psalm 118(119):57,72,76-77,127-130

My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold.

Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come and I shall live
for your law is my delight.

That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways.

Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple.

Second reading

Romans 8: 28-30

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

We know that by turning everything to their good, God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the crowds, 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

'Have you understood all this?' They said, 'Yes.' And he said to them, 'Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.'

The Gospel of the Lord