

THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF CHIPPENHAM & CORSHAM

Website: www.chippenham-and-corsham-catholics.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Michael Fountaine

Presbytery: 30 Park Lane, Corsham, SN13 9LG

Tel: 07552859147

Email: michael.fountaine@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Administrator: Teresa Gosling

Tel: 07552859160

Parish Administration Emails:

chippenham.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

corsham.stpatrick@cliftondiocese.com



THE TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

5pm (Sat) (Ch) Vigil Mass (*S & T Boyd*)

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

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

Monday 4th September

Saint Cuthbert, Bishop No Mass

Tuesday 5th September

Weekday in OT

12.10pm Mass (Ch) pm (*In Thanksgiving*)

Wednesday 6th September

Weekday in OT

12pm Mass (Cor) (*For teachers and students*)

Thursday 7th September

Weekday in OT

12.10pm Mass (Ch)

Friday 8th September

Feast of the Nativity of
the Blessed Virgin Mary

12pm Mass (Cor)

Saturday 9th September

Weekday in OT

4.15pm Eucharistic Adoration (Ch)

4.20pm – 4.50pm Confessions (Ch)

4.50pm Benediction (Ch)

THE TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

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

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

11am (Ch) Sung Mass

(*Birthday Renisha Fernandes*)

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE Bishop Declan is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 14 October (12 noon) and invites all married couples to join him. Please let Fr Michael or Teresa know if you are due to be engaged or if you are celebrating your 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th, or 70th anniversaries during 2023 and they pass on your names to the Bishop.

EDUCATION SUNDAY falls on the second Sunday of September (10 September, this year) just as the new academic year starts. This is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 175 years ago in 1848. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead. Dave Wheat, one of the Foundation Governors at St Mary's School, Chippenham, will speak at the conclusion of both Masses at St Mary's Church about the successes of the school and appeal for prayerful support.

ST MARY'S FINANCE COUNCIL – NEW TREASURER We thank Brian Clark for taking on the role of Treasurer for St Mary's Parish. Teresa and Brian are undergoing a lot of training with the diocese to implement the new diocesan systems. Also, a big thank you to Vic Steadman the Corsham treasurer for all his ongoing and invaluable assistance.

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD – JOURNEYING TOGETHER FROM VISION INTO ACTION 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 and October. Beginning our series, we are delighted to welcome Rt Rev Bishop John (Salford Diocese) on 21 September; who will set our series within the context of the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church – Lumen Gentium. [Click here to register](#)

SEASON OF CREATION - On Friday September 1st we entered into the Season of Creation 2023. The theme this year is "Let Justice and Peace Flow," with the central Scripture reference "A mighty river" (Amos 5:24). It is a time for us to heed Pope Francis's call to develop an integral ecology – among other things, uniting our care for our common home with our response to the cry of the poor – in our personal, family, and community lives. One way to prepare for the Season is through prayer. The Laudato Si Movement has produced a prayer book with plenty of options and inspirations. You can find it for free online here [Laudato Si' Movement Prayer Book](http://LaudatoSiMovement.org) ([laudatosimovement.org](http://LaudatoSiMovement.org)) Follow us on Facebook at Clifton Evangelist, Instagram @CliftonEvangelist, and Twitter @CliftonEvangelist throughout the Season for more!

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING our next joint parish Council will be held in Corsham on 14th September at 7pm.

NEWSLETTER You can find this newsletter and previous ones on our Parish website. We ask you to take a paper copy only if you cannot access it online. We can also email the newsletter to you each week if you let us know via the parish office.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD begins shortly at St Patrick's Corsham. We thank Guy Tomlinson for taking on this ministry and thank those who have offered to help. The Liturgy will be celebrated at the 9am Mass on Sundays twice monthly.

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.

CALLING RCIA CATECHISTS an introductory meeting will be held on Thursday 21st 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. Thank you to those who have volunteered, we have room for more on the team! Please speak to Fr Michael as soon as possible for more details.

CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS from both parishes are warmly invited to a meeting at 7pm on Wednesday 8th 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 11th 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.

CATECHESIS In partnership with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, we are offering a day to explore the ministry of catechesis. As well as celebrating Mass and taking time to pray together, we will look at the vocation of the catechist, how we integrate catechesis into the wider Church, the formation of the catechist and how to plan a catechetical session. This rich day of formation is for seasoned catechists, and anyone who feels called to this ministry but might not feel equipped. The date is Saturday 28 October at St John the Baptist, Trowbridge. We will begin with prayer at 10am, refreshments from 9.15am and the day will end at 4pm. We ask attendees to bring a packed lunch. Participants can sign up for the day via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/668215439367>

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, 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.

Recently Departed: Eoin O'Mahony.

RIP Anniversaries: Bob Kucharek, June Broom, John Naylor, Lottie Grogan, Mary Snow, Antonio Checchia, Gary Willcox.

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: St Gregory the Great, St Thomas More, Cheltenham.

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 there developed a feast 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.

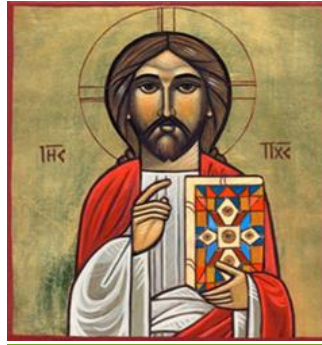
A Prayer for Ukraine



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-SECOND SUNDAY OF THE YEAR A



First reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

Jeremiah 20:7-9

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock,
everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.'
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

Psalm 62(63):2-6,8-9

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Second reading

Romans 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

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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 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord