ADMINISTRATION OF OUR PARISHES Teresa Gosling has taken up her new post as administrator of our two parishes this week. Teresa will be working on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am to 3pm. Please note the new contact deals. All parish admin emails will go to Teresa. To contact Fr Michael personally it is important that you use his email michael.fountaine@cliftondiocese.com and NOT the administration emails. Please also note the new telephone numbers for Fr Michael and for Teresa. (See above) Thank you.

TONY SUTTON Ann and family sincerely wish to thank you all for your love and kind words of support, prayers and Mass intentions for Tony. It is so very much appreciated.

NEXT WEEKEND We celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This has been transferred from Monday to the weekend.

HELP YOUR MARRIAGE Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about ‘Retrouvaille’ or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 13 - 16 October 2022 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 24 - 26 February 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

MINISTERS OF THE WORD St Mary’s is looking for more people to serve as readers, particularly midweek. If you would like to take a turn, please let us know. Thank you.

THE NATIONAL SYNTHESIS, which reflects on Synod reports received by the national team, discerning the main themes emerging
from conversations, and collating them together to give a picture of the synodal process in England and Wales, has been published and can be accessed on the synod tab on [www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/06/synod-national-synthesis-england-wales.pdf](http://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/06/synod-national-synthesis-england-wales.pdf) The Corsham PPC was joined by members of the Chippenham congregation to take a look at the Parish/Diocesan/National responses last week and to coordinate our joint parish mission plan for discussion in the parishes.

**ST MARYS ROTAS** are now available in Church for readers and ministers of communion.

**YOUNG CHILDREN AT ST MARY’S** There is a baby nappy changing facility in the cloakroom for use by parents. Also, if your child needs a little quiet to calm him/her during the celebration of Mass, please do use the office to settle them.

**NEWSLETTER** In the autumn we will begin sending copies of the newsletter/bulletin to parishioners of both parishes by email. If you would like to receive a copy each week by email, please send a request to Teresa at Parish Admin.

**FOR CATHOLICS IN HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE** The Anscombe Bioethics Centre is an organisation which does research on behalf of our Bishops and education for the Catholic community on moral matters in medicine. They have a new website which has resources which will benefit parishioners who are doctors, nurses, or others who work or study in fields related to health and social care. You can access and benefit from their work through their website and social media: [www.bioethics.org.uk](http://www.bioethics.org.uk). You can also sign up to their monthly digest for the latest news, events, and accessible briefings on moral matters in medicine, here [https://bit.ly/ABCSubscribe](https://bit.ly/ABCSubscribe)

**LGBT+ MASS** A monthly celebration of Mass for LGBT+ Catholics, family and friends. Sunday 21st August at 3pm at St Nicholas of Tolentino RC Church, Lawfords Gate, Easton, Bristol, BS5 0RE. All are welcome

**INFANT BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSIONS** We apologize that last Saturday’s session was cancelled due to illness. The next session will be held on Saturday 17th Sept 10.30am -12pm in St Patrick’s Church Hall, Corsham. Parents (and Godparents, if available) are asked to attend and a date for the baptism will be set with Fr Michael after attending the preparation. Please pick up a baptismal application form after Sunday Mass.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC** - Are you interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith or becoming a Catholic? Do you know anyone who may be interested in becoming a Catholic? If so, please talk to Fr Michael.

**NOTICES FOR THE NEWS BULLETIN** by Wednesday morning to admin please.

**Pleasing REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

**The Sick:** Corsham: Richard Morris, Terry Yates, Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Browl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, Lindsay Price. Chippenham: Mary Hammond, Lydia Connell, Muriel Cavaciuti, David Lunt, Jon Taylor, Michael Kenny, Mike Merry, Jane Kelson, Nic Pollastrone, Anne Marie Naylor, Tom Hughes, Chris Rosario, Colette, Lizzie. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**RIP Anniversary:** Jose Manuel Marti, Archie Smith, Peter Frostick, Fr Genignus Millett, Eileen Byrne.

**Recently Departed:** Solomon

**For Ukraine & all Refugees**

**The Holy Father’s August Prayer Intention:** For small and medium sized businesses; in the midst of economic and social crisis, may they find ways to continue operating, and serving their communities.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** St Peter, Cirencester; St Aldhelm, Malmesbury; St Michael, Tetbury.
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.”

**Mary Herself Tells Us**

After the revelations at Fatima and those later to Lucia, devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary spread rapidly. Our Lady mentioned her Immaculate Heart in her second apparition in June. She told Lucia she would stay on the earth after her cousins went to heaven since Jesus wishes you to make me known and loved on earth. He wishes also for you to establish devotion in the world to my Immaculate Heart.

Our Blessed Mother also told her, *I will be with you always, and my Immaculate Heart will be your comfort and the way which will lead you to God.*

Jesus, her Son, wants to make her known and loved with devotion established in the world to her Immaculate Heart. And the Immaculate Heart will not only be our comfort, but the way that will lead us to God. 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.

Amen.

THE WORD THIS WEEK

THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY ON ORDINARY TIME C
First reading
A reading from the book of Wisdom
Wisdom 18:6-9

That night had been foretold to our ancestors, so that, once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in, they would joyfully take courage.
This was the expectation of your people, the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies; for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes you made us glorious by calling us to you.
The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret and this divine pact they struck with one accord: that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike; and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 32(33):1,12,18-20,22

Happy are the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.
They are happy, whose God is the Lord, the people he has chosen as his own.

The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Second reading
A reading from the letter to the Hebrews
Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.
It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead; and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

The word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation**

Mt11:25

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children.
Alleluia!

**Gospel**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke


Jesus said to his disciples: ‘There is no need to be afraid, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you the kingdom.

‘Sell your possessions and give alms. Get yourselves purses that do not wear out, treasure that will not fail you, in heaven where no thief can reach it and no moth destroy it. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

‘See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

Peter said, ‘Lord, do you mean this parable for us, or for everyone?’ The Lord replied, ‘What sort of steward, then, is faithful and wise enough for the master to place him over his household to give them their allowance of food at the proper time? Happy that servant if his master’s arrival finds him at this employment. I tell you truly, he will place him over everything he owns. But as for the servant who says to himself, “My master is taking his time coming,” and sets about beating the menservants and the maids, and eating and drinking and getting drunk, his master will come on a day he does not expect and at an hour he does not know. The master will cut him off and send him to the same fate as the unfaithful.

The servant who knows what his master wants, but has not even started to carry out those wishes, will receive very many strokes of the lash. The one who did not know, but deserves to be beaten for what he has done, will receive fewer strokes. When a man has had a great deal given him, a great deal will be demanded of him; when a man has had a great deal given him on trust, even more will be expected of him.’

The Gospel of the Lord.