

# SALISBURY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

Part of the Clifton Diocese: Registered Charity 1170168 Company No 10462074

## THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

### From Father Anthony...

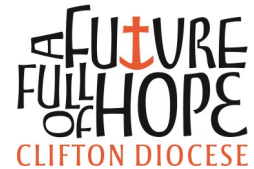
Up from the horizon, inky cloud boiled and bubbled. Sharp wind swept the beach, swirled sand and stung my face. The sea rose and subsided like a massive belly: racing waves foamed and tumbled. Arms taut, legs bent, wet suited Kite Surfers pulled against wires; boards skimmed like flat stones. Bursts of sunlight magnified the coloured canopies which fluttered in haphazard harmony. Occasionally one would bounce off a wave, hang in the air and descend with a splash. I counted seven of them... the number of completion!

There is a time to 'bounce' up and away from the life we are living so as to understand it spiritually (*see it*). Our Lady's life and name point to how this is done. Her name 'Mary', suggests the method. Remember, it conveys elements of becoming the *beloved* by *rebellious* against all that is not of God. She 'pushes the world away' by making Assumptions and living by them.

The Word Assumption comes from the Latin *assumere*, meaning, 'to take to oneself'. Rather than allowing the external world to *consume* us we push it away by *taking to ourselves* a particular way of life; the life of Heaven. In time that Life will *assume us*, and make us like itself. Heaven is found within: therefore, we *take to ourselves* something to be found within (*the child*). The assumptions we make and live by... is the Magnificat. Each stanza contains what we *take to our self* (*assume*). In time the sentiments expressed, will transform us (*assume us*). For example, 'My soul magnifies the Lord', I *become the image and likeness of God that I Am*. 'My spirit rejoices in God', – *finds life in God, not the world*.

The business of the soul is to magnify, to enlarge or become like; it will magnify what it is given – good or bad! We must be careful what we feed it, watching what we think, say and do in the light of the assumptions. If not compatible... drop it. This is the *wilderness* mentioned in Revelation, where the woman is fed and looked after.

Living like Mary, we are led into the hill country (*spirit*). We enter the house of Zachariah (*meaning, wisdom through remembrance of who we really are*) and greet Elizabeth (*meaning, the God of Seven, Completion, Love*). The child within us (*soul*) jumps for joy when it recognises itself as the Spirit we actually are.



### PASTORAL TEAM

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### Parish Office

Open: Monday-Friday 0900 to 1700

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**OUR CHURCHES**  
**St Osmund**  
95 Exeter Street SP1 2SF

**St Gregory & the English Martyrs**  
St Gregory's Ave SP2 7JP

**Most Holy Redeemer**  
Fotherby Crescent SP1 3EG

**Chapel of the Good Shepherd**  
Barford Lane, Downton SP5 3QA

**Chapel of the Holy Family**  
Southampton Rd, Whaddon SP5 3EB

**NEW TO THE PARISH?**  
We wish you a very warm welcome.  
Please register online at:  
<https://salisburycatholics.org>  
click "Registration/update"

**REGISTERED PARISHIONERS  
TO DATE : 2804**

## COVID 19 – STEP 4 - MESSAGE FROM FR ANTHONY

Greetings,

I hope you are well and are having an enjoyable summer. I'm just back from two weeks away for which I am very grateful... and refreshed. As promised, I can now issue revised guidance. Caution, common sense, and sensitivity towards the concerns of others must still remain watchwords. Given Government and Social trends and, in consultation with the Diocese and our Pastoral Team, I want to make the following changes:

**1. From Monday 16 August:**

- There is no longer any need to book for Mass
- Stewards will remain and guide people to pews in order to maximise capacity, safely
- I advise continuing to sanitise hands and wear face masks
- Buildings will continue to be well-ventilated
- Surfaces and frequent-touch points will continue to be sanitised after use
- Holy Communion will continue under one kind only
- The Collection will be taken at the end of Mass as we leave

**2. From 6th of September:**

- Weekday Masses will resume at St Gregory's and Holy Redeemer as follows;
  - o Holy Redeemer, Wednesday 10:00 (i.e. commencing 8 Sept)
  - o St Gregory's, Friday at 10:00 (i.e. commencing 10 Sept)
- We will re-introduce singing at Mass
- We will re-introduce the Offertory Procession and Bidding Prayers
- Tea and Coffee will be available in the Halls after Mass, where this is possible, and for those who wish it
- We are working towards the reintroduction of children's liturgy – more on this later

**3. The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales hope to reintroduce the Sunday Obligation by the First Sunday in Advent. Therefore:**

- There is still no obligation to attend Mass on Sunday.
- For those who prefer to continue social-distancing, the options of following on the Livestream or attending Mass during the week still remain.

Obviously, we must remain vigilant and flexible. I will continue to monitor events closely and keep you updated.

Finally, there are so many people I want to thank... and I will do so. For the time being, you know who you are. Without you we could not have remained open and continued our common life, in the manner we have, against such variable and severe odds. We owe you a great debt of gratitude. Thank you.

With love and prayers.

Anthony

## BAPTISMS

For baptism preparation at Holy Redeemer and St Osmund please contact Deacon John Proctor to register on 07802 631968 or email: [john.proctor@cliffondiocese.com](mailto:john.proctor@cliffondiocese.com) For baptism preparation at St Gregory's, please contact Deacon Steve Godwin by email [stephen.godwin@cliffondiocese.com](mailto:stephen.godwin@cliffondiocese.com)

Congratulations and welcome to Abigail Elizabeth Mowbray and Oliver Graca who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this Saturday 14 August. Please keep Abigail, her parents Mary & Luke and Oliver, his parents Paulina & Krystian in your prayers at this special time.

## THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into Heaven is the bodily taking up of the Virgin Mary into Heaven at the end of her earthly life. This belief is part of the treasury of the Roman Catholic Church, Eastern Orthodoxy, Oriental Orthodoxy and parts of Anglicanism. This doctrine was dogmatically defined by Pope Pius XII on 1 November 1950. To discover more about Catholic teaching about the Assumption, read the brief article by theologian Edward Sri our website. Click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

### **Saint Bernard, Abbot: 20 August**

Bernard's life in the Church was more active than we can imagine possible today. His efforts produced far-reaching results. But he knew that they would have availed little without the many hours of prayer and contemplation that brought him strength and heavenly direction. His life was characterised by a deep devotion to the Blessed Mother. His sermons and books are still the standard of Marian theology. To find out more about St Bernard, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

### **Saint Pius X: Pope 21 August**

"I was born poor, I lived poor, I will die poor." These words were part of the will that Pope Pius X left at his death on August 20, 1914. He was born Giuseppe Melchiorre Sarto, the second of 10 children. His father was a poor parish clerk in Riese, Italy, and his mother worked as a seamstress. For the story of St Pius X please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

### **The Gospel according to John.**

Fr Jonathan has recently encouraged us all to 'take on board' the whole of John's Gospel and not just the parts we hear or read at Mass. To facilitate this, we have made available on our website a narrated audio of each of the first 6 chapters. To listen just click on the 'Gospel of John' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**Music in Isolation** - to celebrate the Feast of the Assumption, we have placed a version of the Ave Regina Caelorum on our 'Music in Isolation' page, just click on the button on our 'Homepage' or [click here](#).

### **Parish Mission: What matters now?**

A Mission is planned for the week commencing Monday 31 August. Each evening session will commence at 19:00, will be led by the Alabare community and will alternate between the churches of St Osmund and St Gregory. The mission will culminate with a lunch at St Gregory's Hall on Saturday 4 September from 12:00 to 14:00. We hope that many parishioners will attend all or in part. Please find the full details by clicking the button on our Homepage or [click here](#).

**The God Who Speaks.** This week's reflection on The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is by Sister Mary Mediatrix of the Society of the Our Lady and the Holy Trinity. To watch & listen [click here](#) or click on 'The God Who Speaks' button on our homepage.

**Sunday Homily by Bishop Robert Barron.** "Friends, today on this marvellous Solemnity of the Assumption of the Virgin, we celebrate Mary's Assumption, body and soul, into heaven. But this does not mean that she has gone away; she is a warrior, involved in the struggle against evil from a new vantage point.". To listen, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

