

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 4(A)

From Father Anthony

Thick snowflakes fell from swollen dense grey clouds bruised with mauve. The town looked magnificent in its white mantle; I couldn't help thinking *never in all his glory was Solomon so arrayed (Mt 6.29)*. We made our way to the sea front. The promenade was deserted. Occasional gulls floated by in silence. Waves roared and thundered as they exploded against the sea wall sending spume high into the air. Sunlight blinked over the orangey rim of the clouds and glinted off the sea. It was awe inspiring; I felt insignificant in the face of such power, majesty and beauty.

We spoke about the practice of coming into the presence of Christ. This Presence will *'take us up the mountain'* (an eponymous metaphor for *'teaching in spirit'*). This teaching is not found in books or classrooms. His Presence effects a change in our minds and hearts which we only become aware of afterwards. We look back and realise that the 'landscape of our mind' has changed revealing its simple poverty. It is not so much that we become aware of His majesty but that we realise how beggarly in spirit we actually are in the face of it (*blessed are the poor in spirit... the word for poor means beggarly*). We realise that no matter who or what we are we cannot 'boast' (*hold our heads up high*) other than to boast that, in our being, we are a gift of God. I may be the greatest scientist, thinker, artist, entrepreneur or whatever: none of it did I create myself. It was all given (*enabled*) by God. Even the ability to refine the gift for better or worse, is itself God's gift (*free will*). In the face of such awesomeness, our human spirit feels small. And so it should, for so it is. It is God's gift that we 'boast' about as St Paul mentions (*'boast' means, 'hold ones heads up high'*). We never look up to or down upon anyone but, in awe, see only God in them.

We have said many times that prayer is an exchange of wishes where we come to accept God's wishes for us. It is also an experience of *'going up the mountain'* where in the presence of His Divine majesty we experience our own small beggarliness... in order to experience, at the same time, our true magnificence as a reflection of His Glory.



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Anthony B Paris VF (Parish Priest)
01722 333581 or 07544 053785
anthony.paris@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Jonathan Creer (Pastor of Sarum
Ordinariate & Assistant Priest)
07724 896579
jonathan.creer@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Joseph Columba Meigh
(Assistant Priest)
01722 333581
joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Detain (Deacon)
01722 415588
john.detain@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Stephen Godwin (Deacon)
07583 254488
stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Proctor (Deacon)
07802 631968
john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office
Monday-Friday 0900 - 1600

01722 562703
office@salisburycatholics.org

Caroline Williams
caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

Désirée office@salisburycatholics.org

Tony outreach@salisburycatholics.org

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"

BUILDING WORKS IN ST OSMUND CHURCH

Due to the recent dry weather and an increase in labour at the outset, the work on the south side of the church roof is complete ahead of schedule. Therefore, with immediate effect, all Masses at St Osmund will return to the Church. All-day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction will also return on Tuesday and Thursday. There is still more work to be done and we will keep you updated as this progresses.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - 2 FEBRUARY

In obedience to the Old Law, Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by his Mother and Saint Joseph. This is another 'epiphany' celebration insofar as the Christ Child is revealed as the Messiah through the canticle of Simeon and the testimony of Anna. Christ is the light of the nations, hence the blessing and the procession of candles on this day. There will be the traditional blessing of candles at our Mass for the Feast of Candlemas at St Osmund on Thursday at 10am. For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Tuesdays in Lent - Bewildering Books, Challenging Chapters, Villains in Verses

There's a lot of strange stuff in the Bible! How a good Catholic grasp of Old and New Testaments will bring joy to your Lent, your life and your longings, and give glory to God. 7.30 - 8.45pm at Riverside House (way down the end of Watt Road) starting 28th February. Need a lift? Ask a deacon.

Holocaust Memorial Day 27 January - Bishop Declan Lang, Chair of the Bishops' Conference International Affairs department, encouraged us to pause on Holocaust Memorial Day 27 January, to remember the millions who were murdered and pray that 'love will triumph over evil'. For more, including a resource with reflections and prayers, please click on the image in the Top News box or [click here](#).

Salisbury Foodbank. Our January collection of items for the Foodbank ends this weekend. Thank you for your generosity. The next collection will be during Lent and details will be announced shortly.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Parish Coronation Tea - Sunday 7 May 23 at 3 pm at The White Hart Hotel. This will be a ticketed event, all the details of the event and how to book will follow in the near future.

DBS To all our parishioners who volunteer in ministry with children or who take the Blessed Sacrament to homes, care homes or the hospital, please contact the parish office and we will check that your DBS (safeguarding) certificate is up to date. Thanks to all those currently completing and returning their forms.

My Generation will be meeting next Wednesday 1 February 2023 for Bingo at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

Rosary Group has now recommenced for 2023, the group meets to pray the Rosary together via Zoom on each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Please contact Josephine on 01722 328410 or email: josephineandgin@hotmail.co.uk for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

Choir for Easter Triduum in St Osmund's - Following the wonderful success of our Advent Carol Service, Fr Joseph is, once again, organising a group of singers - this time to support and enhance the music at our Triduum liturgies in St Osmund's Church. There will be rehearsals in the weeks leading up to Easter and everyone is welcome. Please inform the office if you would like to join in - more information to follow, watch this space.

MASS FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH - FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY 7PM AT ST OSMUND

On the eve of the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, there will be a vigil Mass offered for all those in our Parish who are suffering any form of illness. After Mass there will be a period of Adoration and Prayer and there will be the opportunity to receive the Sacraments of the Sick and Confession. All welcome.

SHARING OUR FAITH

Nicodemus Group is a group of people who share their faith (or lack of it!) with others in a very simple way; by sharing a meal together and reading the Gospels. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 1 February. The venue is St Elizabeth Hall, 131 Exeter Street 7– 8.30pm

Journey in Faith is an ongoing programme for adults interested in Christianity who are not confirmed Catholics. The next meeting is this Sunday 29 January followed by Sunday 19 February both at 3pm in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund.

For more information please visit 'Becoming Catholic' on our website main menu or [click here](#). If you are interested or wish to ask questions about any of the above, please contact Dave Blake by email nicodemus@salisburycatholics.org or phone the parish office on 01722 562703.

RITE OF ELECTION - SATURDAY 25 FEBRUARY

On the first Saturday of Lent, as at the start of every Lent, our diocesan family gathers together at Clifton Cathedral to celebrate the Rite of Election, where those who are journeying towards becoming part of our Catholic community are presented to Bishop Declan. Here, family and friends, sponsors and godparents, join with those preparing for Baptism (catechumens) and those preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church (candidates). There are two important elements to this Rite - a sending and a receiving. We, the parish, 'send' those planning to join our Church at Easter. This is our public pronouncement that they are ready to enter a covenant relationship through participation in the sacramental life of the Church. Those who are 'sent' can then be received: the Bishop accepts the parish community's judgement, receives them and invites them to enter their names in the Book of the Elect. This year, we are delighted to be 'sending' 5 adults to Clifton Cathedral from our parish and all parishioners are welcome to travel to Clifton Cathedral for this liturgy. If you would like to attend, contact the parish office 01722 562703 office@salisburycatholics.org Please keep all of our candidates in your prayers as they begin this important stage in their faith journey.

ADVANCE NOTICE - Chrism Mass in Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday 5 April. We have booked a small coach to travel to the Chrism Mass which will be picking up in Salisbury and Amesbury. If you would like to join our priests and deacons at this Mass, please contact the office office@salisburycatholics.org

Healing Prayer Ministry will be held at St Gregory on Sundays commencing 5 February after the 9am Mass at the front of the church. Healing prayer is a targeted prayer session that facilitates an encounter with God. The prayers offered are for anyone suffering from a difficulty such as financial, physical, psychological, or spiritual.

Confirmation 2023 Confirmation in the Salisbury Deanery will be on 27 June this year and our programme will begin on 7 March. The deadline for applications to join the programme is **28 February** after which all applications will be deferred until 2024. If you know of anyone in school Year 9 or above who hopes to be confirmed this year, they must apply online **NOW**. Click on the 'Registration/Update' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Congratulations to Jasper Clavering Hartgill who received the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend at St Osmund's. Please keep Jasper and his parents Christina & James and the godparents in your prayers at this special time.

Baptism Preparation continues today Sunday 29 January and 5 February at St Osmund. To arrange for a baptism please complete an application by clicking on the 'Registration' button on our homepage or by [clicking here](#). For further information please contact John Proctor on 07802 631968 or Steve Godwin on 07583 254488.

First Holy Communion Programme 2022/2023 Details are on our website, please click on 'Sacraments' on our main menu and then on 'Holy Communion' or [click here](#). The next session will be on Saturday 4 February at 2pm in St Gregory's Church for the children. It is very important that all sessions are attended. For further information please contact Father Anthony or Deacon John Detain.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Ordinary Time Week 4 and Psalter 4

Weekday Masses at St Osmund have returned to the Church Adoration and Benediction will taken place on Tuesday and Thursday as normal.

Saturday 28 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Michael, Peter & Susan Leyden RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Ann Burnell RIP

SUNDAY 29 January

09:00 St Gregory MASS Alan Gibson RIP
09:00 St Osmund MASS Gwynne Lewis - 80th Birthday
11:00 St Osmund MASS Francis Conio RIP
12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS
18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

Monday 30 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

Tuesday 31 January Saint John Bosco

10:00 St Osmund MASS Breeda Falconer RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 1 February

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Damien Fleming RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

Thursday 2 February THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

10:00 St Osmund MASS Breeda Falconer RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 3 February

10:00 St Gregory MASS Bridie & Harry Clapham RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS Arthur & Mary Buck RIP

Saturday 4 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Frank Farley RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Doris & Nick Phelan RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

St Osmund Saturdays After the 10:00 Mass

Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

And by appointment with our priests.

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR JANUARY

For Educators:

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parishes of: St John the Baptist (Trowbridge) and St Bernadette (Westbury).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pamela Finch, Michael Villis, Alma Bradley, Breeda Falconer and David Stockley who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13

Psalms 145

How happy are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

Matthew 5:1-12

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS For baptisms please register your application [click here](#). For more information contact Deacon John Proctor or Deacon Stephen Godwin.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION If you have a child who will be in Year 3 or above from September 2024, please use our online form to apply to join our next preparation programme. [Click here](#).

CONFIRMATION If you have a child in Year 9 or above, please use our online form to apply to join our next preparation programme. [Click here](#)

MARRIAGES Please speak to the priest for guidance.

FUNERALS Do your family know your wishes with regards to your funeral. Registered parishioners can provide these details which are scanned and stored confidentially with your parishioner record and can be given to families at the appropriate time. Contact Caroline for more details: caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP



Salisbury Justice & Peace Group is part of the National Justice & Peace network an organisation within the Catholic Church. Groups work on 5 priorities which are the 5 Ps:

P1: Poverty & Inequality: To end poverty and hunger, in all its forms and dimensions.

P2: Planet: To protect the planet “so it can support the needs of the present and future generations.” Nearly every day we are seeing just how connected – and fundamental – climate change is to global development.

P3: Person (Human Rights)

P4: Politics (not party politics): Campaigning / lobbying on issues of concern

P5: Peace: Promoting peaceful and just societies. Conflict threatens human rights; those living in fragile and conflict-affected states account for 80 percent of the extreme poor.

There are various actions we can take to address these issues such as: Raising funds for CAFOD (P1) or visiting your MP about an issue or concern (P4). We all have issues about which we are concerned, we must not look away and hope someone else will fix them, they might include the destruction of the Rain Forest in South America (P2) or the plight of people in Ukraine (P5).

You have freedom of speech and you are informed by the media, surely you must make your voice heard and make your life count.

So lets try to make a positive difference in small steps. The population of the world is 8 billion (8,000,000,000), if just 1 percent (80,000,000) of the planet both cared and took action, the small steps would turn into a giant leap and the world would be a better place.

If you are interested in joining the Justice & Peace Group or want to find out more you can contact Graham on 01722 333873

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Fr Joseph is currently organising a day for all EMHCs - those who were previously distributing Holy Communion at Mass AND those who were, or still are, taking Holy Communion to the housebound, care homes or to the hospital. The day will be on **11 March** beginning at 10am. Please keep this day free in your diary. Further details and venue will be confirmed shortly. Watch this space!

Alabaré - The Big Sleep 10 March in Salisbury Cathedral in aid of the homeless and vulnerable. Please support our own parishioner, the lovely Graham Herbert, who will be sleeping on the floor of the cloisters. If you would like to sponsor Graham please give him a ring on 01722 333873 or bring your sponsorship money to the parish office.

Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron in this episode he reflects on the Beatitudes from the fifth chapter of Matthew. ‘Beatitudo’ just means happiness, and the one thing we all want is to be happy. Well, here is the Son of God telling us how—so let’s pay close attention! To watch and listen just click on the ‘Sunday Homily’ button on our homepage or just [click here](#). Video is available late on Saturday.

Children’s Liturgy from Catholic Kids Media: ‘The Beatitudes Ordinary!’ for this the 4th Sunday in Year A . Click on the ‘Children’s Liturgy’ button on our homepage or [click here](#).