Parish of St Osmund

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND
Part of the Clifton Diocese: Registered Charity 1170168 Company No 10462074

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 22(A)

From Father Anthony

The hedge and vines needed a haircut; bedraggled bushes needed a perm! A fiery sun sank towards the cathedral spire in sultry air. It was hot work: I was soaked in sweat, arms and hands scratched by irritated rose bushes. The Gangsters had a go at me too, cawing and circling overhead... not to mention the Sparrows. Bind weed, like annoying thoughts, covered everything. 'To deny them you have to pull them by the root', said a horticultural friend, definitively. Not so easy with dense undergrowth and so many rose bushes!!

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me". In the last two weeks we have seen Jesus occupying the 'yapping mind' and the 'personality', especially the domineering, praise seeking, self-centred, 'Caesar mind'. We have learned that recognition of Christ within is a gift of God: it is not generated by man himself. In order for this gift to be received or recognised we have to do a little preparatory work on ourselves; prepare the ground, so to speak. In order to find Peace (go to Jerusalem) we have to deal with the Chief Priests and Scribes, the immovable and implacable side of our thinking and personality. This is often experienced as suffering.

To follow Christ, not just notionally, but for real we have to *deny* ourselves. The word used is aparneomai, ἀπαρνέομαι; it means, *to strongly reject the source of something.* We have to go to the source of our thinking system, our personality and see it for what it is; world bound. It is this type of thinking that Peter displays when he attempts to stop Jesus from going to Jerusalem; it seems natural on the surface; but, it is not divine thinking, it does not lead to peace *(get behind me Satan)*. Work on ourselves is the cross we must pick up. The cross is a sign of pain; it is also a sign of great love. If, as spiritual beings crucified on the body, we attempt to change *(deny)* our minds and hearts at source *(repentance)*, so as to conform to the life of Christ within; then, our lives will become a sign of love. If not, the cross, our world bound experience of life, will be an experience of pain; but, pain that urges us to change at source *(repent)*. The work we begin... God will finish.

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Declan regarding the restructuring of our Diocese will be read at all Masses this weekend and is also available on our website: click on the image in 'Top News' to access the letter and accompanying documents or click here.

G

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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"

THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

We can see every human birth as a call for new hope in the world. The love of two human beings has joined with God in his creative work. The loving parents have shown hope in a world filled with travail. The new child has the potential to be a channel of God's love and peace to the world.

This is all true in a magnificent way in Mary. If Jesus is the perfect expression of God's love, Mary is the fore-shadowing of that love. If Jesus has brought the fullness of salvation, Mary is its dawning.

For the story of this feast click on the image in the 'Top News' box or <u>click here</u>.

First Saturday Adoration & Confessions

Beginning this Saturday 2 September and on the first Saturday of each month, the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at St Osmund's from 9am until 12 noon, including during the 10am Mass where possible. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Adoration after Mass. We are continuing to look at how to provide a space for Confessions which is both private and safeguarding compliant. As you wait for Confession, please remain at a good distance from the priest and penitent to allow the necessary privacy.

Pauline Learnihan who recently received the 'Bishop's Award' for outstanding service to the church died this week in Salisbury Hospice. May her soul rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her husband Michael and all the family.

St Gregory's Church Local Mission Planning Workshop - Monday 18 September 2023 at 7pm. This is the second in a series of workshops being run to plan how the community of St Gregory's will deliver its local mission. The first workshop in the spring identified a host of good ideas (and challenges). This second workshop will aim to identify how we organise ourselves to take these opportunities and meet the challenges. To make the workshop a success, we really need as many people as possible. We are particularly keen to capture the ideas and views of all the rich and diverse cultures and backgrounds present at St Gregory's. Please try to find the time to join us at St Gregory's Hall at 6.45pm for a tea or coffee and start at 7pm.

Visit to Westminster Cathedral - Salisbury Catenians have arranged a coach trip to Westminster Cathedral on Friday 6 October, the Mother Church of Catholics in England and Wales. The visit includes a guided tour of the Cathedral bringing a fascinating insight to the history and content of the Cathedral. The cost of the coach trip is £25 per person. Parishioners and friends wishing to join this trip should book via email: *carrivick79@gmail.com* or phone 07887 988123.

Stations of Creation Walk - 24 September Following the Creation narrative from the Book of Genesis, you are invited to join other local Christians on a walk from Salisbury Cathedral to St George's Church in Harnham, calling at seven 'Stations' - each Station marking one of the seven days of Creation. The walk starts from Mompesson House in the Cathedral Close at 2pm. For more information click on the image in the 'Top News' box, or click here or contact Graham on 07484 736398.

Spirit Unbounded - Root and Branch Synod, a lay-led movement in the Roman Catholic Church, will host a second synod in October 2023. For information please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or click here.

Food and Friendship Parish lunch at St Gregory's Hall. The time and frequency will be 12.30pm every second Thursday of the month. Everyone is welcome to join us for a home-cooked lunch. We ask for a small donation to cover the cost of food and any remainder goes to our charity of the month. Our first date is Thursday 14 September at 12.30pm. For more information contact Jane at *jane.waspe@btinternet.com*

My Generation will be meeting next on Wednesday 6 September 2023 for 'Everything Puddings' at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH - ONLY 1500 CARDS TO GO!

Thank you to all our volunteers who have collected their cards to deliver. The remainder will again be available after all our Sunday Masses this weekend. You can also always pop into the Office any weekday between 9am and 4pm. We are hoping that as many cards as possible will be posted by 17 September. With new and existing volunteers coming back for more, we now have a claimed total of 19,000 cards. With only 1,500 to go, if you are fit enough to simply post a few cards, why not join in? Speak to Caroline or Tony (at St O) or Allan (at St G). Alternatively call or email the Parish Office 01722 562703 outreach@salisburycatholics.org Many thanks.

EXPLORING YOUR FAITH

Nicodemus Group: For people who wish to share their faith (or lack of it!) with others in a very simple way; by sharing a meal together and reading the Gospels. The first meeting in the Autumn series will be on Wednesday 11 October at 7pm in the St Elizabeth Hall, Exeter Street.

Journey in Faith: This is a programme for adults who are interested in Christianity but who are not confirmed Catholics. The next meeting will be Sunday 3 September at 4.30pm in the Parish Rooms next to St Osmund's Church on Exeter Street.

For more information please visit 'Exploring Your Faith' on our main menu or <u>click here</u>, or contact Dave Blake rcia@salisburycatholics.org

DON'T FORGET THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Come and pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit

Following the Holy Spirit evening with Father Matt Anscombe occurring this evening (Friday 1 September) there will be a series of Life in the Spirit seminars which will then take place on the following 6 Friday evenings after the evening Mass at St Osmund. The full programme can be viewed by clicking on the image in the 'Top News' box or <u>click here</u>. If you'd like to get involved in the preparation/delivery in any way, please contact the office or Deacon John Proctor.

Date for your diary: 'Talk on the Shroud of Turin' with Father Robert Stewart. 3 October at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. More details to follow.

Congratulations and Welcome - to Sophia Sbirci who received the Sacrament of Baptism last Saturday at St Osmund. Please keep Sophia and her parents Annalisa & Alexandru and her godparents in your prayers.

Baptism Our next Baptism preparation course at St Osmund starts this Sunday 3 September and continues on the following two Sundays. The course consists of attendance at the 9am Mass followed by a one hour meeting in the Presbytery. Please register with the Parish Office on 01722 562703. To apply for a baptism please complete a 'Baptism Application' by clicking on the 'Registration' button on our homepage or by clicking here.

Sacramental Preparation for 2024

First Holy Communion - If you have a child that is now in Year 3 and you wish to enrol them in the next programme, the deadline is NEXT WEEKEND 9 September 2023.

Confirmation - If you have a child that is now in Year 9 or above and you wish to enrol them in the next programme, please do so as soon as possible.

Please register for either programme by clicking on the 'Registration' button on our home page or click here.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Week 22 and Psalter 2

Saturday 2 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Holy Souls

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 3 September

09:00 St Gregory MASS Peter Constable RIP09:00 St Osmund MASS 30th Wedding Anniversary

Gerlinde & lan

11:00 St Osmund MASS 8th Anniversary

Gilbert Muller RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Hazel Madiya Mitton

Ist Birthday

Monday 4 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

Tuesday 5 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Leonard Hirst RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 6 September

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Davina in sickness

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 7 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 8 September NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10:00 St Gregory MASS Bridget Rowland RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS Frank Farley RIP

Saturday 9 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Richard's intentions

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS David Kennedy RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

St Osmund Saturdays 09:00 until 12:00 on the first

Saturday of each month, all other Saturdays after the

10:00 Mass.

Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

Pope Francis Intention for September For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Click here.

CLIFTON DIOCESE - We pray this week for the parish of St Gregory the Great / St Thomas More (Cheltenham).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Bridget Rowland, Pauline Learnihan, June Kelly, David Maycock, Jennifer Pothecary and Anne Gillam. We also pray for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 20:7-9

Psalm 62

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

Romans 12:1-2

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!

Matthew 16:21-27

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS For baptisms please register your application <u>click here</u>. 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, 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