

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 28A)

From Father Anthony

Perched on the Holly stump the Gunslinger sang his little heart out, red breast dazzling like the early morning sun. He was rewarded with choicest bird seed. I sipped tea. Mrs Cat had gone... unimpressed by bird seed! The Brown Sparrows took an early morning bath. They fluttered their wings and sprayed golden droplets of water everywhere: then went to a patch of lawn and started pecking. I offered them seed: they ignored me!

Parables about the Kingdom of Heaven continue. Let's remind ourselves: The 'Kingdom', *'is found within'* and *'is not of this world'*. There is something not of this world within or about us. The parable speaks directly to this. Christ is its King, Christ within. He is not an intellectual exercise or a book to be read, but a real, living, tangible, experience that marvellously changes our lives. The experience is described as being like a wedding feast celebration... spirit wedded to the world, within.

A feast of spiritual gifts is ours for the taking. However, the parable makes clear that many are not interested, don't care or don't understand. Instead, we worry about money, jobs, houses, cars, education, status, promotion, governments, corporations, banks: all the things and events of this world. We fail to see that these are symptoms, not causes: that, the cause is the spiritual state from which they originate. If our lives are a mess or leave much to be desired; this is directly related to our spiritual state.

If this seems unintelligible or fanciful it may be that we have not grown and developed the *'spiritual organs'* with which to perceive things of the Spirit. Just as we develop physical senses so we need to grow and develop *spiritual senses*... mainly through prayer and various practices.

Chief among the practices is *awareness*: that aspect of our being with which we see (*understand*) through observation. To repeat from last week: awareness can illuminate our thinking, feeling and doing, against *conscience*. Also, because God is in everything, we can try to see some good in and remain open to, every situation - which is not the same as following everything! Blended together, these are initial practices which help form our spiritual senses.

The areas to begin with are the broken, unconditioned aspects of our nature (*"Go out to the highways"*): they are less rigid and dogmatic and more receptive to the *'invitations of Love'*.



PASTORAL TEAM

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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"

SAINT LUKE, EVANGELIST - 18 OCTOBER

Luke wrote as a Gentile for Gentile Christians. His Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles reveal his expertise in classic Greek style as well as his knowledge of Jewish sources. There is a warmth to Luke's writing that sets it apart from that of the other synoptic Gospels and yet it beautifully complements those works. For the story of St Luke click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

World Mission Sunday is the one day in the year when the entire global Church comes together in support of mission and takes place next Sunday 22 October 2023. Coordinated by Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, this is an opportunity to support every mission diocese and faith community which need our help. For more information, a message from Pope Francis and videos please [click here](#) or click on the image in the 'Top News' box. There will be a retiring collection next weekend. Special envelopes are available in our churches this weekend for those who wish to 'Gift Aid' their donation. Take one this week to complete and add your donation.

CHRISTMAS CARDS In our increasingly secular and commercialised society, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find faith-based Christmas Cards in the shops and so we are once again selling Christmas cards on behalf of the Catholic charity **Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)**. These are sensibly priced in packs of 10 and feature the true message of Christmas. Please support the mission of our Church in countries and places where Christians are persecuted by buying cards from us. Cards are available (cash or cheque only) from the Parish Office during the week from NOW and will be also be sold after the Sunday Masses in the coming weeks.

St Paul Sunday Missals 2024 Cycle B We now have six of these one-year missals (£8). If you would like to have one, please inform the parish office ideally by email office@salisbury Catholics.org or ring 01722 562703.

Youth Sessions Trial sessions for teenagers in Years 10-12. The first session is next Wednesday 18 October at 4.30pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. These sessions, led by Fr Anthony, will be relaxed and informal and will hopefully help us to establish a core of young people whose response and engagement will shape our Youth Ministry provision for the year to come. An invitation has been sent to all the parents who have teenagers in Years 10-12 that are on our Parish Database. **Contact the office** if you'd like more information.

After School Club with the current set of sessions ending last Wednesday a new set have been arranged. These will be on four consecutive Wednesdays starting on 22 November all at 3.45pm at St Osmund's. Led by Father Anthony, there is 30 minutes of learning about the church in a fun and informal way. All children from year 2 to year 4 are welcome, they **must** however be accompanied by their parents or guardians (additional siblings coming with their parents are also welcome).

Laudate Deum The Vatican released the new Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis, 'Laudate Deum', on the climate crisis, on 4 October 2023. It is a follow up on his 2015 encyclical, 'Laudato Si', On Care for Our Common Home. Laudate Deum recognises that time is running out and irreversible damage has already been done. For more click on the item in the main menu or [click here](#).

My Generation will be meeting next Wednesday 18 October 2023 for a Quiz at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

Bible Book Club - meets on Tuesdays in the Parish Rooms 10:45 am -12:30 pm. Please join us as we read and study the Bible. For further details contact Dee on 07775 524118.

Rosary Group meets to pray together via Zoom on each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Please contact Josephine on 01722 328410 for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

PARISH CENTRE - COME AND SEE!

Exciting news regarding our new Parish Centre! The former tenants (EHSC) have now vacated the end portion of St Elizabeth House (131 Exeter St) and we are once again in possession of that space. It has enormous potential for use as a facility for parish & social groups, youth ministry and sacramental programs and to be a place where we can build our parish community. There is some immediate work to be done to freshen the place up and get it ready for use - over the coming weeks we will be hoping to hear your views on how we might use the centre and we are very keen to hear from parishioners interested in helping us get this centre up and running. As it is many years since we were last able to use this space and we know that many parishioners will never have seen inside...so we are providing a number of opportunities for you to come and take a look:

Saturday 28 October - from 10.30am until 1.30pm - an Open Day when you can pop in, have a chat with one of the clergy who will be there to greet you and offer you a drink and biscuit.

Sunday 29 October - the 'after-Mass' coffee, that takes place between the 9am & 11am Masses will, on this day take place in the Social Centre to encourage as many people as possible to take the trip up Exeter Street to have a look!

Saturday 4 November - there will be a facilitated workshop to which all parishioners are invited from 11am until 3pm in St Elizabeth Hall. This will allow us to explore together how we can best use the centre to build the parish community, how we might go about that, who would like to be involved, how we afford it..etc. etc. **Please put the date in your diary** and attend if you can. There will be a break for lunch.

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 is next Wednesday 18 October at 7pm in the St Osmund's Parish Rooms.

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 on Sunday 29 October at 4.30pm in the Parish Rooms next to St Osmund's Church on Exeter Street.

For more information and the schedules for both programmes please visit 'Exploring Your Faith' on our main menu or [click here](#)

Life in The Spirit! The fifth seminar held last Friday featured a talk by Fr Joseph on 'Baptism in The Holy Spirit' . This Friday 13 October after the evening Mass at St Osmund there will be a talk on 'Mission & Growth' which is the last in the series. Each seminar is recorded and can be viewed along with the full programme by clicking on the 'The Holy Spirit' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Baptism The next preparation course will take place at St Gregory's on three Sundays 29 October, 5 & 12 November commencing with Mass at 9am. To request a baptism please complete a 'Baptism Application' by clicking on the 'Registration' button on our homepage or by [clicking here](#).

First Holy Communion The next session is on Saturday 14 October 2pm at St Gregory for both parents and children. All information and the schedule is on our website: [click here](#).

Confirmation If you have a child in Year 9 or above who wishes to enrol in our programme of preparation, **please register by the 31 October**. All parents of Year 9 children on our database should have received an invitation via email last week. Register by clicking on the 'Registration' button on our home page or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Week 28 and Psalter 4

Saturday 14 October

10:00 St Osmund MASS Rani Jose Vazhappilly RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Father Philip Edean SJ RIP

SUNDAY 15 October

09:00 St Gregory MASS Bridie O'Shea RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS Peter & John-Joseph Harty RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Florence Devine RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

15:00 St Gregory Syro-Malabar MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

Monday 16 October

THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION of PARISH CHURCHES

10:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

Tuesday 17 October Saint Ignatius of Antioch

10:00 St Osmund MASS Jack Nisbet RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 18 October SAINT LUKE, EVANGELIST

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 19 October

10:00 St Osmund MASS Claire Gardiner RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

18:30 Downton MASS Patrick Sandels RIP

Friday 20 October

10:00 St Gregory MASS Bridie O'Shea RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS Gwyneth Hawkes RIP

Saturday 21 October

10:00 St Osmund MASS Deceased & sick of the Burke & Smoothy families

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS People of the Parish

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

And by appointment with our priests.

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

Pope Francis Intention for October - For the Synod

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level, and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE - We pray for the parishes of St Margaret Mary (Coleford), Our Lady of Victories (Cinderford) and Our Lady of Lourdes (Newent with Blaisdon).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Steven Fletcher, John Benbough, Zabeti Nabatanzi-Pearson, Pauline Learnihan, Angela Doubtfire, Philip Stevens and Elaine Herring who died recently. We also pray for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 25:6-10

Psalms 22

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God.

Alleluia!

Matthew 22:1-14

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, please use our online form 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@cliffondiocese.com