

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 25(B)

From Father Anthony

It was lovely to be by the sea again, to hear the gulls and breathe salty air; to hear the crash of waves and the crackle of pebbles as the waves retreated. I took in the wide blue sky, the distant line of the horizon and ships anchored outside the harbour. I sat, stilled my mind and relaxed... and got a sense of the immensity, mystery and beauty of God: beyond comprehension or description. Yet God felt close too. A couple came by chatting. He held his daughter, her head resting on his shoulder asleep. That's how close we are to God, I thought, if we trust Him, rest in Him and give everything to Him: *Unless you become like little children...*

A most fruitful spiritual practice is to come into the Presence of God. However, God is so big, so 'other', that the mind cannot cope; it has nothing to measure such immensity by and generally the experience of the presence of God is the experience of darkness or unknowing! But... the Presence or Fullness of God is invested in Jesus. He and the Father are one. He is God made Man, the Second Person of the Trinity: through whom *everything* was made. So, coming into the presence of Jesus is not coming into the presence of an alien but a person like us; God made tangible, accessible and knowable: where we experience 'family resemblance' with our Creator.

This is one reason why we should cultivate a sense of the reality of Jesus as a true living human being; not a notion, an idea, a concept, a mythical character from a dubious history. All of the latter equate to idols: they are distractions, projections of the mind: there is no life in them. Whereas, we want Him to affect and make an impression on our hearts and minds as happens in all true relationships.

Experiencing the reality of Jesus, we experience our own reality because being created in, by and for Him we experience our origin and destiny. If we want to know or experience this (*if we want to be first*) the Gospel basically tells us to *get out of the way of ourselves* and all we *think* we are; to humble our beliefs, intellect and pride; in effect, to become *servants* who find themselves in the Mind and Heart of their Master; children carried in His arms.



PASTORAL TEAM

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Parish Office

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1600
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OUR CHURCHES

St Osmund
95 Exeter Street SP1 2SF

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

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

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

ST GEORGE'S, WARMINSTER - TO BE SERVED FROM SALISBURY

Fr Martin Queenan, current parish priest in Warminster has been appointed by Bishop Bosco to serve as a parish priest in the Forest of Dean. Due to declining clergy numbers, there will be no resident priest in Warminster from the beginning of October and that parish will be served by the current priests of our Pastoral Area (St Edith of Wilton). Fr Anthony is to be appointed parish priest. In due course, this will have an impact on many aspects of the life of our parishes as our priests serve larger areas.

Annual Parish Planner is nearly ready and will contain all the key parish dates for the current academic year (September 24 - July 25). Apologies that the publication of this document is late... this is due to the additional responsibilities of the changes in Warminster.

SCORE - There will be a retiring collection this weekend 21 & 22 September for Home projects.

Youth Group met for the first time on Wednesday of this week and was a fantastic success with over 20 young people. Because of the numbers, we are going to relocate the group to our Parish Centre, so from next Wednesday 25 September the group will meet at **Parish Centre** at 6.30pm. Do you want to join? This is for anyone in Years 8 - 11 who'd like to meet up, relax, play games, chat about faith, ask questions, and pray. All the dates can be found by clicking on 'Youth Group' on our homepage or [click here](#).

A Man for All Seasons at the Theatre Royal in Bath 18 January 2025, a wonderful play about the life and martyrdom of St Thomas More. Fr Joseph would love to give some of our young people the chance to go and have that experience. So please consider coming yourself, but please also consider whether you could sponsor a young person's ticket. Tickets are at the discounted price of £35 (exc. travel to Bath, which we will arrange separately). Please contact the office in the usual way.

YOUTH Pilgrim Walk to Shaftesbury Abbey - All teenagers. Fr Joseph is leading a pilgrimage walk between Wardour Castle and Shaftesbury Abbey, on Sunday 6 October. It's about 8 miles easy going along an ancient pilgrim way - those who don't perish by the wayside will get a pilgrim's stamp from the Abbey (and maybe an ice cream, and definitely God's grace!). Depending on numbers, we can arrange transport to the departure point. To register please visit <https://forms.office.com/e/cbEtXV1r5a>

Men's Breakfast is aimed at all men in the Parish. We will start with a short prayer followed by a cooked breakfast. Following breakfast will be a short talk by a guest speaker and discussion or questions. Tickets will be £10. The first breakfast will be on Saturday 26 October 08:00 to 10:00 at the Parish Centre. Please do contact Deacon John Proctor to register so that we know the numbers to cater for.

Radiant A new group for women looking to deepen their prayer life, build supportive friendships and grow in faith. The next get together is on Friday 22 November. Join us for Mass at 7pm (St Osmund) followed by food, conversation and faith sharing till 9.30pm in the comfortable setting of the Parish Centre. For information contact Xanthe 07904 589360 or click on 'Radiant' on our homepage or [click here](#).

My Generation Wednesday 2 October 2024 for Bingo at 2pm in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

The Right to Life from Conception to Natural Death - Parishioner Andy Lyon is running a half marathon in October 2024 to raise funds for and awareness about the work of SPUC. For more information and to sponsor Andy, go to: <http://bit.ly/AndySPUC>

Sarum Talks - Dr Paul Shrimpton will be giving a talk entitled 'Resisting Hitler: the story of the White Rose students in Munich' at the Parish Centre at 7.30pm tomorrow Saturday 21 September. Refreshments will be provided! All welcome. Contact Andrew Tucker (tuckerandrew1893@gmail.com 07941 993561)

Journey in Faith has now restarted. These sessions are for adults who are interested in Christianity, but who are not confirmed Catholics. The next session is on Sunday 29 September at 10.30am at the Parish Centre. Do contact Dave Blake via the Parish Office office@salisburycatholics.org if you if you are interested in joining. For more click on 'Journey in Faith' on our home page or [click here](#)

Bible Timeline Talks Save the dates! This promises to be a really fascinating series of 8 talks on Wednesday nights, beginning on 9 October, at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. These talks will give an overview of the whole Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, and to see how our favourite characters and stories fit together in the overall narrative. Hopefully, they will also become a way of opening up a deeper relationship with God through His Word, especially as we prepare to adopt the new translation of the Lectionary (readings at Mass) from this Advent. For more click on the 'The Bible Timeline' button on the homepage or [click here](#).

First Friday Talks began Friday 6 September with a talk given by Rev Rob Taylor on 'Ministry of Love'. A video of the talk is on our website. Please click on 'First Friday Talks' on our homepage or [click here](#). The next talk will be on Friday 4 October after the 7pm Mass in the Parish Centre by Rev Philip Rhoades on 'Hospital Chaplaincy'.

Parish Prayer & Praise (Alabaré) has returned on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in our Parish Centre excluding the last Tuesday in the month when you are invited to the monthly 'Evening Supper' (see below). All are welcome.

Evening Supper on Tuesday 24 September has been moved to Tuesday 1 October at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre and this will be a thanksgiving Harvest Supper. If you would like to join us please email or phone any of the Deacons.

Confirmation 2025 If you have a child that is in Year 9 or above who may be interested in finding out more about this programme, **there is a mandatory pre-Enrolment meeting for Parents & Candidates on Tuesday 8 October at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms**. For more information and dates click on 'Confirmation' on our homepage or [click here](#). If you are registered with the parish and have a child in Year 9 you will also be receiving an email about this.

Family of Faith - Volunteers' Session - Thanks to those who have offered to help us run our new Family of Faith programme on Sunday mornings, and Youth Group on Wednesday evenings. The training session with Georgia is tomorrow Saturday 21 September, starting with 10am Mass at St Osmund's, and continuing in the Parish Centre until 4pm. All welcome - don't worry if you haven't registered yet - just come along!

Family of Faith Starting on Sunday 20 October, we are launching a new 'Family of Faith' community, which will be open to families with children in Years 2 to 5. This will include, but not be limited to, those preparing to make their **First Holy Communion**. Meeting on Sunday mornings, after the 9am Masses, at our Parish Centre on Exeter Street. There will be a time of prayer, followed by separate activities for children, and input and discussion for parents, finishing at 12 noon. Please register your interest by clicking on 'Family of Faith' on our homepage or [click here](#). More resources will be added to this web page as they become available.

Baptism Preparation Course The next course is at St Gregory starting on 6 October (and then 13 & 20) with 9am Mass followed by a meeting in the sacristy. To request a Baptism for your child, click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#). All the course dates can be found by clicking on 'Baptism' on our homepage or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-2 Ordinary Time Week 25 Psalter 1

SATURDAY 21 September SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE

10:00 St Osmund MASS For the Holy Souls

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 22 September

09:00 St Gregory MASS Steven Lewis RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS John & Alessandra Grech RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Silvia Smith RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Personal Intentions

Monday 23 September Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

10:00 St Osmund MASS Joan Williams RIP

Tuesday 24 September Our Lady of Walsingham

10:00 St Osmund MASS Ross Burns RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 25 September

10:00 St Gregory MASS In thanksgiving prayers answered

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 26 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Happy Birthday Chris

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 27 September Saint Vincent de Paul

10:00 St Gregory MASS Katie Jo Abrahams - in sickness

19:00 St Osmund MASS Frank Farley RIP

SATURDAY 28 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Personal Intentions

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Julia - in sickness

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Fridays after the 10am Mass & Saturdays
17:30 until Mass

St Osmund: On the first Saturday of the month from 9am to 12
noon, and on other Saturdays after the 10am Mass

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

Pope Francis Intention for September

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climate change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live - [Click here](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE We pray for the parishes of St Edmund (Calne) and St Anthony of Padua (Melksham).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

John (Sean) Coady, Ruby Spokes, Hansel Antony D'Cruz, Ross Burns and Dr Graham Heeley who died recently, and all those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

We also pray for all those in our parish currently facing ill-health that they will be granted comfort, healing and strength.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE:

Wisdom 2:12,17-20

Psalms 53:3-6, 8

The Lord upholds my life.

James 3:16-4:3

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.**

Alleluia!

Mark 9:30-37

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 is coming to Mass regularly, for whom preparation for First Communion may be appropriate, please use our online form to register your interest. [Click here](#)

CONFIRMATION If you have a child in Year 9 or above please do attend the pre-enrolment meeting on Tuesday 8 October 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. For more information [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 Desiree for more details:

office@salisbury Catholics.org