

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 8(C)

From Father Anthony

Gangsters spilled out of church eaves like black rags flapping in the air. Battle commenced over rooftops; spivs and gulls joined in; it didn't last long. A blackbird trilled out a lullaby and sent them all to bed. I stood by my open bedroom window and breathed in the warm, scented air of dusk. The garden looked bare, angular and well shorn. But buds are appearing on branches, snow drops and crocuses litter the borders, the grass growing fast, and if *by their fruits you shall know them*, I would say spring is on the way.

If they were a plant, what plants would our society or our world be; what fruit would they produce? If this is the *real world* - that we are always being told to *get into* - what of it are we consuming? It seems to be costly, keeps us tense and does not fulfil us. Of course, in spiritual terms, what we consider to be the real world couldn't be farther from the *truth* or anything that is *real*. Reality is a function of *The Truth* which is eternal: it does not change, crumble or fade. This world, often confused with the real world, crumbles and fades, it withers like grass; so too its values, changeable morality and strange belief systems. Most of these are the constructs of society, governments, institutions, corporations, media and so on; their aim, it seems, is to keep us dull, blind, confused and tense; producing one distraction after another to keep us from *The Truth*.... not lots of little truths as we are led to believe in; but *The Truth*. In *Truth* they have no hold over us; and this they fear.

Truth is not found; it is what remains after we drop what it is not. In Truth we are in God because, God is Truth. The unknown, unknowable God has made Godself known by becoming Man in Jesus; so, Jesus is the Truth. To know Him, to be with Him, think like Him, act like Him is to be in *The Truth*. Society, governments, institutions, media must find their origin and fulfilment in Him; otherwise, they produce rotten fruit. They remain blind guides and those who follow them demonstrate spiritual blindness and *fall into the pit*. If all is not well in our lives perhaps we should discern which guides we are following... and follow only Jesus.



PASTORAL TEAM

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

Rev Joseph Columba Meigh
(Assistant Priest)

01722 333581
joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Jonathan Creer (Pastor of Sarum
Ordinariate & Assistant Priest)

07724 896579
jonathan.creer@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 & Tuesday 0900 - 1600

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1600

01722 562703

Caroline Williams

caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

Désirée Coups

office@salisbury Catholics.org

Tony Peters-Ennis

outreach@salisbury Catholics.org

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

[Click Here](https://salisbury Catholics.org)



<https://salisbury Catholics.org>

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

Almighty and Eternal God,
you are the everlasting health of
those who believe in you.

Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis
for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LENTEN SERVICES IN MARCH

Ash Wednesday 5 March - Mass and distribution of ashes

Mass times: 10:00 St Gregory, 12:00 St Osmund and 18:00 St Osmund. Please note there will be no Ordinariate Mass on this Wednesday.

Downton Ash Wednesday: The Downton Churches Together (Ecumenical) Service with imposition of ashes will be at 7pm in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd. All welcome.

Lent Penitential Service 7pm on Tuesday 18 March at St Gregory - There will be a number of priests available to hear confessions.

Stations of the Cross - Every Friday during Lent 5.20pm at St Osmund, starting next Friday 7 March.

Radiant A group for women looking to deepen their prayer life, build supportive friendships and grow in faith. We meet again this evening Friday 28 February. Join us for Mass at 6pm (St Osmund) followed by food, conversation and faith sharing till 9.30pm in the comfortable setting of our Parish Centre. For more contact Xanthe on 07904 589360 or click on 'Radiant' on our homepage, [click here](#) or just turn up.

First Friday Talks - next Friday 7 March at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre - The speakers will be Greg & Pauline who will speak on the biblical meaning of Jubilee.

13th Century Sarum Master Bible a beautifully illustrated medieval manuscript, is on public display for the first time at Salisbury Cathedral until the 20 March. The Sarum Master Bible is a manuscript of exceptional artistic value with great significance to Salisbury. For more information please visit the Cathedral's webpage <https://www.salisburycathedral.org.uk/13th-century-sarum-master-bible-to-go-on-public-display-for-first-time/>

Parking on Exeter Street – With the reopening of Salisbury Coach Park the bay on Exeter Street that was previously 'coaches only' can now be used again by cars for a maximum of two hours.

Work on St Gregory's Church car park - Work on widening the entrance/exit to the car park at St Gregory's Church, starts this Monday 3 March 2025 and is expected to take about a week.

World Day of Prayer next Friday 7 March, 2pm at Salisbury Methodist Church. This is a ecumenical service featuring the Cook Islands. All are welcome.

Chrism Mass in Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday 16 April. A coach has been booked to travel to the Chrism Mass. Timings are expected to be similar to last year departing St Osmund's Church at 7.20am, then leaving St Gregory 7.35am with a pick up at Amesbury library at 7.55am. Mass is at 11am. If you would like to join our priests and deacons on the coach, please complete the sign up sheet in the porch of each church or contact the office office@salisburycatholics.org.

Men's Breakfast - The next men's breakfast will be on 15 March at 8.00am in the Parish Centre. The speaker will be Matthew Higgins (new head of St Joseph's school). Tickets are £10 each. Payment can be made on the day in cash or direct to Deacon John Proctor. Please [click here](#) to book your place.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Family of Faith the next session is Sunday 9 March beginning at our morning 9am Masses continuing afterwards at our Parish Centre. For all the dates click on the '[Family of Faith](#)' button on our homepage or [click here](#). If you'd like to volunteer to help in any way, please contact the parish office.

Youth Group -which normally meets on a Wednesday will join next week with the Confirmation Group on Shrove Tuesday 4 March at 7pm in the Parish Centre.. All the dates are on our website, just click on 'Youth Group' on our home page or [click here](#).

SHARING OUR FAITH

Confirmation - The next session is this Shrove Tuesday 4 March at 7pm in the **Parish Centre (please note the venue)**. This will be a joint session with the Youth Group. The programme is now well underway and it is too late for new-joiners. Anyone interested in Confirmation can express an interest for Confirmation 2026. Please click on 'Confirmation' on our homepage or [click here](#) for more information.

Young(ish) Catholic Adults Group for those in their 20s, 30s, 40s...?! New course beginning on Tuesday 11 March at 8pm then every two weeks in St Osmund's Parish Rooms . This year, we are following a course on Catholic theology called *Symbolon* from the Augustine Institute, which explores the teachings of the Creed, and how they're lived out in Catholic life. All young adults welcome; contact Fr Joseph for more info.

Adult Confirmation - Fr Joseph is meeting with adults who have expressed an interest in receiving the sacrament of Confirmation at 3pm tomorrow Saturday 1 March in St Osmund's Presbytery. If you as an adult have have not received this sacrament and are now interested in being confirmed just turn up or email Fr Joseph joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com

Journey in Faith - The next session is this Sunday 2 March at 10.30am at the Parish Centre. Contact Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com if you are interested in joining or [click here](#)

Rite of Election next Saturday 8 March 11am Clifton Cathedral. This is when those who are journeying towards becoming part of our Catholic community are presented to Bishop Bosco. This year, we will again be 'sending' candidates to Clifton Cathedral from our parish. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin this important stage in their faith journey. Please do join our diocesan family as we welcome to our Cathedral both catechumens and candidates. All are most welcome to attend!.

Baptism Preparation Course - The course at St Gregory continues this Sunday 2 March and finishes on 9 March. The next course will also be at St Gregory starting 4 May. If you wish to join please contact the Parish Office. To request a Baptism for your child, click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

ENCOUNTER - PARISH LENTEN RETREAT 3RD - 6TH OF APRIL 2025

Following the wonderful and highly successful retreats of previous years, we will be returning to the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell near Godalming. This year's theme is Encounter. We will be looking at how even the smallest encounter with Jesus can change the course of a life. There are still a few places remaining. The cost per person is about £250-£300, but please don't let cost prevent you from coming along, we are able to offer some support to those who need it to make this possible. Please contact the Parish Office to book or Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com for more information. The full timetable is on our website, just click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-1 Ordinary Time Week 8 & Psalter 4

SATURDAY 1 MARCH SAINT DAVID, PATRON OF WALES

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 2 MARCH

09:00 St Gregory MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS Jose Cardoso RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS To the Blessed Virgin Mary
and St Jude

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Good health and speedy
recovery of Lolita Torres

Monday 3 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Sarah Edmonds RIP

Tuesday 4 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Robert Vaux- In recovery
All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH ASH WEDNESDAY

10:00 St Gregory MASS Mary-Anne Elizabeth
Clarke RIP

12:00 St Osmund MASS

14:00 St Osmund Funeral Service Julie Gray RIP

18:00 St Osmund MASS

No Ordinariate Mass this Wednesday

Thursday 6 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Frank Farley RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 7 March

10:00 St Gregory MASS Norman & Beatrice Meech RIP

17:20 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

18:00 St Osmund MASS Teresa Rogers RIP

Saturday 8 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR MARCH

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parishes of St Dunstan (Somerton) and Holy Ghost (Yeovil with South Petherton).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sylvia Weston, Leslie Dodd, Kathleen Stacey, Norman Meech and Julie Gray 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.

Psalm Response

It is good to give thanks to you, O Lord..

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life. Alleluia!

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 in our Family of Faith programme. [Click here](#)

CONFIRMATION If you have a child who will be in Year 9 or above from Sept 2025, please use our online form to apply to join our preparation programme for 2026. [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 Désirée for more details: office@salisburycatholics.org

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Fridays after the 10am Mass & Saturdays 5.30pm until Mass

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