

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

LENT WEEK 3(A)

From Father Anthony

People moved hunched against the cold, their expressions concentrated and distant. I wandered aimlessly around Salisbury. I looked over market stalls and in shop windows... at all the stuff that seemed to promise so much but in fact gave so little. Nevertheless, I bantered with a stall holder, bought some bread and made my way back... to hose down the pigeon muck so generously deposited around the church!

We began Lent in the wilderness and came across three walls that prevent spiritual progress: resentment, pride and envy. They are closely allied to money, sex and power (*hence the antidote of poverty, chastity and obedience*). These three and their variations keep us from spiritual growth and worship.

Then we were *taken up the mountain* to get a glimpse of who we truly are ... to feel our power and experience our Wisdom in Love (*conscience*). This inner transfiguration we must bring into the world.

This week, the Gospel shows us how we are wedded to the world through our five sense (*five husbands*). Through our inner transfiguration we must learn that only Christ is 'Husband' to the Soul; only by being wedded to Him do we come to Life (*give me that water sir*). But, where do we find Him? We must ask ourselves, as truthfully as possible: *where do I find my life? what am I attached to? what motivates me?* When we can answer truthfully, we have arrived at the *well*. It symbolises our attachment to the world, where we find our life.... money, sex, power – and their fruit, resentment, pride and envy. And, it is here we will find Christ too... sitting by the *well of our life*. Maybe He is weary from the *not so merry* dance we have led Him! But He is always there; waiting for us. Waiting for us to notice Him, always asking for our love (*give me to drink*). It is here that the interior conversation with Him begins. We won't find him in buildings, creeds, belief systems, spiritual texts or rituals. We find Him in spirit and truth... where our heart is!

Through this experience, we learn that Christ and Christ alone is husband to the soul. Knowing this we will *run into the town of our being* and bring everything about us to Him... and beg him to stay and transform us completely. Is this not what Lent is about?



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"

BUILDING WORKS IN ST OSMUND CHURCH

Work has now completed on both the north and south aisle ceilings. **Therefore the church is now reopened for liturgy and private prayer.** The remaining scaffolding on the south aisle will be removed at the earliest opportunity next week. Our thanks goes to those who managed this project to a successful completion. Now that the work is complete, your help is needed to clean the church of the resultant dust and grime, please do come along at a time to suit yourself - any time from Wednesday onwards, cleaning materials can be provided. Thanks.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Final Reminder Fr Joseph has organised a day for all EMHCs **tomorrow Saturday 11 March** - 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 is from 10am-3pm beginning at 10am with Mass at St Gregory. Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be provided.

Faith Full Journey - The Department for Adult Education and Evangelisation has organised a series of online conversations. They are encouraging people to come and deepen their faith and invigorate their formation. If you can't manage an online conversation, a recording has been made. You can access the details of the programme and all the recordings to date by clicking on the button 'Faith Full Journey' or [click here](#).

Choir for Easter Triduum in St Osmund's Fr Joseph is organising a group of singers to support and enhance the music at our Triduum liturgies in St Osmund's Church. There will be rehearsals on Wednesdays 15, 22, 29 March & 5 April in the Parish Rooms at 7pm. Everyone is welcome. Please inform the office if you would like to join in.

Easter Eggs Hunt! We are delighted to announce that we will once again be able to host an Easter Egg hunt for children after the morning Masses on Easter Sunday at both St Osmund and St Gregory, also eggs will be given out after the Mass at Holy Redeemer. Donations of (individually-wrapped) Easter Eggs will be gratefully received. Please hand your eggs into the office or to the welcomers at each of our Churches.

Easter Flowers: In honour of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Churches need to be adorned with beautiful flowers, please do consider making a contribution. Donations can be placed in the normal collection at each of our churches in an envelope marked 'Easter Flowers'.

Parish Charity Quiz Night: Saturday 4 March Thanks to the parishioners who came along and helped the Catenians raise £900.00 for The Place of Mercy and Hope charity in South Africa. The event was enjoyed by everyone and the food was delicious. Look out for our next Event!

Confirmation Programme 2023 commenced last Tuesday, the next session will be on Friday 19 May 7pm for a Candidate's social, followed by a session the next day on Saturday 20 May at 11am also for the Candidates. Both sessions are at St Osmund. All those enrolled in this year's programme are encouraged to attend. The programme is available on our website, please click on 'Sacraments' on our main menu and then select 'Confirmation' or just [click here](#).

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 is Saturday 1 April at 2pm in St Gregory's Church for both Parents and Children. It is very important that all sessions are attended.

Congratulations to Brody Lee Spearing and Niamh Una Mankin who received the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend at St Gregory's. Please keep Brody, his parents Gemma & Matthew and Niamh with her parents Jennifer & Graham and all the godparents in your prayers.

THE FIRST SCRUTINY FOR THE ELECT OF OUR PARISH

On Saturday 25 February four individuals from our community who are joining the Catholic Church travelled with Fr Anthony, their sponsors and supporters to our Cathedral as part of the process known as RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) for the Rite of Election.

Bishop Declan met and welcomed them and their names were recorded in the Book of the Elect. These 'Elect' will be here with us over the coming weeks for the next liturgical rites in this process: the Scrutinies, and the Presentation of the Creed and the Our Father. These rites will complete the conversion of the Elect, deepen their resolve to hold fast to Christ and to carry out their decision to love God above all. The first scrutiny occurs this Sunday at the 9am Mass at St Osmund.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ELECT OF OUR PARISH

Tina Arnold Heather Carey Marion Elvin Martin Turner

ADOPT-A-STREET ON THE NEW ESTATES - EASTER 2023

This Easter we are concentrating our Outreach efforts for Easter exclusively on the new housing developments. The estates of Longhedge, Old Sarum, St Peter's Place, Harnham (nr Bookers) and off The Avenue, Wilton. If you are fit and able please volunteer to deliver our Easter cards with all the liturgy times from Maundy Thursday through to Easter Sunday. There is no door knocking, just simply posting cards through letter boxes. The available streets are all listed on our website, click on the 'Adopt a Street' button on our homepage or [click here](#). To claim a street, please email outreach@salisbury Catholics.org or call the office with the name of the street or streets you wish to adopt. By posting cards these cards we are responding to Pope Francis' call to be an 'outward facing' church involved in a process of a continual invitation. *We scatter the seeds and we leave the rest to God.*

LENT 2023

Lent Penitential Service on Tuesday 21 March 7pm at St Gregory's Church. There will be three priests available to hear individual Confessions.

The Stations of the Cross is a beautiful devotion to recall and honour the Passion of Christ. There are Stations of the Cross devotions in St Osmund's Church **each Friday during Lent at 6.20pm** (prior to the 7pm Mass). You can also join from home via our [Church TV](#).

Stations of the Cross in St Osmund's School Our children are once again preparing their reflections on Jesus' journey to Calvary by creating their own Stations of the Cross representations in the school hall. Parishioners and family members are very welcome to attend on Thursday 23 March between 9-11am and 1.30-4pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to join us in prayer and reflection as part of our joint parish/school preparation for Easter.

Tuesdays in Lent - Bewildering Books, Challenging Chapters, Villains in Verses - There's a lot of strange stuff in the Bible! 7.30-8.45pm at Riverside House (way down the end of Watt Road). Need a lift? Ask a Deacon.

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. **Book soon, the deadline is 22 March**, please contact the office, email: office@salisbury Catholics.org or phone 01722 562703

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Lent Week 3 and Psalter 3

St Osmund is now fully opened for both weekday and weekend services. Adoration and Benediction on Tuesdays & Thursdays will recommence on Tuesday 21 March.

Saturday 11 March

10:00 St Gregory MASS Anne & David Power RIP

Please note this Saturday morning Mass is at St Gregory
There will be no confessions at St Osmund.

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Sidney Flavel

SUNDAY 12 March

09:00 St Gregory MASS In remembrance of baby
Raphaella Thalakkottur

09:00 St Osmund MASS The Elect of our Parish

11:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Adrian Heffernan RIP

Monday 13 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Leonard Hirst RIP

Tuesday 14 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Theodore Monu

Wednesday 15 March

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Roberta Tibon RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 16 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Maisie Symes RIP

18:30 Downton MASS Private Intention

Friday 17 March SAINT PATRICK, PATRON OF IRELAND

10:00 St Gregory MASS John & Margaret Stone RIP

18:20 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

19:00 St Osmund MASS John & Margaret Stone RIP

Saturday 18 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS People of the Parish

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory	Fridays	After the 10:00 Mass
St Osmund	NO CONFESSIONS SATURDAY 11 MARCH	
Holy Redeemer	Saturdays	17:30 until Mass

And by appointment with our priests.

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR MARCH

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for University / College / School Chaplaincies.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marion Phillips, Michael Pyne, Pamela Finch, Michael Villis, Alma Bradley and Breeda Falconer who died recently. We also pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Exodus 17:3-7

Psalms 94

**O that today you would listen to his voice:
'Harden not your hearts'.**

Romans 5:1-2,5-8

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Lord, you are really the saviour of the world;
give me the living water, so that I may never get
thirsty.**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

John 4:5-42

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