

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 2(A)

From Father Anthony

"What is this life if, full of care, we have no time to stand and stare". I was frazzled and took myself off to a place I know, sat down and stared. There is a way of staring where rather than just looking at something and reflecting back what is seen, we absorb what we see and let the spirit behind the scene infuse our soul. It is a subtle form of communication. In a sense, we liberate the scene we are looking at from itself by acknowledging (*drawing out*) the life it contains. I absorbed the beautiful landscape, distant trees and wide sky, felt its spirit and let it transform me. Rejuvenated I went back, greeted the Gunslinger and got on with the rest of the day.

"John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him". The word used for 'saw' (βλέπω, blepo) properly means *to see something physically* but with *spiritual results (perception)*. John sees the physical Jesus but also perceives Him spiritually. He comes into the presence not just of the physical Jesus but perceives the spiritual Christ within Him. This perception is also a revelation... *'he who comes after me ranks before me'*. That is, absorbing the Christ within him John now understands his own origin and destiny and that of everything because *Christ is He through whom everything came into being...* including himself. His origin is in Christ: his destiny is to make Christ known, *"the reason I came baptising with water was that He might be made known to Israel."* He absorbs Christ not only to fulfil himself but that he might bring Him to others (*Israel*).

The prayerful practice of coming into the Presence of Christ is not about day dreaming or conjuring mental pictures. It is an attempt to discern the spirit of Christ within whatever we see because without Christ it cannot be; therefore, He is the Divine Thought behind it... even our mental pictures! We come into the presence of Christ to absorb Him into us. He is our origin: through Him we came to be; by absorbing Him we come to know the Divine Thought that brought us and everything into being. We cannot contain this; it is too big. We must find ways of communicating it to all. It is lovely, it is healing, it is our Mission.



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"

POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, speaking shortly after the Requiem Mass in St Peter's Square for Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, described the funeral as in one way 'a straightforward celebration of a Funeral Mass', in another way, a uniquely historical event 'of great emotional depth and stature'.

For Cardinal Nichol's reflection, a full recording of the funeral and much more, please click on the link above the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Christmas Offerings to our Priests Thank you for your kind and generous offerings to our Priests.

Outreach A huge thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who delivered Mass Time Cards - both those who visited parishioners and those who delivered via letterboxes (Adopt-a-Street). Anyone who still has their parishioner lists/folders, please return these to the parish office or hand to a steward at Mass as soon as possible so that we continue updating our parish database. Many thanks to everyone involved.

DBS To all our parishioners who volunteer in ministry with children or who take the Blessed Sacrament to homes, care homes or the hospital, please contact the parish office so that we can check that your DBS (safeguarding) certificate is up to date.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) are holding their annual White Flower Appeal this weekend 14/15 January. There will be a retiring collection at our Sunday Masses.

Alabaré - The Big Sleep. Alabaré are holding their annual sleepover in Salisbury Cathedral on the 10 March 2023 in aid of the homeless and vulnerable in Wiltshire. Our own parishioner, Graham Herbert, will be giving up his warm bed for the night and sleeping on the cold stone floor of the cloisters. If you would like to sponsor Graham in this worthwhile cause please give him a ring on 01722 333873 or bring your sponsorship money to the parish office if that is more convenient.

Toy Swap 13 February Do you want to swap toys? Do you want to donate unwanted toys? Do you just want to go and choose toys without donating? All options are available, for all the information click on the image in the 'Top News' box or just [click here](#).

St Osmund's Parish Lunch on Thursday of this week raised £50 for Ukraine and was well attended with 13 parishioners having a lovely meal (2nd helpings were available!). The next lunch will be after the midday Mass on Thursday 9 February in St Osmund's Parish Rooms - do put the date into your diary and join us.

St Gregory's Church Council are meeting on Monday 23 January at 6.30pm in St Gregory's Hall. This is an open meeting and anyone can attend. For the agenda and minutes of the 14 November 2022 [click here](#).

Salisbury Foodbank: In January we are collecting dried milk and small bags of rice.

Art Group meets on Mondays between 10.30am - 12.30pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. All are welcome, whether or not you have painted or drawn before. Contact John and Elizabeth on 01725 510310.

Bible Book Club meets on Tuesdays in the Parish Rooms 10:45am - 12:30pm. Please join us as we read and study the Psalms. For further details contact John 07899 244072.

My Generation - Will meet next Wednesday 18 January 2023, and then on the following 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For information please contact Chris on 321109.

Start the New Year with a diary - We have 2023 Clifton Diocese Liturgical Diaries (£6.50) and one Directory (£6.00) which can be purchased from the parish office.

SHARING OUR FAITH

Nicodemus Group - This is a group of 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.

Nicodemus will run each Wednesday for six weeks, starting on 18th January and ending on Ash Wednesday. Our theme is Lent and the Passion of Christ. We hope that, by sharing Lenten scripture and our experiences of the Passion, that we will be as prepared as possible for Lent this year. All are welcome, from all churches and communities in and around Salisbury. The venue is St Elizabeth Hall, 131 Exeter Street 7– 8.30pm

Journey in Faith Is an ongoing programme for adults interested in Christianity who are not confirmed Catholics. The next meetings are Sunday 28 January and Sunday 19 February both at 3pm in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund.

For more information please visit 'Becoming Catholic' on our website main menu or [click here](#) .If you are interested or wish to ask questions about any of the above, please contact Dave Blake by email nicodemus@salisburycatholics.org or phone the parish office on 01722 562703.

Pope at Epiphany Mass: Life's journey should lead us to the Lord In his homily, Pope Francis emphasised that "We often try to soothe our hearts with creature comforts. If the Magi had done that, they would never have encountered the Lord. God, however, is always there within our restless questioning". For more and a short highlights video, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

We welcome Sami Williams Uddin and Frieda & Béla Harrison-Byrne who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend in St Osmund's. Please keep Sami, his parents Gabrielle & Mohammad and Frieda & Béla with their parents Tim & Sophie and all the godparents involved in your prayers at this special time.

Baptism Preparation Course Our next course will take place over three Sundays at St Osmund: 22 & 29 January and 5 February - attendance at the 9am Mass followed by a 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](#). For further information please contact Deacon John Proctor on 07802 631968 or Deacon Steve Godwin on 07583 254488.

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 will be on Saturday 21 January at 2pm in St Gregory's Church for the children. It is very important that all sessions are attended. For further information please contact Father Anthony or Deacon John Detain.

Applications please for Confirmation in 2023. For young people in school Year 9 or above please apply NOW as we will soon be finalising the programme. To apply please click on the 'Registration/Update' button on our home page or [click here](#).

Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron John the Baptist says something that we repeat at every single Mass: 'Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world'. To listen and watch, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#). These homilies are uploaded to our website each week, even when they are not listed in this weekly newsletter due to space constraints.

Children's Liturgy from Catholic Kids Media: 'Christmas and the Baptism of the Lord'. Click on the 'Children's Liturgy' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Ordinary Time Week 2 and Psalter 2

Saturday 14 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 15 January

09:00 St Gregory MASS Eric & Louisa Poulter, Pat RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS Leonard Hirst RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS For the Bereaved in 2022

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:30 St Gregory Syro Malabar MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving

Monday 16 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

Tuesday 17 January Saint Anthony, Abbot

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 18 January

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

Thursday 19 January Saint Wulstan, Bishop

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thomas Cherian RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

18:30 Downton MASS

Friday 20 January

10:00 St Gregory MASS Thanksgiving - Joey

19:00 St Osmund MASS Frank Farley RIP

Saturday 21 January Saint Agnes, Virgin, Martyr

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving - Rosalina

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Jacqueline Skelcher RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

(Advance Notice: there will be no confessions on Friday 27 January)

St Osmund 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 JANUARY

For Educators:

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parishes of: Christ the King (Thornbury) and Holy Cross (Wotton-under-Edge).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Michael Willis, Alma Bradley, Breeda Falconer, David Stockley, Jim Johnston, Yolanda Graziano, Kathleen Gibbs, and John Hosegood who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

ADVANCE NOTICE & INVITATION - UPCOMING FUNERALS

The funeral of **Alma Bradley RIP** will take place during the regular **10am Friday morning Mass at St Gregory's on 27 January**. Alma has no local family and it is hoped that as many parishioners as possible will attend this Mass to pray for Alma and in support of her goddaughter who is arranging the funeral. Many thanks

All parishioners are warmly invited to attend the Requiem Mass for **Breeda Falconer RIP** which will take place in **St Osmund's Church on 23 January at 1pm**

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 49:3,5-6

Psalms 39

Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

John 1:29-34

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 2023, 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](#)