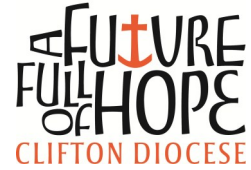


PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 6(C)



From Father Anthony

I wrapped up warm and sat in the garden surrounded by the greens and yellows of ivy and privet. Sparrows chattered loudly: gulls circled and swooped with indignant cries. The sea air was icy but delightfully fresh: winter sun warmed my face. I sipped mint tea and watched contrails, as passenger jets unzipped the deep blue sky on their way to Shannon and thence across the Atlantic. I said a prayer for their safe descent and landing.

“And having descended with them He stood on level ground...” Jesus had been praying all night on the mountain, had then called his disciples and, from among them, chosen twelve apostles. The spiritual nature of this event is indicated by *the mountain*, a metaphor for spirit. The importance of prayer is also indicated; it is in prayer that Jesus is met. We meet Him first as learners (*disciples*): when we are ready, He might choose us as Apostles – and send us into the world to proclaim His Name and His Message. Whether Disciple or Apostle another important aspect of Jesus’ spiritual teaching is that we must descend from the heights of Spirit and *ground* what we learn in the world - *Jesus came down... stood on level ground*. Level ground is good for growing crops: it is also a place where people can meet. We must ground what we learn in spirit, and make it available to others, for our mutual growth.

The Message we learn is not some human thinking, some human message (*cursed be the one who trusts in human beings*). It is the Word of God! It will be a stumbling block to some (*1 Cor 1:23*). It will seem to be full of contradictions... *when you are poor you are rich, when weak strong, and so on (the Beatitudes)*. But, it is the only message that soothes the human heart and makes sense to our spiritual nature. Many, burdened by the world (*Tyre and Sidon*), are desperate to hear it. The word of man - *the corporate world, governments, human institutions and so on* - fails us miserably; it takes our money, burdens our hearts and leads us nowhere.

We are named after Christ and we are to become like Him; which means spending time with Him in prayer, internalising and understanding His message... so that we might pass it on to the world. But, do we do this?

PASTORAL TEAM

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Parish Office

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1600

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1600

01722 562703

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Tony Peters-Ennis
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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
[Click Here](#)



<https://salisbury Catholics.org>

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY 2025

Bishop Paul McAleenan, Lead Bishop for Racial Justice, said: 2025 is a very special year. It marks both a Year of Jubilee and the 30th anniversary of Racial Justice Sunday. This year, we invite the Catholic community to reflect on the journey towards racial justice- past, present and future – by asking: 'How far have we come, where are we now and what remains to be achieved?'. For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

For the Sick of the Parish this Saturday 15 February at St Osmund - There will be Anointing and Confessions from 9am to 12 noon with Adoration following the 10am Mass.

SCORE - There will be a retiring collection for SCORE home projects this weekend 15/16 February.

Requiem Mass for Sylvia Weston RIP will take place at 10am this coming Monday 17 February at St Osmund followed by a reception in the Parish Rooms to which parishioners are warmly invited.

St Osmund's Candle Stands - Many thanks to Hadyn and Rowena who having serviced the two candle stands for many years have now decided to step down. We are therefore in need of new voluntary help. There is a short video of what it entails, just click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#), guidance will also be given by the outgoing duo. Please do apply to the Parish Office.

St Osmund's Burial Ground - In case you missed last week's notice of the history of the Presbytery garden as a burial ground and the known people that are buried there, just click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Activities in the Parish Centre - We are in real need of storage for all the activities that are occurring in the centre and would be grateful if anyone would like to make a donation to help sponsor the storage solutions we need. Donations can be made by BACS or cheque/cash to the Parish Office please quote the reference of 'PC Storage'. Further details from: Deacon Stephen Godwin stephen.godwin@clifftondiocese.com.

Justice & Peace Group - To our fellow parishioners, brothers and sisters in Christ. Please take time to read the notes from the Justice & Peace group meeting on 20 January. Click on 'Parish Life' on our main menu then 'Justice and Peace' or [click here](#).

First Friday Talks - last Friday 7 February The speaker was Eric Williams who reflected on how poetry can illuminate our life in the Spirit. The recording is available on our website, please click on the 'First Friday Talks' button on our homepage or [click here](#). Next month Greg & Pauline will speak on the biblical meaning of Jubilee.

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.

Rosary in Salisbury Cathedral - The Rosary is prayed by Catholics and Anglicans in Salisbury Cathedral on the third Friday of each month at 12 noon. The next meeting will be on Friday 21 Feb. If you would like to join us we meet in the Cathedral Refectory 1130-1150 before going into the Cathedral.

Parish Rosary Group meets to pray the Rosary together via Zoom on each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Please contact Alison on 01722 741681 for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

My Generation will be meeting next Wednesday 19 February 2025 for a Creative Session at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Family of Faith is now on a break until the Sunday 9 March then 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 - will reconvene after half-term on Wednesday 26 February at 6.30pm at our Parish Centre. If you're in school years 8 to 11, it's a great moment to join and to bring a friend along for the discussions. Help needed in the kitchen! If some parents/parishioners could come along on just **one** Wednesday evening and do some cooking, it would be a huge help, please get in touch. 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 next Tuesday 18 February at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. 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.

Journey in Faith Our ongoing programme for adults who are interested in Christianity, but who are not confirmed Catholics. The next session is this Sunday 16 February at 10.30am at the Parish Centre. Contact Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com if you are interested in joining or [click here](#)

Baptism Preparation Course - The next course begins this Sunday 16 February at St Gregory and then on 2 & 9 March. If you wish to join this course 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](#).

If you cannot go, but would like to contribute to the costs to enable someone else to go, why not make this part of your Lenten almsgiving? Contact the Parish Office for more information - all contributions, large or small will be gratefully received.

Beyond the Threshold – Last month international speaker and author David Wells gave an excellent presentation to catechists. He addressed a range of sentiments that we all experience including the virtues of faith, hope and love, focusing on our need to be present and willing to be available. To watch the videos click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

We Dare to Hope - is a resource for small group faith-sharing and for individual meditation, featuring five sessions on the theme of Christian Hope and can be purchased directly from Clifton Diocese Adult Education and Evangelisation Department. Click on the image in the 'Top News' box or visit our [Blog](#) for more.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-1 Ordinary Time Week 6 & Psalter 2

Saturday 15 February

For The Sick of the Parish at St Osmund

09:00 - 12:00 Confessions and Anointing with Adoration after Mass.

10:00 St Osmund MASS The Sick of the Parish

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Sally Martin RIP

SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY

09:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

09:00 St Osmund MASS Mitch Chinedum - Birthday Wishes

11:00 St Osmund MASS Roger Glew RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:30 Holy Redeemer Syro-Malabar MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Jane Wilson RIP

Monday 17 February

10:00 St Osmund Requiem MASS Sylvia Weston RIP

Tuesday 18 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Ann Brookes RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 19 February

10:00 St Gregory MASS Mary Buck RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 20 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Anne Gray RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

18:30 Downton MASS

Friday 21 February

10:00 St Gregory MASS Anne Gray RIP

18:00 St Osmund MASS Anna Clarke RIP

SATURDAY 22 FEBRUARY THE CHAIR OF SAINT PETER

10:00 St Osmund MASS Saramma Paily RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Doris Phelan RIP

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

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parish of St Thomas More (Marlborough, with Pewsey).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Rosemary Brown, Gerald Curtin, Christopher Piggins, and Sylvia Weston 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

Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Rejoice and leap for joy, says the Lord, for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

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