

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

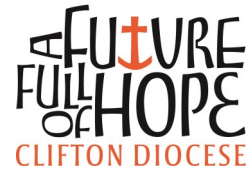
ORDINARY TIME WEEK 20(B)

From Father Anthony

Having mowed the lawn, sweating, with arms bleeding after a close encounter of the rosebush kind, I sat and drank tea. I took in pinks, blues, snow white and yellow nestling in the borders and admired the grass, smooth as a billiard table. Sparrows descended and started to peck; blackbirds followed and then gangsters. Obviously, I'd disturbed something in the grass and they were all tucking in. For a moment peace reigned, the sun shone and the air was filled with the scent of the newly mown. Then a quarrel broke out, primarily among the gangsters but, blackbirds joined in too; wisely the sparrows departed. I went in for a shower and left them to it.

The Jews quarrelled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" The quarrel continues to this day. I'm sometimes asked, 'do we still believe in the Body and Blood of Jesus: or is it just a symbol?' Perhaps the quarrel continues in our minds and hearts. Maybe, in the face of contemporary arguments we find ourselves perplexed or doubtful. If so, instead of argument we need to find another approach; one that will lead to an understanding and experience of the reality of 'His Body and Blood' in our hearts. The *royal road* to this understanding and experience is Love. God, let us recall, may be 'grasped' by love: not by thought or argument. In the Scriptures we read "you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength". This love is closely aligned to worship... (the Scriptures have eight words for *worship* meaning: *to bow down, dynamic exuberant praise, loud praise, songs of praise, making music with strings, extending hands in thanksgiving, a thanks offering and kneeling in humble submission: do any of these fit?*)

Worship of God brings us closer to ourselves; it leads into ourself. Just as when we are angry at someone we are the *first* to experience the anger; likewise, with love and worship. When the soul is in a state of worship it comes very close to Love... it comes very close to its centre; the place where it is fused with God, its Creator... the place it calls *I Am*. Here it might hear, understand and experience, "*I Am the bread of life come down from heaven*". Then, all its questions vanish.



PASTORAL TEAM

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Parish Office

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OUR CHURCHES

St Osmund
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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>

ADOREMUS

The 2024 National Eucharistic Congress takes place at St Mary's College, Oscott on Saturday 14 September 2024. It has been scheduled to coincide with the 53rd International Eucharistic Congress in Quito, Ecuador from 8 – 15 September 2024. This enables us to unite in our parishes, and at Oscott, with the universal Catholic Church as we come before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

The fact that there are limited, invitation-only places for Adoremus at Oscott doesn't mean that Catholics throughout England and Wales are excluded – far from it. On Sunday 15 September the Bishops of England and Wales have invited all parishes to have a period of Exposition to unite the faithful in focusing on the Eucharist with renewed and deepened devotion. On this Sunday there will be Exposition followed by Benediction from 3pm to 5.30pm at St Osmund's.

We also have on our webpage some of the key speeches from Indianapolis where in July they had their own National Eucharistic Congress. Click on the image in the Top News box or [click here](#).

Saint Bartholomew 24 August - Some scholars identify Bartholomew the Apostle with Nathanael, a man of Cana who was summoned to Jesus by Philip. Jesus paid him a great compliment: "Here is a true Israelite. There is no duplicity in him" (John 1:47). For more click the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

SCORE - There is a retiring collection this weekend 17 & 18 August for SCORE overseas projects. If you are applying for a SCORE grant, please submit your application by the end of August for consideration at the next committee meeting. A form is available by clicking on Parish Life on our main menu then SCORE or [click here](#).

There will be no Adoration or Benediction next Thursday 22 August due to the wedding below.

Wedding Invitation - Harriet (Hattie) Allen a much-loved daughter of this parish and her fiancé Declan Carroll are getting married in St Osmund's Church next Thursday 22 August at 1pm. Harriet was a very active member of Salisbury Young Catholics and her dedication to faith-sharing with the young of our parish was brought to fruition through the 'Searchlight' summer camps. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend their nuptial Mass to join in prayer for God's blessings on their marriage. No need to respond, simply turn up on the day.

Date for your diary - Alabaré Quiz Night - Wednesday 25 September in Chafyn Grove School Hall. For all the details please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Empowering Vulnerable Children Uganda this charity has thanked us for our kind donation of £2,000 through SCORE towards their **Library Project**. Photos have been provided which can be viewed in our [Photo Gallery](#) or you can [click here](#).

St Joseph's School have a part time vacancy for a Minibus Driver from September. All the details can be found by clicking on the image in the 'Top News' box, visiting our 'Blog' or just [click here](#).

My Generation will be meeting next Wednesday 21 August 2024 for a Buffet Lunch at 12.30pm in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

Congratulations to Michael Learnihan who celebrated his 90th Birthday on Wednesday. We have a few photos taken after Mass in St Gregory's hall, click on the ['Photo Gallery'](#) button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Hope & Friendship Group The group is for anyone experiencing grief or loss, even from a while ago. A friendly hour or so among people who will listen to one another with care and encouragement. Monday mornings 10.45 - Midday in the **Parish Centre**. Any questions? Call John Detain 01722 415588.

FAMILY OF FAITH (INCLUDING FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024-5)

In the coming year, we want to make our children and young people the main pastoral focus for the parish. As part of that project, we will be changing the way we prepare our children to receive their first Sacraments of Reconciliation & Communion. Starting in October, we will be 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. We will meet on Sunday mornings, after the 9am Masses, at the new 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. Much more information on this will follow, but for now... if you have children who will be in Years 2 to 5, and have not received an email from us this week, please get in touch with the Parish Office to register your interest.

You can also register by visiting our new web page 'Family of Faith' on our main menu or [click here](#). More resources will be added to this web page as they become available.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

'Journey in Faith' returns next month. These sessions are for adults who are interested in Christianity, but who are not confirmed Catholics. We will meet on a Sunday morning to learn about what it is Christians believe, why they believe it, and explore what it means for our own lives.

This programme can lead to becoming a confirmed Catholic through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, should you choose to do so and when you feel ready. For more click on 'Exploring Your Faith' on the Main Menu of our website or [click here](#).

The first session in the new series is on Sunday 15 September 10.30am at the Parish Centre. Please do contact Dave Blake via the Parish Office office@salisbury Catholics.org if you would like to find out more or if you are interested in joining.

Stations of Creation Walk – 1 September. On this day we will be marking the Season of Creation, and you are invited to join other local Christians on a walk from Salisbury Cathedral to St George's Church at Harnham. During the walk we will stop at seven 'Stations'; following a reading and prayer, we will reflect on how our actions are affecting people and the natural environment. The walk starts from Mompesson House in the Cathedral Close at 2.00pm and will take about 90 minutes. Afterwards there will be refreshments. All welcome, just come along. The booklet for the walk can be found by visiting our ['Blog'](#) or you can [click here](#).

Please pray for Annetta Vaz and her parents & family as she receives her first holy communion this weekend at our Saturday morning 10 am mass at St Osmund's.

Baptism Preparation Course - The next course dates are 8 September at St Osmund and the 6 October at St Gregory. To register for a baptism, please click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Last Call for Marriage Preparation The course is next week on 23/24 August and this will be the LAST one until next March. **Anyone wishing to marry in any of our churches between now until next March should attend THIS course.** Contact the Parish Office.

Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron - reflects on today's gospel, a pivotal section of the New Testament. It is the ground of the doctrine of the Real Presence: Jesus is not simply symbolically present in the Eucharist; he's really, truly, and substantially present under the signs of bread and wine. To watch and listen click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-2 Ordinary Time Week 20 Psalter 4

Saturday 17 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Lou Godwin RIP

SUNDAY 18 AUGUST

09:00 St Gregory MASS Thanksgiving - Fr Cyril John Edamana SDB

09:00 St Osmund MASS Elaine Herring RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Keith & Bee Fleming and family

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:30 Holy Redeemer Syro-Malabar MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

Monday 19 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Maire Anne D'Alton RIP

Tuesday 20 August Saint Bernard

10:00 St Osmund MASS Sister Cecilia Connolly on her Golden Jubilee

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 21 August Saint Pius X

10:00 St Gregory MASS Steven & Jan Fleming

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 22 August Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10:00 St Osmund MASS Anna Humphrey

13:00 St Osmund Wedding of Harriet Allen & Declan Carroll

No Adoration or Benediction this Thursday.

Friday 23 August

10:00 St Gregory MASS Doris Phelan RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS

Saturday 24 August SAINT BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

10:00 St Osmund MASS William Vaz RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Tony Broomes RIP

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 August

For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs. - [Click here](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE We pray for the parishes of St Nicholas of Tolentino (Easton), St Joseph (Fishponds), and St Patrick (Redfield, Bristol).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Maire Anne D'Alton, Dennis Hardiman, Barry Shrimpton & Emma Middleton 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:

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalm 33: :2-3,10-15

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Ephesians 5:15-20

Alleluia, alleluia!

**The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God.
Alleluia!**

John 6:51-58

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 who in secondary school from Sept 2024, please use our online form to register your interest in our youth faith formation. [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