

# PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

## LENT WEEK 1(B)

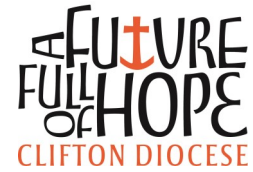
### From Father Anthony

It was early morning, dark and icy; the sky a black velvet shroud studded with sparkling jewels, a thin waxing crescent of light in one corner. Cathedral bells cut the hour into quarters: a car strained through its gears. A blackbird chirped a single note repeatedly, a conductor tapping his baton. With a unique arrangement of mellifluous notes, a solitary bird replied, proclaiming the day open for business. Others joined in until the air was a marvellous symphony of sound. The tea was good too!

*Proclamation* is at the heart of our Spirituality. Before we Teach the Faith (*Catechesis*) or Defend it (*Apologetics*) we must have it. Faith begins with a personal encounter with Christ which develops a relationship of trust and certainty. Subsequently it shapes relationships with others and forms human structures... *teaching and defending*. The latter are secondary; the encounter with Christ primary. It is this faith, this encounter, we proclaim to others. Proclamation (*telling others*) is at the heart of Evangelisation (*from the Greek root euangelizesthai, "to bring good news."*). It has to do with reaching the minds and hearts of others *out of and through our own personal encounter with Christ*. We have to encounter Christ in order to proclaim Him effectively.

What with fewer priests, merging of parishes and closure of churches, Christian life might seem bleak. But, it is the bleakness of the fallow period just before sowing. If the church is to grow once more, and it will, *you and I are the seed*. The encounter with Christ is the element within, that will 'germinate' us, transforming us from an animate soul into a life-giving spirit.

Lent is a time to *go out of our 'normal' habitual, tired ways*, so as to encounter Christ. The encounter takes place at the level of thought, feeling, intuition and inspiration. We go within (*wilderness*) and deal with the stormy, violent, accusatory side of our nature (*Satan*): we confront unruly, dysfunctional, thoughts (*wild beasts*) so that the message of Christ (*the angels ministering*) may reshape our minds causing us to change the way we think and feel (*repentance*). The *natural* person gives way (*John arrested*) to the *spiritual* person (*Jesus coming into Galilee*). We encounter Christ in our minds and hearts and the Kingdom of Heaven is released and experienced in us. This is our purpose or fulfilment (*is at hand*): this is what we bring to others.



### 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

**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>  
click "Registration/update"

## CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY - LENT APPEAL

This year we hear about the support CAFOD gives to the fishermen in Liberia (East Africa). Five fishermen a month were dying at sea because they couldn't afford the life jackets, compasses and other equipment they needed to stay safe at sea and get a good catch. CAFOD envelopes will be available in all our churches this weekend for collection 24 & 25 February. For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#)

**Feast of The Chair of St Peter The Apostle, Thursday 22 February.** This feast celebrates not only that chair as a precious relic from the time of Saint Peter, it also celebrates all that this chair represents. This feast was formally celebrated in Rome as early as the fourth century, but honour for the supremacy of Saint Peter and his successors was celebrated from the moment Jesus entrusted Peter with his unique mission. To read more about this feast, click the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**Famous Organ Hidden on a Suburban Street.** Ben Maton a local organist and pianist has released a video giving us a wonderful insight into the organ at St Gregory's Church. Built by Henry Willis the foremost organ builder in the Victorian Era, we get a little history and some beautiful music played in our church. To watch and listen click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**SCORE.** Anyone wishing to apply for a grant for a local or overseas project should submit the application by the end of February. The application form, plus guidelines are on our website under 'Parish Life' then click on 'SCORE' or [click here](#).

**Rite of Election this Saturday 17 February 11am Clifton Cathedral.** This is when those who are journeying towards becoming part of our Catholic community are presented to Bishop Declan. This year, we are delighted to be 'sending' Andre Pereira to Clifton Cathedral from our parish. Please keep Andre in your prayers as he moves into this next important stage in his faith journey.

**Life in The Spirit!** The last talk and testimony was by Caroline Robson on her walk on 'The Camino de Santiago de Compostela'. The next talk will be by Gerlinde Symons on 'Prison Ministry' on Friday 1 March after the 7pm Mass at St Osmund. Each session is recorded and can be viewed by clicking on the 'The Holy Spirit' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**Volunteer Sacristan** needed for the Wednesday 10am Mass at St Gregory's. To be part of a rota, probably 3-weekly, to unlock and lock the church and the preparation of the Altar for Mass. Full training will be provided. Please contact Deacon Steve Godwin for more information or to volunteer.

**Alabaré - The Big Sleep Friday 8 March** in Salisbury Cathedral in aid of the homeless and vulnerable. Please support our own parishioner, Graham Herbert, who will be sleeping on the floor of the cloisters. If you would like to sponsor Graham please ring him on 01722 333873 or bring your sponsorship money to the Parish Office.

**Justice & Peace Group** are in need of someone with a laptop and the technical knowhow to connect to either the large screen in the Parish Rooms or to a projector to screen films (YouTube) for the group. If you are able to help please contact the Parish Office.

**Parish Rosary Group** meets to pray the Rosary together via Zoom on each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Please contact Josephine on 01722 328410 for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

**My Generation** will be meeting next Wednesday 21 February 2024 at 2pm in the Lounge of Roman Road Methodist Church, due to the current work being carried out in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

## LENTEN RETREAT: FROM THE DESERT TO THE MOUNTAIN 22-25 FEBRUARY

Bookings for the Parish Retreat are now closed as final numbers have now been submitted to the Franciscan Centre.

There will be a Retiring Collection this weekend 17 & 18 February to defray additional costs and to help those who cannot afford a place on the retreat now or in the future.

### LENTEN SERVICES

#### **Penitential Service Wednesday 6 March 7pm at St Osmund**

Now that Bishop Declan is planning to come to Christ the King in Amesbury to preside at a Penitential Service for the Deanery on 20 March, we have moved our previously planned Penitential Service from 21 March to **6 March**. Please amend your diary/Parish Planner accordingly. Many thanks.

#### **Penitential Service Wednesday 20 March 7pm at Christ the King, Amesbury**

**Stations of the Cross** Every Friday during Lent 6.20pm at St Osmund starting this Friday 16 February

### MORE FOR LENT

**Cardinal Nichols** invites us to follow him through the Stations of the Cross using the traditional text from Saint Alphonsus Liguori. On our 'Lent' page click on 'The Way of The Cross' or [click here](#).

#### **Lenten Reflection - 'Journeying Through the Desert'**

For week one of Lent we have a reflection by Canon John Udris who speaks of the vulnerability of being in the desert and the trust we need to remain there.

**The Lent Encounter** - Stuart Ford, who spent a year in this parish as a seminarian, and who now works for the Bible Society, has edited and contributed to a series of Lenten devotions called: The Lent Encounter: where is Jesus in the Old Testament? Take a journey through the Old Testament this Lent to find the answer. Sign up for free at: <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/resources/the-lent-encounter-sign-up/> and you'll receive a free daily devotion from Ash Wednesday to Easter.

For all our Lent resources please visit our Lent page, click on the 'Lent' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**Congratulations and Welcome** to Lennon Sunny Proctor who received the Sacrament of Baptism last Sunday at St Osmund. Please keep Lennon, his parents Alice & Edward and his godparents in your prayers.

**Baptism.** Our next preparation starts this Sunday 18 February at St Osmund's with 9am Mass and followed by a short session in the Presbytery. The next sessions are 25 February and 3 March. If you plan to attend, contact the Parish Office. To register for a Baptism click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**First Holy Communion 2024** The next session is on Saturday 2 March at 2pm in St Gregory's Church. Further information and the programme schedule is on our website: [click here](#).

**Confirmation 2024** An extra session has been added, which is optional, on Tuesday 12 March at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. Further information and the programme schedule is on our website: [click here](#).

**Sunday Homily by Bishop Robert Barron** - reflecting on this week's Gospel he addresses the struggle between soul and body and the need to reconcile the two. To watch & listen, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

## LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-2 Lent Week 1 and Psalter 1

### Saturday 17 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Bridget McEvilly RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Rita Tora & Patricia Dicks RIP

### SUNDAY 18 February

09:00 St Gregory MASS In thanksgiving - Rosily & Family

09:00 St Osmund MASS Joseph's special intention

11:00 St Osmund MASS Special intention for Lily McCann

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:30 Holy Redeemer Syro-Malabar MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

### Monday 19 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Saramma Paily RIP

### Tuesday 20 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Happy 99th Birthday  
to Nielmee F Moncine

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

### Wednesday 21 February

10:00 St Gregory MASS Mary Muricken RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

### Thursday 22 February THE CHAIR OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

10:00 St Osmund MASS Ann Brookes RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

### Friday 23 February

10:00 St Gregory MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

18:20 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

19:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

### Saturday 24 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Robson RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

## PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

### Pope Francis Intention for February.

For the terminally ill.

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment. [Click here.](#)

**CLIFTON DIOCESE** - We pray for the parish of St Mary (Swindon).

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Bernadette Gallagher, Natalie Morabito and Joan Cave 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

*Genesis 9:8-15*

*Ps 24*

**Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love  
for those who keep your covenant.**

*1 Peter 3:18-22*

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

**Man does not live on bread alone,  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.  
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

*Mark 1:12-15*

### 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 Sept 2024, please use our online form to join our 2025 programme. [Click here.](#)

**CONFIRMATION** If you have a child who will be in Year 9 or above from Sept 2024, 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@clifftondiocese.com](mailto:caroline.williams@clifftondiocese.com)

## RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Fridays after the 10:00 Mass & Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays after the 10:00 Mass (extended hours on the first Saturday in the month have been paused for the time being)

*and by prior appointment with our priests.*