

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

EASTER WEEK 6

From Father Anthony

The Brown Sparrows performed an aerobatic display as I sat looking out of my bedroom window... tea in hand, of course. A seagull flapped white in the distance against the green of trees; two pigeons cooed to one another. A stiff breeze set nature dancing, but the sky was grey and sullen, not letting the sun out to play. Mrs Cat sashayed across the lawn imperiously. For a moment I saw everything as whole; the garden, church, rooftops, sky and desultory sounds; it felt very peaceful.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. The word for peace is *eiréné* (εἰρήνη). Apart from health and general welfare it also has the meaning of *being joined together or whole*. In a world of confusion, dysfunction, lies, deception, manipulations and false promises many of us long for a sense of truth and wholeness... for ourselves and society too.

Jesus tells us to keep His Word if we love him. Our ordinary human love for Him must transform into a quality of love where we prefer to be what *He is* rather than *what we are*, i.e. abandon our wants and needs in order to be one with His Being so as to encounter the way He thinks and feels; participating in his creative ability, His Word, (*If you love me you will keep my word*). This entails *work*; it is the work of being surrendered to His will; of finding and becoming Him who already resides deep in our being (*within*). If we do this we will inhabit His Mind; the very mind *through which all came to be*! We will experience the wholeness of his Mind, understand how all the component parts come together to form a variegated whole; we will understand how we fit into it and how others do too. This wholeness *is* peace - there is nothing outside of it, nothing to disturb it, nothing before or after it. The world *cannot give this*.

I mentioned *work*. It has nothing to do with strain, effort or achievement. It is simple prayerful observation of who and what we think we are; our thoughts, feelings, prejudices, attachments; but mirrored against the experience of God within. This mirroring enables us to see what is not of God and let it go; what remains is God... nothing more. Peace.

Please note - Thursday of this week is Ascension Thursday, a Holy Day.

See inside for Mass times and locations.



PASTORAL TEAM

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Parish Office

Closed Bank Holiday Monday 26 May

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1600

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1600

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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](#)

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - THURSDAY 29 MAY (HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION)

Forty days after Jesus' Glorious Resurrection, our Lord ascended into Heaven (Acts 1:6-11). The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, 'Christ's Ascension marks the definitive entrance of Jesus' humanity into God's heavenly domain, whence he will come again'. For more and a video entitled 'Why the Ascension of Jesus matters' by Bishop Barron, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Masses: Wednesday 28 May Vigil (Ordinariate) 6pm at St Osmund

Thursday 29 May 10am at St Osmund and 7pm at St Gregory.

POPE LEO XIV INAUGURATION MASS:

'LET US WALK TOWARDS GOD AND LOVE ONE ANOTHER'

Greeting over 100,000 pilgrims, Pope Leo XIV marked the joyous start to his Petrine Ministry, officially inaugurating it with Mass in Saint Peter's Square last Sunday 18 May. He expressed his heartfelt gratitude for the prayerful and joyful support offered to him as he begins his pastoral ministry as Pope. To watch either a highlight video or the full 4 hours plus please click on 'Pope Leo XIV' on our main menu or [click here](#)

Pentecost Sunday – Confirmation at the 9am Mass in St Osmund's

Please keep Kirsty, Ersilia, Hayley, Nick & Maria in your prayers this week as they prepare to receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation on 8th June at Sunday's 9am Mass in St Osmund's.

Encounter 2025 - Life in The Spirit Last Friday's talk at the Parish Centre was delivered in person by Ann Tarr on the 'Promise of the Father'. The recording of the talk is on our website, please click on 'Life in the Spirit' on our homepage or the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#). This evening (Friday 23 May) 7pm at the Parish Centre a recording of the third talk will be played, Michelle Moran on '*Sent in Jesus' Name*'. All are welcome.

Diocesan Day - Jubilee Celebration of Hope: Saturday 19 July Downside School & Abbey with Bishop Bosco. Father Anthony & Deacon Steve are going and would like to take a small group along with them. Please register your interest with the Parish Office. Places will be allocated on a first come/first served basis. For more information please follow this link: <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/jubilee-celebration-of-hope/>

Could you be a School Governor? - The Bishop is so concerned about the number of vacancies for governors at our schools, and the risk this poses to the future of Catholic education in the Diocese, that he has sent a pastoral letter to all parishes, appealing for more people to volunteer to become governors and directors. To read his letter and watch a short video please click on the image in our 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

World Communications Day 1 June - There will be a retiring collection next weekend to support the work of the Bishop's Conference in communicating news on every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church.

Missio Red Box holders and those that gave directly raised a total of £1743.00 in 2024. The amounts for each Church were, St Gregory's £723.80 and St Osmund's £1019.20. Thanks to all those who have contributed. If you need your red box emptied or wish to become a Red Box holder, please contact Allan on 01722 328904.

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. All are welcome to join.

My Generation will be meeting next on Wednesday 4 June 2025 for a Visit from the Bobby Van at 2.00pm in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

ASSISTED SUICIDE

Archbishop-elect John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues, has made a statement after the Private Member's Bill seeking to legalise assisted suicide entered its Report Stage on Friday, 16 May 2025. Within his statement he reiterates the Catholic Church's principled objection to the bill as well as raising some serious concerns. He concludes by urging all people of goodwill to take action by praying and contacting their MP to raise awareness about the irreversible harm this bill would cause. For the full statement please click on the 'Assisted Suicide' button on our homepage or [click here](#). Further debate and voting will take place on 13 June. That would be followed by a vote on whether to pass the bill as a whole to its next stage or reject it, either on the same day or a future date.

[Please contact your MP using this link.](#)

SHARING OUR FAITH

Family of Faith the next session is next Sunday 1 June 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](#).

Journey in Faith - A new programme will start in the Autumn for adults who are interested in Christianity, but who are not confirmed Catholics. Contact Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com if you are interested in joining or [click here](#)

Confirmation The next meetings are 1-to-1 mentoring sessions on the 3, 4 & 5 June. Links have been provided for the candidates to book their session, so please do book if you have not already done so. Please click on 'Confirmation' on our homepage or [click here](#) for more information.

Baptism Preparation Course The next course is scheduled to start on Sunday 15 June and will run 3 consecutive Sundays at St Osmund. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to join. To request a Baptism for your child, click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Congratulations and welcome to Francis Emmanuel Addai who will receive the sacrament of Baptism this Sunday at the St Gregory 9am Mass. Please keep Francis, his parents Alexandra & Joseph and godparents in your prayers.

Next Saturday 31 May we will also welcome Peyton Bean Toledo (10am Mass) and, in the afternoon, Isla Jane Green who will receive the sacrament of Baptism at St Osmund. Please keep Peyton, her parents Phebe & Joseph and Isla, her parents Zita & Josh and the godparents in your prayers.

FROM CHAPEL TO CHURCH - A HISTORY OF CATHOLICS IN SALISBURY C.1700 - C.1860
Our website's main menu now includes a really interesting new section on our parish history. Here you will find a paper authored by parishioner Graham Brown detailing the history of Catholics in Salisbury from about 1700- 1860. In time, further insights into Catholics in the region will be added.

The first paper, *From Chapel to Church*, deals with the period when Catholics initially worshipped in a private chapel. Later, during the early and mid-19th century, three successive public chapels were established. During these early years, the Catholic population was only 15-20 people, but by the mid 19th century, it had risen ten-fold, and since they had now gained greater freedom, they were able to build the Church of St Osmund. To read click on 'History' on our main menu or [click here](#).

Youth Group will reconvene after half-term on Wednesday 4 June 6.30pm at the Parish Centre. Do you want to join? This is for anyone in Years 8-11. All the dates are on our website, click on 'Youth Group' on our home page or [click here](#)

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-1 Easter Week 6 & Psalter 2

Saturday 24 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Patricia Twinney RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Angel Mary Joseph

SUNDAY 25 MAY

09:00 St Gregory MASS Intentions of Valeria Findlay-Wilson

09:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

11:00 St Osmund MASS Michael Low RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Personal Intentions

Monday 26 May Saint Philip Neri

10:00 St Osmund MASS Shiny Mathew

TUESDAY 27 MAY SAINT AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

10:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Emma Vandenhoff RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 28 May

10:00 St Gregory MASS Angel Mary Joseph

First Mass of The Ascension of the Lord

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

THURSDAY 29 MAY THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving – Elizabeth Paul

NB – Please NOTE There is NO MASS at Midday in St Osmund's as originally stated in the Parish Planner. Midday Mass will be in St George's, WARMINSTER

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

19:00 St Gregory MASS Alison Wyatt RIP

Friday 30 May

10:00 St Gregory MASS Deceased Members of The Kenny family

18:00 St Osmund MASS Sandra Santhosh

SATURDAY 31 MAY THE VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10:00 St Osmund MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Fridays after the 10am Mass & Saturdays 5.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays after the 10am Mass until 12 noon
and by appointment

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY

For working conditions Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfilment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanized. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE - We pray this week for the parish of St Luke and St Teresa (Wincanton, with Milbourne Port, Castle Cary and Bruton).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pope Francis, Peter Gange, Peter Emmett, Margaret Price, Gertie Harmon, Celia Maidment 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:

Psalm Response

Let the peoples praise you, O God; Let all the peoples praise you.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him. 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