

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

LENT WEEK 5(A)

From Father Anthony

The view was spectacular. I tucked the car off road and took it all in. Below, between rolling folds of dense green, swans glided across a lake. Ducks quacked and splashed: birdsong echoed over the hills. A lady stood before an easel sketching a stone house, along with turrets and a church spire all nestling in between the fields opposite. The road meandered down and climbed away into a forest. White puffy clouds drifted across deep blue obscuring the sun, losing their form and density in a glorious white haze... the spiritual obscured by the physical but illuminating it!

Periodically we may do well to remind ourselves that we are spiritual beings incarnated into physical bodies. Our true nature is spiritual; we hail from the realm of spirit. This is not to say that we reject the physical, secular world; not at all. We awaken or *remember* the spirit we are in order to bring spirit into the world so as to transform the world. Like the sun shining behind a cloud we illuminate not only ourselves but the world we live in. This is a very real task; our ministry, in fact. All too often we remain clones of the world we live in, confirming its dense, erroneous ways but never illuminating it. We suffer, ourselves, as a consequence.

Lazarus in the tomb represents the human state devoid of spirit... a form of animated death. A state where thought is limited to what we can see, hear, taste, touch or smell. Yet the world is a function of spirit and can only fulfil itself by returning to its homeland. As St Pauls says, '*The first man Adam became a living being; the last Adam a life-giving spirit. i.e. we arrive in the world as a sensory, animated being but must become a life-giving spirit... here on earth.*

The secular world has great problems with this and can diminish it, ridicule it, and provide all manner of distractions to stop us *remembering* it; because, ultimately, '*the world*' is threatened by it. But, there is no threat only the offer of life. Just as physical eyes can look upon beautiful scenery, spiritual eyes must look upon Christ. He is the Radiance that will illuminate us and raise us spiritually... not *out of* but *into* the world. During Lent, especially, let's practice letting the worldly decrease so that He, Spirit, may increase.



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Anthony B Paris VF (Parish Priest)
01722 333581 or 07544 053785
anthony.paris@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Jonathan Creer (Pastor of Sarum
Ordinariate & Assistant Priest)
07724 896579
jonathan.creer@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Joseph Columba Meigh
(Assistant Priest)
01722 333581
joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Detain (Deacon)
01722 415588
john.detain@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Stephen Godwin (Deacon)
07583 254488
stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Proctor (Deacon)
07802 631968
john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office
Monday-Friday 0900 - 1600

01722 562703
office@salisburycatholics.org

Caroline Williams
caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

Désirée office@salisburycatholics.org

Tony outreach@salisburycatholics.org

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"

PASSIONTIDE -THE VEILING OF IMAGES

You will notice something different when you come to church this weekend: the violet veils over the statues and images alert us that we are entering into Passiontide, the most sacred days of the year. We are fasting from our usual expressions of joy and festival: less music, no flowers, and now a purple pall over the colourful statues. The church is uniting herself to Christ's suffering and death. It may seem counterintuitive to cover up the crucifixes just as we're focussing our attention on the Cross: but this ancient tradition reminds us that Jesus' divinity was hidden under a veil of human weakness and pain, and causes us to long even more deeply for the Resurrection. At Easter, the veils will be removed: both literally in church, and figuratively from our own hearts, when Christ gives us the joy and vibrant colour of His risen life.

Act of Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary - The solemnity of the Annunciation on Saturday marks one year since Pope Francis consecrated Russia and Ukraine to the Blessed Virgin Mary in St. Peter's Basilica with a prayer asking for peace in the world. On 22 March, the pope recalled his historic act of consecration and called on parish communities and prayer groups to annually renew the Marian consecration. For more and the 'Act of Consecration' please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Parish Coronation Tea & Talk - Sunday 7 May 23 at 3pm at The White Hart Hotel. This is a pre-bookable event only. Book via the Parish Office on 01722 562703 or office@salisburycatholics.org. £16.50 per head which includes tea and a buffet of small sandwiches, cakes and scones. For more details please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Fabulous Family Fun Day is being held at Salisbury Rugby Club on Saturday the 13 May from midday. This event is in aid of Salisbury Hospice. If anyone would like to purchase any raffle tickets, help on the day or ask any questions about this event please contact Sarah Varney: svarney401@gmail.com.

Choir for Easter Triduum in St Osmund's Fr Joseph is organising a group of singers to support and enhance the music at our Triduum liturgies in St Osmund's Church. The second rehearsal was held last Wednesday. There are just two further rehearsals both on Wednesday 29 March & 5 April in the Parish Rooms at 7pm. Everyone is welcome. Please inform the office if you would like to join in.

Salisbury Foodbank. Our Lent collection for the Foodbank ends on Palm Sunday.

Easter Egg Hunt! We are delighted to announce that we will once again be able to host an Easter Egg hunt for children after the morning Masses on Easter Sunday at both St Osmund and St Gregory, also eggs will be given out after the Mass at Holy Redeemer. Donations of (individually-wrapped) Easter Eggs will be gratefully received in your chosen church. Please hand your eggs into the office or to the welcomers at each of our Churches.

Easter Flowers In honour of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Churches will hopefully be adorned with beautiful flowers, please do consider making a contribution. Donations can be placed in the normal collection basket at each of our churches in a envelope marked 'Easter Flowers'.

Justice & Peace Group are meeting in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund after the 10am Mass on Monday 27 March. The group will be discussing a number of topics including: Climate Change, Military Dictatorship in Burma and ways of growing the group. All are invited.

Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron in this episode he is reflecting on the Gospel 'that no matter what we accomplish in this life, we know that it will all be swallowed up in the end. The fear of death broods over the whole of life. But does death have the final say?' To watch and listen just click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or just [click here](#). The video will be available on our website from late on Saturday evening.

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENTS

Baptism Our next course will take place on three Sundays at St Osmund: 16, 23, and 30 April consisting of 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](#).

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 is Saturday 1 April at 2pm in St Gregory's Church for both Parents and Children. It is very important that all sessions are attended.

Confirmation Programme 2023 - next session will be on Friday 19 May 7pm for a Candidates' social, followed by a session, the following day (Saturday 20 May) at 11am for the Candidates only. Both sessions will be held at St Osmund. The full programme is available on our website, please click on 'Sacraments' on our main menu and then select 'Confirmation' or [click here](#).

THE THIRD SCRUTINY FOR THE ELECT OF OUR PARISH

Last Sunday, the Elect were on our parish retreat in Ladywell and the second Scrutiny took place there in the midst of those on retreat. This Sunday at the 9am at St Osmund, they join with us once more for the Third and final Scrutiny. We listen together to the Gospel account of the raising of Lazarus and dwell upon Christ who is the Resurrection and the Life.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ELECT OF OUR PARISH

Tina Arnold Heather Carey Marion Elvin Martin Turner

and all those currently preparing to receive the sacraments

LENT 2023

The Stations of the Cross is a beautiful devotion to recall and honour the Passion of Christ. There are Stations of the Cross devotions in St Osmund's Church **each Friday during Lent at 6.20pm** (prior to the 7pm Mass). You can also join from home via our [Church TV](#).

Tuesdays in Lent - Bewildering Books, Challenging Chapters, Villains in Verses - There's a lot of strange stuff in the Bible! 7.30-8.45pm at Riverside House (way down the end of Watt Road). Need a lift? Ask a Deacon.

Chrism Mass in Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday 5 April. We will take a final decision on Monday as to whether to take a coach. Just over 20 people (including all of our clergy) are booked for a 34 seat coach to travel to the Chrism Mass which will be picking up in Salisbury and Amesbury but we need a few more to make this a viable trip. We only ask for a nominal contribution and children travel free. **Book Now by emailing** the office if you would like to go. office@salisburycatholics.org or phone 01722 562703

Palm Crosses - This year we have sourced our Palm Crosses from 'African Palms' whose aim is to give people living in a very poor part of Tanzania the possibility of earning some extra money, their only other source of income is the sale of cashew nuts. For much more and a short video of how the Palm Crosses are produced click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

EASTER MASS TIMES CARDS - OUTREACH DELIVERY TO THE NEW ESTATES

This Easter we are concentrating our Outreach efforts exclusively on the new housing developments. Many thanks to all who have volunteered, all the streets are now claimed. To all our volunteers **please deliver your cards between now and Palm Sunday**. There are still some cards to be collected, please do let us know how best to get them to you. Call 01722 562703 or outreach@salisburycatholics.org

HOLY REDEEMER CONSULTATION

Last weekend at all Masses, an announcement was made that a parish-wide consultation about the future of The Most Holy Redeemer Church was to be launched. During the week, Fr Anthony emailed all registered parishioners the following message:

We are currently preparing for a future where fewer priests will serve larger areas with the possibility of diminishing congregations and income. Our parish has three church buildings within 2 miles of each other and the roof at Holy Redeemer requires extensive essential repairs if it is to remain open. Therefore, we must ask the question whether our mission in this city is best served by raising sufficient funds to repair and maintain this building. If not, should we redevelop the land in order to provide an income for the future? It goes without saying that this would be a very difficult and sad decision to have to take, given the fondness which many of us share for this beautiful and community-built church.

The salient facts are:

The church is used twice-weekly for a congregation of between thirty to ninety persons.

Projected essential repair costs are between £K500 - £1m.

Even if we could raise the money (which is doubtful), there is a compelling moral argument as to whether we should, weighing cost against strategic necessity and projected usage.

Closing the church would cause inconvenience and sadness but there are two other churches to choose from within a short distance.

With fewer priests and diminishing congregations - and therefore diminishing finance - redevelopment of the land may eventually provide an income for the future mission of the Church in Salisbury.

If the church does close, the Saturday Evening Mass will migrate to one of our other two churches.

Permission to conduct this consultation was granted by Bishop Declan on 7 February 2023 and the final decision will rest with him. It is my hope that through a period of discernment, prayer and dialogue we can provide him with the best possible evidence to inform the decision-making process.

There is a dedicated page on our website: <https://salisburycatholics.org/hr>

with all the important information and I respectfully ask that everyone in the parish, regardless of which church you regularly attend, to pray, reflect and engage with this process.

God bless,

Anthony

Fr Anthony Paris

QR code for those who wish to access the questionnaire via a mobile device.



Consultation Meetings/Discussions

Saturday 13 May 4.30pm (prior to Vigil Mass) in Holy Redeemer Hall

Sunday 14 May 3pm Online via ZOOM for those who cannot attend the meeting above.

Sunday 28 May Please ensure that your Questionnaire is received by this date

Report Writing/Submission

30 May – 20 June Submission preparation/collation of responses

21 – 23 June Submission of recommendations to Bishop Declan

5 July Council of Priests' Meeting (Clifton Diocese)

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Lent Week 5 and Psalter 1

Saturday 25 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Anthony (Tony) Brady RIP

SUNDAY 26 March

09:00 St Gregory MASS Raymonde Chung RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS The Elect of our Parish

11:00 St Osmund MASS In memory of the 10 million lives lost since the Abortion Act 1967

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

Monday 27 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving for Lillian & Graham Brown

Tuesday 28 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mansfield Family

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 29 March

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Doris & Nick Phelan RIP

18:00 St Osmund MASS (**Not Ordinariate**)

Thursday 30 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS John Pearson RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 31 March

10:00 St Gregory MASS Raymonde Chung RIP

18:20 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

19:00 St Osmund MASS The Elect of our Parish
with Presentation of The Lord's Prayer to the Elect

Saturday 1 April

10:00 St Osmund MASS Sheila Finneran RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Mabel Perkins RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

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 MARCH

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for Hospital & Prison Chaplaincies.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anthony (Tony) Brady, Marion Phillips, Michael Pyne, and Pamela Finch Michael Villis who died recently. We also pray for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Psalms 129

**With the Lord there is mercy
and fullness of redemption.**

Romans 8:8-11

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;

who ever believes in me will never die.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

John 11:1-45

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 2024, 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](#)

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@cliftondiocese.com