

# PARISH OF ST OSMUND

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

## ORDINARY TIME WEEK 21(A)

### From Father Anthony

It was a balmy afternoon. Cannock Chase unwound into the distance, a patchwork of mustard yellow and Country Bus green. The sun shone brightly. Shadows dappled the landscape as clouds floated across the sky. A hint of farmyard hung on the breeze: a cow mooed in the distance. I let the sun burn my face, breathed deeply and let nature fill my senses: languid and comely, powerful and unrelenting... heavenly! Out of the blue, I thought, *'there is only Christ; many roads lead to Him but there is only Him. Don't confuse the road with the destination'*. Maybe it was guilt at succumbing to nature!

Jesus came to Caesarea Philippi. Caesarea, *Kaisareia, Καισάρεια*, comes from *Kaisar, Καῖσαρ*, meaning Caesar, a Roman Emperor. Philip, *Philippos, Φίλιππος* means *horse loving*; spiritually it often refers to the active mind; that which carries us through life. Combined with Caesar we get a sense of the power of personality, seeking its own praises and glory; being king in its own life and attempting to dominate others. Last week Jesus entered into and drew Faith out the *yapping mind*: this week He will probe deeper.

Christ comes to our *personality*: who and what we think we are. As with Peter, so with us, He asks, *'who do you say I Am?'* If we are wrapped up in our own personality we may grudgingly allow Him the dignity of being *'another great personality'*, (*John the Baptist, or a prophet*). If the gift of Faith (*preferring what God prefers*) has taken root; if we have controlled in us that which seeks personal praise, gratification and dominion over others; if we are dying to ourselves; then, there will be less of who we *think we are* and more of *who we truly are*. God will reveal His Nature in us! The world, *flesh and blood*, can't do this. Then we become channels of His Grace: we recognise Christ in us *as us; personality gives way to individuality*. God builds His Kingdom in and through us. He is King... not personality nor Caesar.

Now our spiritual ministry on earth can begin. Just as trees soak up carbon, we will soak up, what in the world and our own lives *misses the mark (Sin)*; we will bind it. Having bound it we will loose the world and ourselves into the balance, freedom and love of God... heaven on earth and earth in heaven.

### PASTORAL TEAM

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**Parish Office**  
Monday-Friday 0900 - 1600  
**Closed Bank Holiday Monday**

**01722 562703**  
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**Caroline Williams**  
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**Tony** [outreach@salisburycatholics.org](mailto: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>

## **First Saturday Adoration & Confessions**

Beginning from Saturday 2 September, on the first Saturday of each month, we want to make the Sacrament of Reconciliation available at St Osmund's from 9am until 12 noon, including during the 10am Mass where possible. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Adoration after Mass. We are continuing to look at how to provide a space for Confessions which is both private and safeguarding compliant.

## **Prayers from the Camino**

Congratulations to Caroline Robson, who has almost completed her Camino pilgrimage. Caroline began walking at St Jean Pied de Port in France and is due to arrive in Santiago de Compostela this Sunday having walked approximately 780km. She has promised to pray for us at the shrine of St James and we ask that you will also pray for her this weekend. If you have a prayer intention that you would like Caroline to offer at the Shrine, please email Fr Joseph before Sunday, who will forward them to her: [joseph.meigh@clifftondiocese.com](mailto:joseph.meigh@clifftondiocese.com)

**June Kelly RIP- Requiem Mass at St Osmund's next Friday 1 September 2.30pm** - A long standing member of our Parish community, founder of our Hope & Friendship group which ran for a number of years. June's Family hope you will join them for both the Requiem Mass and reception afterwards in the Parish Rooms.

**Parish Finances** - For those who missed it in last week's newsletter the full statement by Mike Riding (Chairperson of the St Osmund Finance Committee) with the Consolidated 2022 Financial Statements and the results of the first six months of 2023 are all available on our website. These can be found by clicking on the 'Finance' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

## **St Gregory's Church Local Mission Planning Workshop - Monday 18th September 2023, 7pm.**

This is the second in a series of workshops being run to plan how the community of St Gregory's will deliver its local mission. The first workshop in the spring identified a host of good ideas (and challenges) we could focus our efforts on. This second workshop will aim to identify how we organise ourselves to take these opportunities and meet the challenges. To make the workshop a success, we really need as many people as possible to attend; this will be the critical opportunity to have your views and ideas listened to and considered. We are particularly keen to capture the ideas and views of all the rich and diverse cultures and backgrounds present at St Gregory's. Please try to find the time to join us at St Gregory's Hall at 6.45pm for a tea or coffee before we start at 7pm.

**Food and Friendship** is the new name for the Parish lunch which is moving to St Gregory's Hall instead of its former location in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund's. The time and frequency will be as before, 12.30pm every second Thursday of the month. Everyone is welcome to join us for a home cooked lunch. We just ask for a donation to cover the cost of food and any remainder goes to our charity of the month. Our first date is Thursday 14 September at 12.30pm. Contact Jane at [jane.waspe@btinternet.com](mailto:jane.waspe@btinternet.com)

**Listening with the Heart** - The department of Adult Education and Evangelisation are offering an opportunity for parishioners to develop the skills of small group facilitation in the context of Parish Pastoral Councils, RCIA, Prayer Groups etc., The first of these sessions across the Diocese is at St Osmund's at 7pm on Tuesday 19 September. For more information and how to book, click on the image in the Top News box or [click here](#).

**My Generation** will be meeting next on Wednesday 6 September 2023 for 'Everything Puddings' at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

**Salisbury Foodbank** - During September we are collecting long life milk and tinned soup for the Foodbank. Please leave contributions in the box at the back of each Church. Thank you.

## SEPTEMBER OUTREACH

Thank you to all our volunteers who collected their packs last weekend. The remainder will again be available this weekend at all our Sunday Masses. If you cannot locate your pack please do let us know as it may have gone to the wrong church. You can also always pop into the Office any weekday between 9am and 4pm. We are hoping that as many cards as possible will be posted by 17 September.

These cards have been designed for those who may be interested in the Catholic church or for those who may wish to re-engage but just do not know where to begin. It will give them details of how to get the support and accompaniment we can offer them on their faith journey. The contact page referred to on the card can be found by clicking on the image in the 'Top News' box or by [clicking here](#).

New volunteers have claimed a further 1,000 cards taking our total to 18,000, but we still have another 2,000 cards left. So if you are fit enough to simply post cards, why not join in? Its not too late! You can do as few or as many as you choose/have time for!

Call the Parish Office 01722 562703 or email: [outreach@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:outreach@salisburycatholics.org)

## EXPLORING YOUR FAITH

**The Nicodemus Group:** For people who wish to share their faith (or lack of it!) with others in a very simple way; by sharing a meal together and reading the Gospels. The first meeting in the new series will be on Wednesday 11 October at 7pm in the St Elizabeth Hall, Exeter Street.

**Journey in Faith:** This is a programme for adults who are interested in Christianity but who are not confirmed Catholics. The next meeting will be Sunday 3 September at 4.30pm in the Parish Rooms next to St Osmund's Church on Exeter Street.

For more information please visit 'Exploring Your Faith' on our main menu or [click here](#), or contact Dave Blake [rcia@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:rcia@salisburycatholics.org)

## DON'T FORGET THE HOLY SPIRIT!

Come and pray for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit

**Friday 1 September** 7-9pm at St Osmund. Starting with Mass of the Holy Spirit at 7pm (with Fr Matt Anscombe) followed by testimony, teaching, discussion and prayer. This will be the 'launch' event for a series of Life in the Spirit seminars which will then take place on the following 6 Friday evenings following the evening Mass. The full programme can be viewed by clicking on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#). If you'd like to get involved in the preparation/delivery in any way, please contact the office or Deacon John Proctor.

**Baptism** Our next Baptism preparation course at St Osmund starts next Sunday 3 September and then the following two Sundays. The course consists of attendance at the 9am Mass followed by a one hour 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](#).

### Sacramental Preparation for 2024

**First Holy Communion** - If you have a Child that has just completed Year 2 (going into **Yr 3 or above** in September) and you wish to enrol them in the next programme, **the deadline is 9 September 2023**.

**Confirmation** - If you have a child that has just completed Year 8 (going into **Yr 9 or above** in September) and you wish to enrol them in the next programme, the deadline is 3 February 2024.

Please register for either programme by clicking on the 'Registration' button on our home page or [click here](#).

## LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Week 21 and Psalter 1

### Saturday 26 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Cynthia & Gerald McCarthy RIP

### SUNDAY 27 August

09:00 St Gregory MASS Alma Bradley RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS Lolita Gregorio RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Rita McLoughlin RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS People of the Parish

18:00 St Osmund MASS Turoina & Heikura RIP

### Monday 28 August Saint Augustine, Pope

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

### Tuesday 29 August Passion of Saint John the Baptist

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

### Wednesday 30 August

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Angela Broad - in sickness

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

### Thursday 31 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving - Janet & Jacob Vazhappilly

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

### Friday 1 September

10:00 St Gregory MASS Anthony K. D. RIP

14:30 St Osmund Requiem MASS June Kelly RIP

All are welcome and to the reception in the Parish Rooms

19:00 ST OSMUND MASS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

followed by testimony, discussion and prayer in the Parish Rooms.

### Saturday 2 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Holy Souls

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS People of the Parish

## RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

St Osmund Saturdays 09:00 until 12:00 on the first Saturday of each month, all other 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 August

#### For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

[Click here.](#)

**CLIFTON DIOCESE** - We pray this week for the parishes of Our Lady, St Mary of Glastonbury (Glastonbury), St Michael (Shepton Mallet), Our Lady Queen of the Apostles (Cheddar) and St Joseph & St Teresa (Wells).

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

June Kelly, David Maycock, Jennifer Pothecary, Anne Gillam, Patricia Thomas, Janet O'Callaghan and Peggy (Margaret) Fletcher. We also pray for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

### SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

*Isaiah 22:19-23*

*Psalms 137*

**Your love, O Lord, is eternal,  
discard not the work of your hands.**

*Romans 11:33-36*

### Alleluia, alleluia!

God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.

### Alleluia!

*Matthew 16:13-20*

## 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, 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](mailto:caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com)

## PARISH UPDATE FROM FATHER ANTHONY

Dear Friends,

I hope you are well and enjoying the summer. If you have been on holiday I hope you are refreshed and enjoyed it: if you are going or are about to go away, I wish you all the very best... come back refreshed, safe and sound.

A fair amount has taken place this year, not to mention the roof & ceiling at St Osmund's, pigeons in the belfry, the refurbishment of St Gregory's Church, work in St Gregory's Hall and permission granted by Bishop Declan to close Holy Redeemer. Onwards and upwards - so I would like to update you, as promised, on the following:

i. Holy Redeemer Proposals are being developed for the use of the land at Holy Redeemer. We are waiting on the Diocese: as soon as I have something concrete I'll come back to you.

ii. Parish Centre I propose to create a Parish Centre at St Elizabeth House, Exeter Street to be known as the Parish of Saint Osmund, Parish Centre: obviously, as a merged parish, this includes all our communities from Whaddon, Downton, Holy Redeemer, Saint Gregory's and St Osmund's – the title simply reflects the name of the merged parish and not the church of the same name. The present tenants are departing and there is an opportunity to reclaim that part of the premises they rented from us. Exactly how and what it is used for will need to be explored and refined but its uses may include youth work, the elderly, parish lunches, coffee mornings, First Holy Communion preparation and Confirmation preparation... and it has plenty of parking! This Parish Centre will be in addition to our current use of that part of the building known as St Elizabeth Hall which we currently hire out on a business footing to generate income for the parish and will continue to do so.

If you feel you could assist in developing the aims, objectives and uses of the Centre – especially its management and administration - I will invite you to attend a facilitated workshop, venue and date to be announced: for now, I'd be very grateful if you would consider ways in which you could assist and be a part of the process of establishing this Centre and get in touch if you'd like to be involved.

iii. Youth

a. Two people have shown interest in becoming our parish youth worker. This is very good news. We will conduct interviews and I'll let you know the outcome.

b. I propose to trial an afterschool club on Sep 20, 27 & Oct 4, 11. It is aimed at primary-aged children who would come along with their parents to St Osmund's Church Hall for about 40mins directly after school finishes. It will be a chance for me to get to know the children and introduce them to various aspects of the sacraments, church life and basic church teaching – nothing too onerous. It will also be a chance for parents to get together over tea or coffee. Parents, please let me know what you think of this idea.

c. Following the after-school trial I will be inviting those Confirmed earlier this year along with those of the two preceding years to a series of get-togethers on Oct 18, 25 & Nov 08, 15. Again, this will be a trial and a chance to socialise, explore further and expand on the life of youth in our churches; it might lead to youth Masses and a series of youth clubs!

iv. Parish Pastoral Council Our Pastoral Council will reform in the Autumn. Details to follow soon.

Love and prayers

Anthony