

# SALISBURY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

## ORDINARY TIME WEEK 8(C)

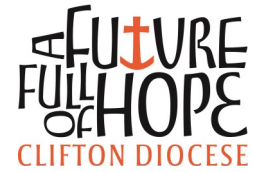
### From Father Anthony

Winds howled and gusted. Trees shook. Clouds billowed and dissipated as they fled across the sky. Slates crashed off the roof. Unaffected, the Gunslinger flitted over and eyed me. Henrietta stood ruffled and 'chinked'. Gangsters flapped and the Brown Sparrows navigated the turmoil with ease... only I clung on for dear life. What struck me, as always, was the powerful yet simple elegance of nature. It never seems to pretend to be other than it is. I wish I could say the same of myself!

Daffodils and Crocuses bobbed their heads; Spring is almost here. It made me think of a *spring clean*... an internal one. The line from Ecclesiasticus rang like a bell in my mind, *'In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk'*.

'Talk' is not only what we say to others or write in emails, texts and letters; it is also about what goes on in our heads... the *subvocal voice* that chatters away. The power of the Word is revealed in Genesis. God speaks and it comes into being! John begins his Gospel, *'In the beginning was the Word'*. Language (*talk*) sets us apart from the rest of nature; it affects how we present to the world because actions follow thought. Internal or external talk, is creative and effective. It should reflect our spiritual elegance, our resemblance to God; very often it does not. Perhaps we need a *sieve* to sort out our thoughts and discard the rubbish. The sieve is Love; and Love needs to be cultivated.

Love begins with trust and confidence that we *are* loved... by God. We must let God love us and feel this love. In His Love, free from anxiety or fear, we can observe our rubbish thoughts; *anger, hatred, conniving, self-pity, getting even, lying* and so on. We don't have to run from them only see them for what they are and let them dissipate in His Love. They won't necessarily go away overnight. But if we persist in the practice of observing them in Love our natural elegance will emerge out of the storms of life; it will overcome and diminish them. Being used to seeing *the log in our own eyes* we won't notice *the splinter in our brothers' eye*. We will be too busy seeing in him the Love that is in us too.



### PASTORAL TEAM

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**Rev John Proctor** (Deacon)  
07802 631968  
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### Parish Office

Open: Monday-Friday 0900 - 1700

**01722 562703**  
[office@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:office@salisburycatholics.org)

**Caroline Williams**  
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**Tony Peters-Ennis**  
[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>  
click "Registration/update"

**REGISTERED PARISHIONERS  
TO DATE : 2903**

# PROPOSED MERGER OF OUR PARISHES

All registered parishioners who have provided an email address should have received the following message from Fr Anthony on Friday 25 February. **He addresses all parishioners of Salisbury Catholic Churches:**

Introduction Bishop Declan has given us permission to hold a consultation about formally merging our Parishes.

Background Many Diocese, including our own, face a future with fewer priests. Nationwide it is likely that we will only be able to keep the Mass at the centre of our Catholic life if we gradually *cluster* and then *merge* some parishes. Merging parishes is legal and has many benefits. It means we preserve our catholic communities whilst fulfilling a principle of no *priest-less* parishes.

Way forward The first step towards merging parishes is to cluster them. We have already taken this step with 'Salisbury Catholic Churches'. The second step is to hold a consultation among our church communities in order to provide the evidence that will assist the Bishop with his deliberations.

We will begin the formal consultation process on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022. Details and documents will be made available to you. In brief these will include:

- a Background Document
- a Timetable including details of Consultation Meetings,
- a Questionnaire

This is a critical moment in our church community life: may I commend the process to you with all my heart. May I also ask that individually and collectively we pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance, wisdom and courage. Together we can take the church into the future.

With my love and prayers.

Anthony

The documents to which Fr Anthony refers above are available on our website on our dedicated **Parish Merger Consultation** page: [Click here](#). Printed copies will also be available in our churches this weekend.

## KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

6 March	Consultation Process Begins Parish Questionnaire will be made available to complete online or in writing
7 March	Booking opens to reserve a place at one of our Consultation Meetings <a href="mailto:booking@salisburycatholics.org">booking@salisburycatholics.org</a> or 01722 562703
12 March at 4.30pm	Consultation Meeting at <b>Most Holy Redeemer</b>
13 March at 3pm	Consultation Meeting at <b>St Gregory &amp; the English Martyrs</b>
14 March at 4.30pm	Consultation Meeting for <b>St Osmund's</b> to be held in <b>St Elizabeth Hall</b> (131 Exeter Street).
30 March at 5pm	Deadline for Questionnaire submission
29 April	Submission of Summary Report to Bishop Declan

# FEAST OF SAINT DAVID PATRON OF WALES - 1 MARCH

Were we restricted to hard manual labour and a diet of bread, vegetables and water, most of us would find little reason to rejoice. Yet joy is what St David urged on his brothers as he lay dying. For, as someone once said, "Joy is the infallible sign of God's presence." May his intercession bless us with the same awareness! For the story of Saint David click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

## ASH WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH - MASS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

Mass times: 10:00 St Osmund, 12:00 Holy Redeemer, 18:00 St Gregory, 19:00 St Osmund (Ordinariate).

**Downton Ash Wednesday:** Our Churches Together Service with imposition of ashes will be at 7pm in the Church of the Good Shepherd. All welcome.

**The Significance of Ash Wednesday** by Father Mike Schmitz. They may just be ashes but Fr Mike points out that what they represent goes far beyond mere dust of the earth. Click on the image in the 'Top News' box to listen to Fr Mike's heartfelt words or [click here](#).

**NO PARKING AT ST OSMUND'S** Please be aware that the driveway remains closed until a safety assessment is conducted. Slate tiles are slipping from the church roof and the area may be unsafe.

**Ukraine Pray for Peace** Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Eparchial Bishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the UK, has addressed his community and all people of good will as tensions rise in Ukraine. To listen and read please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**Annual CAFOD Lenten Fast Day is Friday 11 March.** By eating simply and giving what you save, you'll be making a place at your table for poor children this Lent. CAFOD envelopes will be made available in all our churches on the weekend 5 & 6 March. For those fit enough, from Ash Wednesday, challenge yourself to walk 200km in time for Easter. Do 5k a day, your way, for 40 days and see if your friends and family will sponsor you. Click on the 'Fast Day' image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#) for more information.

**St Osmund & Holy Redeemer Parish Pastoral Council** has now been formed and the first meeting will take place on Monday 14 March. Please pray for guidance and wisdom for this group.

**The Big Sleep** welcomes those who want to take a stand against homelessness. For the sixteenth year, Alabaré are inviting brave fundraisers to sleep overnight next Friday 4 March 2022 in Salisbury Cathedral Cloisters. For more information and to register click on the image in 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**Salisbury Foodbank.** In March our Lent collection for the Foodbank will be potatoes - tinned and instant mash. Thank you for your donations to the January appeal which was equivalent to 160 meals.

**Contemplative Prayer** from 1pm - 1:30pm on Tuesday 1 March in St Osmund's Church. All welcome.

**Confirmation 2022** Bishop Declan will be coming on **5 July** this year to confer the Sacrament of Confirmation. For further information please contact Annette at [confirmation@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:confirmation@salisburycatholics.org)

**First Holy Communion 2022** weekend will be **21 & 22 May**. The first Children's session is at 2pm on 12 March, St Gregory's (it is important that the children attend **ALL** of their sessions). The timetable is available on our website: select 'Sacraments' on the main menu and then 'Holy Communion', or [click here](#).

**Baptism Preparation** The next Baptism Preparation Course will be via Zoom on 21, 28 March; and 4 April at 7.30pm. For baptisms at St Osmund or Holy Redeemer please contact Deacon John Proctor on 07802 631968 or email [john.proctor@clifftondiocese.com](mailto:john.proctor@clifftondiocese.com) and at St Gregory contact Deacon Stephen Godwin by email [stephen.godwin@clifftondiocese.com](mailto:stephen.godwin@clifftondiocese.com)

**Congratulations and welcome** to Jocelyn Mary Houston who received the Sacrament of Baptism last Saturday 19 February. Please keep Jocelyn, her parents Rebecca and Andrew and godparents in your prayers at this special time.

## IMPORTANT CHANGES TO STANDING ORDER/GIFT AID PAYMENTS



The Clifton Diocese is changing the way in which it processes standing order donations which means that we must ask most parishioners who pay this way to amend their standing order. **Parishioners who pay by Standing Order should all now have received their email with instructions.** If you haven't received yours or are having any difficulties, please contact Caroline or Liz in the Parish Office. Please check your 'junk' or 'spam' folder in case your email system has diverted it there! Quoting the correct reference on your new standing order instruction is vital to enable us to claim the Gift Aid from your donation. If you do not have an email address, you will be contacted by telephone or in person in time.

**Why is this happening?** At present, most Gift-Aided standing order donations are paid into a central Diocesan bank account and later distributed to parishes. Due to the introduction of new accounting system, all donations paid by standing order must now be paid **directly into the parish bank account** rather than the Diocesan account. This is a change that is being forced upon us and we are truly sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause. Please be assured that our Gift Aid secretaries, treasurers and the parish office will all be on hand to help you.

Donating to the parish by Standing Order is the most convenient way to support the mission of our parish. If you do not currently give this way, please consider doing so. Contact the parish office either by email or telephone. 01722 562703 [office@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:office@salisburycatholics.org) Many thanks.

**Deanery Lenten Penitential Service with Bishop Declan: Thursday 10 March at 7pm.** Bishop Declan is coming to St Osmund's to celebrate a Liturgy of Reconciliation (with opportunity for individual confessions).

**Syro Malabar Community annual retreat** lead by Fr. Jose Anthiamkulam MCBS at Most Holy Redeemer Church on Saturday 19 March 9.00am to 5.00pm.

**Liturgy – A Call to Love** Our Diocesan Liturgy Office has produced a series of videos, entitled 'A Call to Love' to remind us of the importance of the Mass in our lives. We have the tenth video 'The Eucharist' by Canon Christopher Whitehead, Parish Priest, St John the Evangelist, Bath. To watch, click on the 'A Call to Love' image in the 'Top News' box on our homepage or [click here](#).

**The God Who Speaks** We have a reflection by Bishop Jim Golka on this Sunday's readings (8th Sunday in Ordinary Time C). Our actions speak loudly and by them our being is changed. Therefore by imitating Jesus we let him transform us. To watch, click on 'The God Who Speaks' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**Sunday Homily by Bishop Robert Barron.** There are a lot of people claiming to be spiritual gurus, teachers, and guides today. But is the person to whom you've entrusted your life spiritually blind? Whom are you going to follow, and why? Toward the end of Luke's Sermon on the Plain, Jesus the definitive spiritual guide offers us important lessons that help us discern our spiritual guides. To listen, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**Luke's Gospel** Christopher Piggins continues to read Luke's Gospel with the recording of Chapters 15 & 16: 'The Journey to Jerusalem'. To watch, click on the 'Luke's Gospel' button on our home page or [click here](#).

**Children's Liturgy** from Catholic Kids Media: The Blind leading the Blind?! A fun Catholic reflection for children based on the readings for this Sunday the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C. Click on 'Church TV' then select 'Children's Liturgy' or [click here](#).

# LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-2 Ordinary Time Week 8 and Psalter 4

## Saturday 26 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS John & Evelyn Costello RIP

## SUNDAY 27 February

09:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

09:00 St Osmund MASS Tony McMullen RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Jose Cardoso RIP

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Muriel & James Maloney RIP

## Monday 28 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary & St Jude.

## Tuesday 1 March SAINT DAVID, PATRON OF WALES

10:00 St Osmund MASS

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

## ASH WEDNESDAY MASS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

10:00 St Osmund MASS

12:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

18:00 St Gregory MASS

19:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

## Thursday 3 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Pat Mooney RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

## Friday 4 March

10:00 St Gregory MASS

18:15 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

19:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

## Saturday 5 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Lucy Broughton RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Mary-Anne Clarke RIP

## RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

St Osmund Saturdays 10:30 to 11:00

Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

## PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

### POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR MARCH

#### A Christian Response to Bioethical Challenges

For Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life with prayer and action. [Click here.](#)

### CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parish of St John the Evangelist (Bath).

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Vincent Urmston, John Daly, Tony McMullen and Betty Knight who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

### SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

*Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7*

*Psalms 91*

**It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.**

*1 Corinthians 15:54-58*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Open our hearts, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.**

**Alleluia!**

*Luke 6:39-45*

## SACRAMENTS

**BAPTISMS** For our next parents' preparation course, please contact Deacon John Proctor by email [john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com) or on 07802 631968 to register for the next course.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** If you have a child in Year 3 or above, 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? If you (or they) find this difficult to talk about, why not provide the details to the parish office? 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)