

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 30(B)

From Father Anthony

It had been ages since I sat out in the Garden. Tea in hand, I took in wilting yellows and browns and the damp smell of Autumn. Leaves littered the path like a threadbare carpet; clouds struggled across a restive sky. To my delight the gunslinger swooped onto the stump and challenged me with his eyes. "Where have you been?" he seemed to say with beautiful voice; and indeed, where had I been! So caught up, in the concerns and worries of the world, I had become blind and forgetful of the natural beauty all around me: like Bartimaeus I had become a beggar by the roadside of my own life.

Timaeus, which means *honoured one*, appears only once in the Scriptures: Bartimaeus means *son of Timaeus* and he is blind. The son of the honoured one is blind. I wonder if Timaeus – as he only appears once - stands for the Father and Bartimaeus for you and me. We are sons and daughters of the Father but we are blind. We have wrongly directed and devoted our spiritual energy to the things, processes and conventions of this world and become spiritually blind. We have become beggars in spirit by the roadside of our lives. And yet, this is also a blessing as it makes us search for the One who can give us Life, Freedom and Spirit.

There is another Son: one like us. He comes out of the *fragrant halls* of the spirit (Jericho means *fragrant* and *wide spaces of freedom*). This Son, Jesus, walks by the roadside of our lives. We can call out to Him above all the restraining and constricting secular voices of the world, especially those in our heads. Interestingly, Jesus does not go up to Bartimaeus but tells others to call him. Is Jesus asking us to call others to Him? Rather than being part of a world and cohort that seeks to silence Jesus and those who want Him, are we being challenged to become aware of Him, our own blindness and the blindness of others; and in that common blindness bring one another to Jesus. Which voice are we going to listen to; that of the world which seems to be spiralling into chaos; or, that of Jesus who will give us the spiritual sight to lead it back to the *fragrant halls of freedom and beauty*? Or, am I dreaming?

Please remember the clocks go back at 2am (before you wake) this Sunday 27 October.



PASTORAL TEAM

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Rev John Proctor (Deacon)

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Parish Office

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1600

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1600

01722 562703

Caroline Williams

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Désirée Coups

office@salisburycatholics.org

Tony Peters-Ennis

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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>

["Registration/update"](#)

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS - FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER

(Holy Day of Obligation) Masses: 10am St Gregory, 12 Midday St Osmund and 7pm St Osmund

This feast first honoured martyrs. Later, when Christians were free to worship according to their consciences, the Church acknowledged other paths to sanctity. Please click the image in the 'Top News' box for the story of 'All Saints' or [click here](#).

ALL SOULS' DAY - SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER

Since few people achieve perfection in this life but, rather, go to the grave still scarred with traces of sinfulness, some period of purification seems necessary before a soul comes face-to-face with God. The Council of Trent affirmed this purgatory state and insisted that the prayers of the living can speed the process of purification.

Blessing of Graves on All Souls' Day. The graves of your loved ones in the London Rd, Devizes Rd and The Avenue cemeteries can be blessed on this day. Meet at 3pm at each cemetery, by the central Cross in the London Rd cemetery, inside the gate at Devizes Rd and in the car park at The Avenue.

During November we pray especially for the Holy Souls. There are special 'Prayer Request' envelopes in the church porch. Place the names of your departed loved ones in one of these envelopes and place it in the box or basket in front of the altar in each of our churches. If you are unable to come to church but would like a name/s placed, please call 01722 562703 or email office@salisburycatholics.org and we can do it for you. All Friday evening Masses during November will be celebrated for those named in our churches.

PARISH BRIEFINGS

Next Sunday 3 November at 3pm and Thursday 7 November at 7pm Fr Anthony will be leading two (duplicate) 1 hour briefing sessions to update parishioners regarding a number of important matters. Both will take place in the Parish Centre at 131 Exeter Street. Included will be an update on Holy Redeemer Church, the impact of St George's Warminster being served by Salisbury on our Clergy and Administration and an update on our parish finances and property. Most of the pastoral team will be there also key parish representatives for Property, Finance, HS, Admin etc. This will be an opportunity to parishioners to receive key information, raise any questions and give feedback. Please put one of these dates in your diary!

Assisted Suicide - Bishop Bosco MacDonald is calling on Catholics in the Diocese of Clifton to unite in prayer and compassionate action to oppose assisted suicide. In September a Bill on assisted suicide – so-called assisted dying – started its passage through the House of Lords, this call is renewed now as on Wednesday, 16 October, the House of Commons heard the first reading of a new bill on assisted suicide tabled by Labour MP Kim Leadbeater. For much more and how to contact our MP please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Blessing of our New Lectionaries & Missals - SAVE THE DATE!! On Friday 29 November at 7pm we will have a special Mass which will include the Blessing of all of our new editions of the Lectionary and Book of Gospels that will be used at all of our Masses. All of the individual Sunday Missals that parishioners have ordered will also be blessed at this Mass. It is our hope that everyone who has ordered a Sunday missal will come to this Mass if they can and collect their new Missal after it has been blessed Mass ready for use on the First Sunday of Advent. If you have not yet paid for the Missal that you have ordered, please do this as soon as possible via the Parish Office.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE & FAMILIES

Family of Faith Our new 'Family of Faith' will gather again on Sunday 3 November at our Parish Centre on Exeter Street. This is open to families with children in Years 2 to 5 and will include, but not be limited to, those preparing to make their **First Holy Communion**. Continuing on Sunday mornings *every other week* during term time after the 9am Masses, finishing at 12 noon. For more [click here](#) or on 'Family of Faith' on our homepage which includes the opportunity to register.

Youth Group is now on half term break. We meet again on Wednesday 6 November at the **Parish Centre** at 6.30pm. **Do you want to join?** This is for anyone in Years 8-11 to meet up, relax, play games, chat about faith, ask questions, and pray. Know a young person that may like to come? Give them a nudge. All the dates are on our website, just click on Youth Group on our home page or [click here](#).

SHARING OUR FAITH

Journey in Faith for adults who are interested in Christianity. The next session is this Sunday 27 October at 10.30am at the Parish Centre. For more click on 'Journey in Faith' on our home page or [click here](#)

Confirmation 2025 If you have a child that is in Year 9 or above and are interested in joining the programme, please register on the 'Registration' button on our home page or [click here](#). For more information and dates click on 'Confirmation' on our homepage or [click here](#).

Welcome to Amelie Grace Elliott who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday 20 October at St Gregory. Please keep Amelie, her parents Catherine & Christopher and her godparents in your prayers.

We will welcome two more children who will be baptised at each of our Sunday 9am Masses this weekend.

Baptism Preparation Course at St Gregory - second session on Sunday. The next course is at St Osmund starting 17 November. To request a Baptism for your child, click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

NOTICES

Christmas Cards There will be choice this weekend after all the masses, the '**Youth**' card that will directly support the work we are doing for children, families and young people in our Parish. The '**Youth**' card has two versions: plain: £2 each or 7 for £10, or shiny: £2.50 each or 5 for £10 and cards on behalf of the Catholic charity **Aid to the Church in Need** They will also be available from the Parish Office.

St.Gregory's have also a selection of religious Christmas items for sale starting this Sunday after Mass: Christmas cards, advent calendars, candles and calendars and lots of gift ideas, all faith related.

Parish Christmas Bazaar: Please come along to the Parish Christmas Bazaar, to be held in St Gregory's Hall on Sunday 24th November 2024 from 10am to 12 noon. Donations of quality pre-loved toys, games and books (no bric-a-brac please), cakes, raffle prizes and sweets can be left in donations boxes at the back of our churches at any time. We'll keep the children busy with crafting too! Any questions to Jez Mawdsley (07947700889).

Our Parish Centre, We are currently developing dedicated areas within the centre, including a youth lounge, to support a variety of parish events. We would greatly appreciate any donations of items in good condition such as large rugs (circular or square), floor or large side lamps, coffee tables, comfortable small sofas, or beanbags to help create a welcoming space. If you have anything to offer, please contact Deacon Steve Godwin (07583 254488 stephen.godwin@clifftondiocese.com). Collection can be arranged.

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS FOR ADULTS

Young(ish) Catholic Adults Group for those in their 20s, 30s, 40s...?! We're going to follow a course together called "Practising the Way". It's a primer on spiritual formation, offering all sorts of helpful advice about living a fuller Christian life in the modern world. Covering topics like discipleship, prayer, fasting, sin, suffering, community, sabbath, solitude, etc. Please join us for the input, discussion, and a chance to connect with other young Catholics. The course started this week on Tuesday and will meet again on Tuesday 5 November at 8pm and will meet every 2 weeks thereafter. Join us in person in the St O's Parish Rooms (Green door), or join us online via Zoom. Contact Fr Joseph for the link.

The Bible Timeline Last Wednesday, we continued our journey through the Scriptures with Fr Jonathan who took us through the period of the Patriarchs, focussing on God's covenant with Abraham and his descendants, down to Joseph. Next Wednesday Fr Jonathan will move the narrative on through the period of Exodus, the oppression of the Israelites, the plagues on the Egyptians and the flight into the desert. Recommended preparation is to read (or at least skim!) over Exodus 1 to 18, and to watch the animated video summary from the Bible Project by clicking on 'The Bible Timeline' on our homepage or [click here](#).

Men's Breakfast This Saturday 26 October 8am-10am at the Parish Centre. Starting with a short prayer, a cooked breakfast and short talk by a guest speaker. Tickets will be £10. If you plan to attend click on this link <https://forms.gle/zzGjet9e91aQSRz8> . Further dates to be confirmed.

Justice & Peace Group are meeting next Monday 28 October at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. There will be a discussion on Red Wednesday and a showing of the film 'The True Cost' which is about the clothes we wear, the people who make them, and the impact the industry is having on our world. All are most welcome.

First Friday Talks - The next talk will be on Friday 1 November after the 7pm Mass in the Parish Centre by Fr Jonathan Creer on 'The Saints'. The talks are recorded, to view please click on 'First Friday Talks' on our homepage or [click here](#).

REGULAR PARISH GATHERINGS

My Generation will be meeting next on Wednesday 6 November 2024 for Hoy Bingo at 2pm in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109

Parish Prayer & Praise (Alabaré) on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in our Parish Centre (except for the last Tuesday in the month - see 'Evening Supper' below). All are welcome.

Evening Supper on the last Tuesday of each month, the Alabaré Community host a supper for parishioners. All are most welcome but please contact Deacons John Proctor or Steve Godwin to register so that we know the numbers to cater for. There is no charge. The next supper is next Tuesday 30 October in the Parish Centre.

Parish Rosary Group which 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. Never prayed the Rosary before? No problem - we are happy to help and explain it to you. We are also happy to receive prayer intentions if there is something that you would particularly like the group to take to Our Lady for her intercession.

Coffee and Cake - follows the 10am Mass every Thursday morning. Come and enjoy friendly company in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. There is no charge but we welcome a small donation for our chosen charities.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-2 Ordinary Time Week 30 Psalter 2

Saturday 26 October

10:00 St Osmund MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Kathleen Quinn RIP

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER

09:00 St Gregory MASS Thanksgiving - Jacob Jose Vazhappilly

09:00 St Osmund MASS Agnes, David Yao & Family

11:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Isabel

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS The People of the Parish

MONDAY 28 OCTOBER SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES

10:00 St Osmund MASS Maria Gerchar - for her needs

Tuesday 29 October

10:00 St Osmund MASS

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 30 October

10:00 St Gregory MASS Nicola Clarke RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 31 October

10:00 St Osmund MASS Seena Shibu RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

10:00 St Gregory MASS John Kerin RIP

12:00 St Osmund MASS

19:00 St Osmund MASS Holy Souls

SATURDAY 2 NOVEMBER ALL SOULS' DAY

10:00 St Osmund MASS Tony Radclyffe RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS

RECONCILIATION

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

St Osmund: On the first Saturday of the month from 9am to 12
noon, and on other Saturdays after the 10am Mass

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

Pope Francis Intention for November

For anyone who has lost a child

We pray that all parents who mourn the loss of a son or daughter find support in their community and receive peace and consolation from the Holy Spirit. - [Click here](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE We pray for the parish of Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary (Charlton Kings).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Veronica Quarm, John (Sean) Coady, Ruby Spokes, and Hansel Anthony Dcruz 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:

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalms 125

**What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.**

Hebrews 5:1-6

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Mark 10:46-52

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. [Click here](#)

CONFIRMATION If you have a child who is in Year 9 or above from Sept 2024, please use our online form to apply to join our 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 Desiree for more details:

office@salisbury Catholics.org