

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

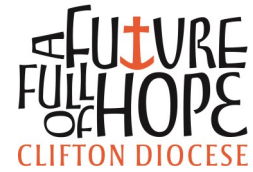
EASTER WEEK 5

From Father Anthony

Stunning bellflowers threaded along green borders like blue veins. Brown sparrows squabbled in neatly clipped olive trees; Spivs chattered like rattles as Mrs Cat sprawled elegantly on the wall, basking in the sun. I sipped mint tea. The gardener has been in: severe pruning has taken place! Nooks, crannies and a little pathway have been discovered: individual plants and shrubs, lost in the amorphous mass of undefined shapes, have been revealed, their identity restored. Everything has room to grow and expand again. Out of chaos a sense of order and shape has been restored.

The universe and all within it; the human being and how that person lives all stems from thought. *God thought, and it was so.* We have inherited from God the ability to be like Him and how we think affects how we live and interact with the world. Very often we think of thought as if we have no control over it... as if thoughts just come and go and we have to put up with them. But this is not actually so. In fact, we should pay great attention to our thoughts and guard them as a lioness guards her cubs. They have the ability to affect us and others; we do well to pay attention to and edit the sub vocal voice in our heads that chatters away. In the garden of Eden all was well when Adam's thoughts were in accord with God; as soon as they were not he lost his paradise. All too often our thoughts become overgrown and cluttered; they stifle the life in us! *'Is all well in the garden of my mind'* is a question we should all ask.... daily! *"By their fruits you shall know them"*, is a Gospel test.

If all is not well then pruning is necessary. The *I Am* of each one of us, our spiritual centre, is the true vine; it is the formlessness out of which every form in our lives emerges; it is one with the Father; it is Divine Consciousness within, the *"word that I spoke to you"*. This Consciousness prunes and shapes our thoughts until they accord with the Divine. It is in this Consciousness (*conscience*) that we must rest, daily, and let go (*prune*) of all that causes dis-ease; until our thoughts, words and actions lose the ability to wound and only help ourselves and others to grow.



PASTORAL TEAM

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Parish Office

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 at:

<https://salisburycatholics.org>
click "Registration/update"

Feast of Saint Catherine of Siena - Monday 29 April - Catherine Benincasa, born in Siena at a date that remains uncertain, was favoured with visions from the age of seven. Becoming a tertiary of the Dominican Order, she acquired great influence by her life of prayer as well as by the spread of her spiritual writings. Her continual appeals for civil peace and reform of the Church make her one of the leading figures of the fourteenth century. She died in Rome on April 29, 1380. We have a short video and summary of her life on our website - click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Feast of Saints Philip and James - Friday 3 May marks the feast day of Saints. Philip and James. Though there's not an especially important reason behind the unification of St. Philip and St. James' memorial, these apostles both shared lives radically devoted to the Gospel and paid the ultimate sacrifice for their faith. For their story, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Feast of The English Martyrs - Saturday 4 May - we celebrate the feast of the English Martyrs and call to mind not only the forty priests, religious and lay people canonised by Pope Paul VI in 1970, but also the further two hundred and forty-two declared 'Blessed' and those Catholics, many unknown, who died defending the faith. Click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#) to read more.

Clergy Training Fund There will be a retiring collection next weekend (4 & 5 May). The Clergy Training Fund invests in men who have answered the call to serve the people of God. It takes 7 years to train for the priesthood, and costs around £30,000 per year per seminarian. Please watch our very own Fr Thomas Lawes (now Parish Priest at St Joseph's, Fishponds) talk about vocation and his own journey to priesthood, as well as his life and ministry as one of our newer priests. Click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#). Envelopes will be available in each of our churches - if you are able to Gift Aid your donation, please use one.

Youth Worker Vacancy for youth leader for primary age children. Click the button on our homepage for all the details. Closing date is this Sunday 28 April 2024.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Training If there is anybody who missed the EMHC training last year, Deacon Steve is holding a short training and refresher session at 11am on Wed 15 May after Mass in St Gregory's Church. The training will be no more than an hour and you will be commissioned to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at the Mass you normally attend. For those interested in expanding this ministry to visiting the sick and elderly, a DBS check is required. We can guide you through this simple process. To reply, please email: stephen.godwin@cliffondiocese.com

St Gregory's Hall Gigantic Sale of china, glassware, books, toys and bric-a-brac. Saturday 4 May at 10.15am to 12 noon. Admission free, bargains for everyone.

Coffee and Cake following 10am Mass every Thursday morning. Come and enjoy the friendly company in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. If you can help or would like to bake a cake for one week please email Jane: jane.waspe@btinternet.com

Parish Rosary Group 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.

My Generation will be meeting next Wednesday 1 May 2024 when a Bric-a-Brac Sale will be included at 2pm in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

Art and Craft Group meet each Monday after the 10am Mass at St Osmund's in the Parish Rooms. All are welcome even if you have never painted, drawn or crafted before. For information Oltea on 07597 453989.

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Glastonbury: Sunday 14 July 2024 Led by our new bishop, Bosco Macdonald. Although this may seem a long way off, if you are interested in going please complete the list which will be at the back of each Church as SOON as possible or call the office on 01722 562703. Whether we book a coach and of what size is entirely dependent on the level of interest expressed. Very often when we arrange trips there is a 'last minute rush' of people wishing to join at a point that it is too late to book or change the size of a coach. If you would like to go, please commit early! For more information click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Bereavement Friendship Group starts on Monday 29 April and is for anyone experiencing grief or loss, even from a while ago. A friendly hour or so among people who will listen to one another with care and encouragement. Monday mornings 10.45 - 12 noon in the Parish Centre. Any questions? Call John Detain 01722 415588.

Life in the Holy Spirit. You are warmly invited to 'Life in the Spirit' Seminars which focus on praying for a further or fuller release of the Holy Spirit each Friday at 7.30pm from 19 April to 31 May at the Parish Centre. Last week's talk given by Lee Proctor was on 'God's love', this Friday 26 April will be given by Deacon Steve Godwin on 'Salvation'. All the sessions are recorded and can be viewed by clicking on the 'The Holy Spirit' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Parish Prayer & Praise (Alabaré) are now occurring weekly on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in our Parish Centre (except for the last Tuesday in the month). All are welcome.

Evening Supper on the last Tuesday of each month, the Alabaré Community are hosting a supper for parishioners to come together to share in fellowship and discuss how our faith can be lived out in daily life. 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 first supper is on Tuesday 30 April in the Parish Centre.

First Holy Communion 2024 The final session is on Saturday 25 May at 2pm in St Gregory's Church. This an absolute '**must attend**' for all Parents & Children. The details of which Mass the children will be making their First Holy Communion on the weekend 1 & 2 June has now been published to all families.

Confirmation 2024 Fr Joseph has issued an invitation to all the candidates to visit and attend Mass at Wardour Castle on Sunday 12 May. Please do respond using the link provided within the invitation. Further information and the programme schedule is on our website: [click here](#).

Baptism Preparation. The next course is at St Gregory and will now start on the 12 May (and then 19 & 26 May) with 9am Mass followed by a meeting in the Sacristy. If you plan to attend, please contact the Parish Office. To register for a Baptism please click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron on this week's Gospel he reflects that if we wish to be closer to Jesus Christ we should not only listen and imitate him, but also live in him. To achieve this we need to prune those areas of our lives such as: resentment towards others, secularism (Mass is no longer important), pornography (not a victimless crime), materialism (preoccupied with possessions) and gossiping (stealing other's reputations). To watch and listen click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#). The video will be on our website on Saturday evening.

Children's Liturgy - The Vine and the Branches! A fun Catholic reflection for children based on the readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter, Cycle B. To watch click on the Children's Liturgy button on our home page or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-2 Easter Week 5

Saturday 27 April

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marriage Intention for James Christopher

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 28 April

09:00 St Gregory MASS Stephen & Margaret Murtagh and Family

09:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Victoria Monu

11:00 St Osmund MASS Valerie Tomkins RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Peter Goodliffe RIP

Monday 29 April SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

10:00 St Osmund MASS Personal Intention

Tuesday 30 April

10:00 St Osmund MASS Shybi - Thanksgiving

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 1 May

10:00 St Gregory MASS Keith & Bee Fleming and Family

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

Thursday 2 May Saint Athanasius

10:00 St Osmund MASS Chinedum Chimereze RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 3 May SAINTS PHILIP & JAMES, APOSTLES

10:00 St Gregory MASS Pat Mooney RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS Special Intention - Isabel

Saturday 4 May THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

10:00 St Osmund MASS Rev Stephen Ortiger RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Doris Phelan RIP

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 May

For the formation of religious and seminarians

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel. [Click here](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE - We pray for University/College/School Chaplaincies.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Don Whelan, Maisie Elliott, Nora Burke, Ian Hewlett, and Alastair Clark 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.

Requiem Mass for Nora Burke will be at 2pm on Thursday 16 May at St Osmund - All welcome.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE:

Acts 9:26-31

Psalm 21

You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

1 John 3:18-24

Alleluia, alleluia!

Make your home in me, as I make mine in you.

Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty.

Alleluia!

John 15:1-8

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 Sept 2024, please use our online form to join our 2025 programme. [Click here](#)

CONFIRMATION If you have a child who will be in Year 9 or above from Sept 2024, 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