

SALISBURY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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



ADVENT WEEK 1 (B)

From Father Anthony...

I was having a sly afternoon kip... 'reading the Fathers', as we used to say! Deep in the land of nod I was assaulted by a great deal of noise. Stumbling to the window I took in watery light and a blotchy sky. The garden looked bland save for a few red roses. And there they were! On the lawn, in a huddle... Gangsters. Bodies jumping, wings flapping, they were going at one another hammer and tongs. Harry, the Gunslinger and Mrs Cat were nowhere to be seen; very wise. But, perched on the school roof, a solitary bird watched it all. I had something to learn from him... or her.

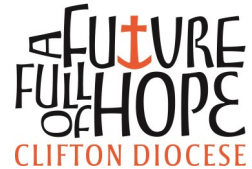
In the book of Genesis, God puts Adam into a deep sleep; nowhere does it say he woke up. A constant refrain follows throughout the scriptures, urging; 'wake up O sleeper', 'watch'. It seems that what we call waking (*worldly*) consciousness is like a form of dream sleep when not united to our spiritual consciousness. To experience our full humanity, as spiritual beings, we are urged to reawaken this higher state, if it is lying dormant.

The process of wakening begins by becoming watchers (*doorkeepers*) of our own being. It is a quality of awareness that comprehends how we use our senses and faculties (*the servants left behind*). When these are earthbound – limited to material consciousness - we experience separation, variance and dysfunction... like the squabbling birds. This inner turmoil induces a dream like state because it is not united to reality... which is spiritual. By observing, like the watching bird, we become aware of and therefore begin to understand what is going on in our lives. Awareness (*recognition*) is everything; when we see and understand *what* something *is* we can correct it... if necessary.

Advent derives from the Latin *ad* and *venire*, 'to come'. We watch for the One who is to come (*the man travelling abroad*): not in history but in our own being. It is in Him that all is corrected. With patience and perseverance, we experience the One who is to come by realising that the observer in us, that which watches and sees all, is the One. He never went away... only we did not recognise Him, being caught up in and identified with the dream. The Watcher (*doorkeeper*) and the Lord (*man abroad*) are not two but one; yet, He is the greater.

Pastoral Letter from Bishop Declan Lang

As we enter the new church year, we have a letter from our bishop. The letter is available now on our website (audio, video and pdf files) <https://salisburycatholics.org/bishop>



PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest

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Parish Office

Due to lockdown, the office is closed until 3 December.

Emails and phone messages are being monitored and responded to.

01722 562703

office@salisburycatholics.org

Caroline Williams

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Tony Peters-Ennis

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.

Pop into the Newman Room and say hello! Please register online at:

<https://salisburycatholics.org>

click "Registration/update"

REGISTERED PARISHIONERS

TO DATE : 2688



FATHER JONATHAN CREER

We have received the very welcome news that Father Jonathan has been appointed by Bishop Declan Lang as Assistant Priest to our parishes whilst remaining as Pastor of the Sarum Ordinariate. This formalises the practical and pastoral relationship with us which has been working so well for some time now. Praise be!

SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE - 30 NOVEMBER

Andrew was a fisherman from Bethsaida in Northern Israel. He lived on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, which is really a lake, where many of Jesus' miracles took place. Jesus chose mostly fishermen and small farmers to be His disciples, perhaps because in these professions a man can plan, sweat, and calculate, and still, in the end, fail. Success is not appreciated unless failure is an option. For more on this apostle, please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/blog/saint-andrew-apostle>

SAINT OSMUND - 4 DECEMBER

We are delighted that lockdown has ended just in time for us to be able to gather together at Mass on the feast of one of our patronal saints. There will be a special Mass at 7pm in St Osmund's Church on 4 December. Please book if you would like to attend: booking@salisburycatholics.org 01722 562703

Other saints this week:

Saint Alexander Briant, Martyr - 1 December <https://salisburycatholics.org/blog/saint-alexander-briant>

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest - 3 December <https://salisburycatholics.org/blog/saint-francis-xavier>

HERITAGE PROJECT During this lockdown, a group of parishioners gave their time to empty the contents of a ramshackle shed in the garden and to bring down items that had been stored (and largely forgotten) in the bell tower above the main entrance to St Osmund's. These items were all removed to the hall and a small group of hardworking parishioners have spent time cleaning and cataloguing them. Amongst the items are parts of the original rood screen including the central cross and statues of St Mary & St John which were placed high up in the chancel arch. Many thanks to everyone involved - this is an ongoing project so please watch this space! For more details, click on the 'Heritage' button on our homepage or go to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/heritage>

THE BELL TOWER A recent review of the belfry by the surveyors found that much of the wood in the upper part of the bell tower was rotten and damaged by woodworm. Urgent repair/replacement work is underway and should be completed in the near future. The workmen have discovered the original carpenter's mark: 'W Davis 1847' - to see a photograph, visit our website Blog or go directly to <https://salisburycatholics.org/blog/bell-tower>

RESTORATION OF THE PEWS The continual use in recent months of the 'Covid Guard' spray has severely affected the pews at St Osmund and vital restoration work was needed. Thanks to some very hard graft by a parishioner over a number of days, the pews have now been restored and are looking so much better. Thank you very much David! There is a picture on our website blog at: <https://salisburycatholics.org/blog/pew-restoration>

'SHARING OUR STORY' This is an opportunity for catechists to be renewed and refreshed by taking part in a series of conversations with a variety of great speakers. All are welcome to join, including anyone who is interested in this area of ministry but not yet involved. The first speaker is David Wells. For more information please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/sharing>

CLIFTON LITURGICAL DIARIES 2021 are available for purchase at all our churches for £6.50. You can also purchase a diary from the Parish Office (at the back of the Parish Rooms at St Osmund's) **from 3 December onwards**. If you would like one but cannot get to the office, contact us by email office@salisburycatholics.org or ring 01722 562703 and we will arrange to get one to you.

GIFT AID OFFERTORY ENVELOPES If you would like your numbered Gift Aid envelopes, please call 562703 or email office@salisburycatholics.org However, due to the risks involved in handling cash, we would prefer parishioners to make their offerings via bank transfer/standing order quoting 'Offertory' followed by their envelope number e.g. OFFERTORY ENV 10. Call or email the parish office if you need to be reminded of your number or our bank details or need any help to achieve this. If you are a taxpayer and do not currently Gift Aid your donation, please contact us to set this up. **Please note:** if you use the PayPal button on our website, there is no need to quote your envelope number. Simply tick the Gift Aid box when making your payment.

CURRENT GOVERNMENT LOCKDOWN ENDS ON WEDNESDAY 2 DECEMBER

This weekend and up to and **including Wednesday 2 December**, the lockdown continues with no public Masses. However we will continue to have a full Mass livestream schedule which is available to view live or as a recording via our website at: <https://salisburycatholics.org/st-osmunds>

From **Thursday 3 December** onwards we will return immediately to our pre-lockdown schedule and you may book a place to attend Mass in person by sending an email to: booking@salisburycatholics.org or call 01722 562703 between 9am - 5pm Monday - Friday. It is very important that we use this email for Mass booking and only for Mass booking. The schedule for the coming week is on the final page of this newsletter as normal.

ATTENDING MASS AT CHRISTMAS

Thank you to all those who have already booked their Christmas Mass attendance, this is really very helpful to us and we have been delighted by the number of bookings already made. **We strongly encourage all parishioners to book a place at a Christmas Mass as soon as possible, please see the page below for all the details.**

PAUSE FOR FAITH We have an interesting debate presented by Fr Stephen Wang recorded during the first lockdown entitled 'Will Catholics go back to Mass after Lockdown?' Fr Stephen outlines reasons for both being cautious on one side and optimistic on the other. Please click on the 'Pause for Faith' button on the homepage of our website or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/pause-faith>

ADVENT Please click on the 'Advent' button on our homepage. We have a thought-provoking video by Father Mike Schmidt on the 'True meaning of Advent'. We also have the first of four weekly video reflections called 'Love is Coming'. Finally, we have four seasonal reflections by Canon Christopher Thomas, General Secretary of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. Go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/advent-20>

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS There is another excellent reflection on video by Fr Jim Golka on this weekend's Gospel (First Sunday in Advent) on our website. The reflection is just 3 minutes. Click on 'The God Who Speaks' button on our Homepage or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/god-who-speaks>

CHILDREN'S LITURGY We have a children's liturgy of the word for last weekend's Gospel: 'Christ The King'. Click on 'Church TV' then select 'Children's Liturgy' or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/childrens-liturgy>

CREDO Fr Andrew Eburne continues his journey through the articles of the Creed. We have the eighth podcast in this series 'and became man...' and the ninth 'the crucifixion'. For these, and the previous seven, (more to follow) click on the image in the 'Top News' box or go to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/credo>

SUNDAY HOMILY The latest podcast from Bishop Robert Barron for this Sunday (29 November, First Sunday in Advent) is now on our website. Advent, like Lent, is properly a penitential season. To enter into Advent, to prepare for the coming of the Saviour, is to enter into our need for a Saviour. Click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/sunday-homily>

MUSIC IN ISOLATION For the first week of Advent we have added 'Tell out my Soul' (a metrical setting of the Magnificat) from St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast. Click on the 'Music in Isolation' button on our home page or go to <https://salisburycatholics.org/music-isolation>

SCRIPTURE IN SONG This feature associates an element of scripture with song each month. For November we have 'Kingdom on Earth' (Mt 5:1-12). Previous months are also available: October ('I am with you always' Mt 28:19-20) September (Ps 103), August ('Love one another' Mt 22:36-40), and July ('Do not worry' Mt 6:25-34). Just click on the button 'Scripture in Song' or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/scripture-song>

BOOKING TO ATTEND MASS IN PERSON

Please note that we have a new email address for taking Mass bookings.

Please ring or email to book to attend Mass on this email address and telephone number only:

booking@salisburycatholics.org

01722 562703 (Mon - Fri 9am-5pm)

We now have a dedicated email address for Mass booking ONLY this enables us to accept help from volunteers and to keep all Mass booking emails separate from other parish matters. When booking to attend Mass, please limit the subject matter of your email to Mass booking only - as these emails may be opened, read and responded to by volunteers assisting in the office. For all other parish, pastoral or confidential matters, please continue to use the existing email addresses as shown on the front page of this newsletter.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

It is now clear that social-distancing and booking a place at Mass are still going to be required over the Christmas period and into the New Year. This severely limits the number of attendees at any one Mass but we are committed to ensuring that as many people as possible will be able to come to Mass at Christmas. To that end, our priests are celebrating many more Masses than is normal. **We strongly encourage you to book your place at a Christmas Mass as soon as possible.** This will not only secure a place at the Mass you wish to attend but it will also help us enormously, enabling us to spread the workload of taking bookings, organising and recruiting stewards, arranging church cleaning between each Mass and seat-planning. If we all work together to support and help each other, we can ensure that everyone who wants a place at Mass at Christmas will get one.

THURSDAY 24 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASSES

16:00	St Gregory
17:00	St Osmund
19:00	Holy Redeemer
20:00	St Osmund
21:30	St Osmund
24:00	St Gregory

FRIDAY 25 DECEMBER CHRISTMAS MORNING MASSES

08:00	St Osmund	<i>(no music)</i>
08:30	Holy Redeemer	
09:00	St Osmund	
09:00	St Gregory	
10:30	St Gregory	<i>(Ordinariate MASS)</i>
11:00	St Osmund	

NEW YEAR'S EVE MASS 23:30 (in order that the consecration is at midnight) St Osmund

Booking for Christmas & New Year is **already underway**. Ideally, please email including which Mass you wish to attend and how many people are in your social 'bubble'. If you are not a registered parishioner, we will also need a telephone number for contact tracing purposes. If you do not use email, call us on 01722 562703.

booking@salisburycatholics.org

STEWARDS AT CHRISTMAS MASSES - More volunteers needed

Could you be a steward at one of our Christmas Masses? Under the current guidelines, we are obliged to have stewards at Mass to ensure that minimum health and safety standards are met. Stewarding involves greeting Mass attendees as they arrive, directing them to their seat and sanitising the pews once everyone has left, ready for the next Mass. If you are in good health and could help us, please volunteer as soon as possible. This will allow us time to complete the necessary recruitment checklist with you, plan a rota to cover the Christmas Masses and give the necessary guidance regarding the role. Our existing team of stewards is not large enough to cover all the Masses listed above. Thank you.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-1 Advent Week 1 and Psalter 1

**LITURGIES WITHOUT A PUBLIC CONGREGATION PRESENT
LIVESTREAMED FROM ST OSMUND**

Saturday 28 November

10:00 MASS Alfred Bowley RIP

SUNDAY 29 November

10:00 MASS Joan Jackson RIP
12:00 Ordinariate MASS
18:00 MASS Mary Hannah Elizabeth Jones RIP

Monday 30 November SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE

10:00 MASS Nonie and Harry Fleming RIP
19:00 MASS Davey Kenny RIP

Tuesday 1 December Saint Alexander Briant

10:00 MASS Mariam Vazhappily RIP
All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
18:40 Benediction
19:00 MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

Wednesday 2 December

10:00 MASS James Johnston RIP
19:00 Ordinariate MASS Mr Carthy's Special Intention

**LITURGIES WITH A PUBLIC CONGREGATION PRESENT
Please book if you would like to attend Mass in person.**

Thursday 3 December Saint Francis Xavier

10:00 St Osmund MASS Susan and Les Burry RIP
Exposition will occur from 13:00
13:00 St Osmund Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
18:40 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 4 December Saint Osmund

10:00 St Gregory MASS Frank Farley RIP
19:00 St Osmund MASS T C Jose RIP

Saturday 5 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary George RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 6 December

09:00 St Osmund MASS Jim Maloney and Ray Cope RIP
09:00 St Gregory MASS
11:00 St Osmund MASS Gerry Symons RIP
12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS
18:00 St Osmund MASS Harriet Allen for recovery

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

Evangelisation: For a life of prayer

That our personal relationship with Jesus Christ may be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer..

<https://salisbury Catholics.org/pope-francis>

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for All Chaplaincies to HM forces in our diocese.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember all those who have died: Michael Dean, Yvonne Fox, Janet Mair Brown, Sheila Miles and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

INDIVIDUAL PRIVATE PRAYER

St Osmund will be open for private prayer. If you find the church closed call into the Newman Room at the back of the Parish Rooms during office hours to gain admittance.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1. 3-8

Ps 79

**God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.**

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.**

Alleluia!

Mark 13:33-37

SACRAMENTS

MARRIAGES Please speak to the priest for guidance.

FUNERALS Please speak to the priest for guidance.

BAPTISMS Can take place after 2 December in accordance with government guidelines and preparation courses are taking place on Zoom. Please contact Deacon John Proctor on 07802 631968 or email john@alabare.org

FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2021

We will be announcing plans for preparations for these Sacraments as soon as we can in the New Year.