

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

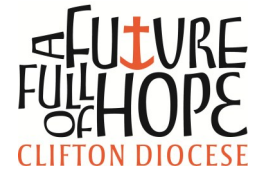
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

From Father Anthony

The distant headland reclined along the horizon and dipped into the sea. Cloud met water like candy-floss on a grey plate. The background sky was blue and yellow. Waves rolled in with long sighs; they slapped and gurgled playfully around the rocks. Desultory figures ambled along the promenade: dogs scampered and barked. 'Northern' gangsters eyed me from the sea rail; gulls chattered and hovered in anticipation of a morsel or two... and were not disappointed. Having performed this morning ritual I returned for tea.

Last week the adult Jesus returned to Galilee. This week, after His ritual presentation in the Temple we learn of His first return to Galilee as a child with His parents, on their way home to Nazareth from Jerusalem. This tells us something about Jesus. Galilee unlike orthodox Jerusalem was '*gentile-ridden*': it was shunned and bypassed by orthodox Jews. Yet, this is where Jesus, the Second Person of the Trinity (*God*) decided to grow up... in an obscure, possibly despised, little village called Nazareth ("*can anything good come out of Nazareth*' - Jn 6). As the second reading observes "... *he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every way, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest before God to expiate the sins of the people*". As a child He grew up among mixed races, mixed bloodlines and the '*unclean*': as an adult He will keep company with prostitutes, tax collectors and sinners. Does this not assure us that as *God with us (Emmanuel)* He is at home in the temple of our being: especially the areas that are obscure, perhaps despised and definitely sinful? He has become as we are: now we must become as He is.

To understand this we must follow His journey interiorly; we must return to Nazareth in Galilee. Spiritually, Galilee refers to our minds and Nazareth means watchtower, i.e. we must keep watch over our minds. Like Mary we must purify ourselves - *reject what is not of God* - so that what remains is God; we become *mother* to God. With Joseph we must increase in spiritual awareness (Joseph means *increaser*) and *buy back (redeem)* from the *slavery of sin* what has remained lost or hidden... Jesus within us: and become *father* to Jesus within. Then, all who meet us, like Simeon and Anna, will recognise God in us; and experience the reality of Jesus through us.



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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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

[Click Here](https://salisbury Catholics.org)



<https://salisbury Catholics.org>

IMPORTANT - MASS CHANGES THIS SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY

Due to unavailability of priests, there will be a one-off change to our normal Sunday Mass schedule this Sunday 2 February. **Our regular 9am Mass at St Gregory will take place at 11am (in St Gregory's Church) and there will be NO 11am Mass at St Osmund on this day **ONLY**.**

The revised Mass schedule on Sunday will be:

9am St Osmund, 11am St Gregory, 12.30pm Ordinariate St Osmund and 6pm St Osmund.

If you know anyone who only attends occasionally that may not be aware, please let them know. **Confessions** this Saturday (1 Feb) at St Osmund will take place after the 10am Mass only.

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (CANDLEMAS)

'When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord," and to offer the sacrifice of "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons," in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord'. Luke 2:22-24. For a reflection on this feast [click here](#).

Also known as the Feast of **Candlemas** - It is an ancient tradition on this feast to bless the candles which will be used for prayer, in church or in our homes, during the coming year. If you would like to have a candle blessed for your own home, bring it along to Mass on Sunday, and add it those at the front of the church (you may wish to label your candle, so you can collect it again afterwards!).

Radiant A group for women looking to deepen their prayer life, build supportive friendships and grow in faith. We meet again this evening Friday 31 January. Join us for Mass at 6pm (St Osmund) followed by food, conversation and faith sharing till 9.30pm in the comfortable setting of our Parish Centre. For more information contact Xanthe on 07904 589360 or click on 'Radiant' on our homepage, [click here](#) or just turn up.

A retiring collection for SPUC's White Flower Appeal will take place this weekend 1/2 February. This year's appeal post cards call on HM Government to adhere to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Please give generously. Cards may be completed and handed in at the back of the church or posted by yourselves. Please visit our blog for the appeal talk, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Chrism Mass in Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday 16 April. A coach has been booked to travel to the Chrism Mass. Timings are expected to be similar to last year departing St Osmund's Church at 7.20am, then leaving St Gregory 7.35am with a pick up at Amesbury library at 7.55am. Mass is at 11am. This will be the first Chrism Mass gathered around our new bishop. If you would like to join our priests and deacons on the coach, please complete the sign up sheet in the porch of each church or contact the office office@salisburycatholics.org.

Alabaré - The Big Sleep Friday 28 March in Salisbury Cathedral in aid of the homeless and vulnerable. Please support our own parishioner, Graham Herbert, who will be sleeping on the floor of the cloisters. If you would like to sponsor Graham please ring him on 01722 333873 or bring your sponsorship money to the Parish Office. If you want to join in and sleep out, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Requiem Mass for Sylvia Weston RIP will take place at 10am on Monday 17 February at St Osmund followed by a reception in the Parish Rooms to which parishioners are warmly invited. Although Sylvia has been 'out of sight' for some years due to old age and ill health, she was well known by many and was a dedicated servant of the parish organising the Minister of Communion rotas for many years. It is our hope that parishioners will attend to pray for the repose of Sylvia's soul. The Hope & Friendship and Art Groups will not occur this day.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Family of Faith The next session is Sunday 9 February beginning at our morning 9am Masses continuing afterwards at our Parish Centre. For all the dates click on the '[Family of Faith](#)' button on our homepage or [click here](#). If you'd like to volunteer to help in any way, please contact the parish office.

Youth Group - meets each Wednesday during term time at 6.30pm at our Parish Centre is running Youth Alpha which is designed to help explore the big questions of life, whether you already have a strong faith, or whether you have none at all but are curious to learn more. So if you're in school years 8 to 11, it's a great moment to join and to bring a friend along for the discussions. We are also looking for help in the kitchen - so if some parents/parishioners could come along on just **one** Wednesday evening and do some cooking, it would be a huge help, please get in touch. All the dates are on our website, just click on Youth Group on our home page or [click here](#).

Flame Saturday 15th March Wembley Arena - Following an invitation from Fr Joseph to the parents of those on our database in Year 9 and above, a group of 12 of our young people will be attending. Flame is the largest Catholic youth event in England and Wales. Filled with inspiring speakers, incredible live music, prayer and adoration for young people from across England and Wales it's an event like no other! Booking for this event is now **closed**.

SHARING OUR FAITH

Confirmation 2025 - the Group are on retreat at Buckfast Abbey (Dartmoor) this weekend and will be returning on Sunday. Please pray for them: *'Lord, instil in them the courage to embrace this experience fully. Let them be open to new friendships, activities, and most importantly, to hearing your Word'*. Next session is Tuesday 11 February at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. The programme is now well underway and it is too late for new-joiners. Anyone interested in Confirmation can express an interest for Confirmation 2026. Please click on 'Confirmation' on our homepage or [click here](#) for more information.

Journey in Faith Our ongoing programme for adults who are interested in Christianity, but who are not confirmed Catholics. The next session is this Sunday 2 February at 10.30am at the Parish Centre. Contact Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliffondiocese.com if you are interested in joining or [click here](#)

Baptism Preparation Course - The next course is at St Osmund starting next Sunday 9 February 2025. To request a Baptism for your child, click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

First Friday Talks - next Friday 7 February at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre - The speaker will be Eric Williams who will reflect on how poetry can illuminate our life in the Spirit, sharing some of his poems and referring to other poets who have influenced his writing. Next month Greg & Pauline will speak on the biblical meaning of Jubilee.

My Generation will be meeting next on Wednesday 5 February 2025 for a Beetle Drive at 2.00pm in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

Parish Rosary Group meets to pray the Rosary together via Zoom on each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Please contact Alison on 01722 741681 for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

Hope and Friendship Group - meets on Mondays at 10.45am at our Parish Centre, except for 17 February. For more information please contact Deacon John Detain 01722 415588

Bridge Group which meets on Tuesdays has now relocated to our Parish Centre.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-1 Ordinary Time Week 4
Proper of the Feast and Weekday Psalter 4

Saturday 1 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Safe journey & good health
James Christopher

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

09:00 St Gregory moved to 11:00

09:00 St Osmund MASS Lyndall Baiyle in sickness

11:00 St Gregory MASS Keith Fleming & Family

No 11:00 at St Osmund

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Henry Coope and his
housekeeper RIP

Monday 3 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Leonard Hirst RIP

Tuesday 4 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Nicholas Phelan RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 5 February Saint Agatha

10:00 St Gregory MASS Michael , Peter
& Susan Leyden RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

Thursday 6 February Saints Paul Miki and Companions

10:00 St Osmund MASS David Eugene Clarke RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 7 February

10:00 St Gregory MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

18:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

Saturday 8 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thomas Cherian RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

18:00 St Gregory MASS Frank Farley RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Fridays after the 10am Mass & Saturdays
5.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: this Saturday 1 February will only be after the
10am Mass and not from 9am

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY

For vocations to the priesthood and religious life

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parishes of St Benet (Kemerton) St Joseph (Tewkesbury) and St Nicholas (Winchcombe)..

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Gerald Curtin, Christopher Piggins, Sylvia Weston, David Humphries, Florindo Carpenito, James Herlihy and Andrée Spark 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.

Psalm Response

The Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel. Alleluia!

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 in our Family of Faith programme. [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.

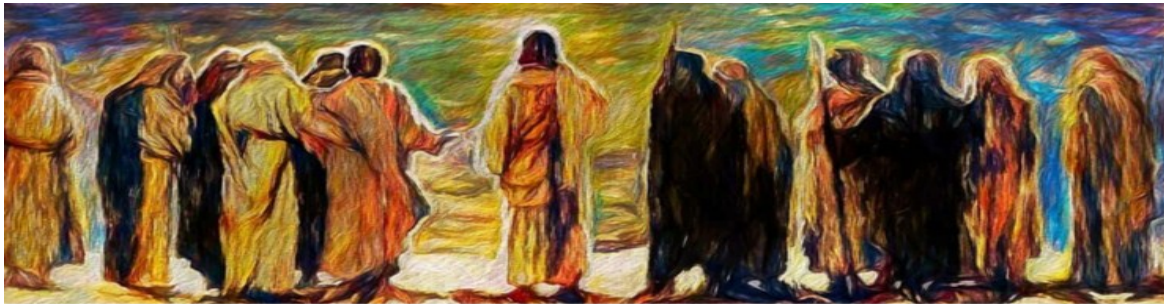
FUNERALS Do your family know your wishes with regards to your funeral? Registered parishioners can provide these details which are scanned and stored confidentially with your parishioner record and can be given to families at the appropriate time. Contact Désirée for more details: office@salisbury Catholics.org

ENCOUNTER - PARISH LENTEN RETREAT
3RD - 6TH OF APRIL 2025

Following the wonderful and highly successful retreats of previous years, we will be returning to the Franciscan Centre at Ladywell near Godalming. This year's theme is Encounter. We will be looking at how even the smallest encounter with Jesus can change the course of a life. There are still a few places remaining. The cost per person is about £250-£300, but please don't let cost prevent you from coming along, we are able to offer some support to those who need it to make this possible. Please contact the Parish Office to book or Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@clifftondiocese.com for more information.

The full timetable is below or via website, just click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

If you cannot go, but would like to contribute to the costs to enable someone else to go, why not make this part of your Lenten almsgiving? Contact the Parish Office for more information - all contributions, large or small will be gratefully received.



ENCOUNTER TIMETABLE

Thursday

3.00 - Arrival
4.00 - Room Allocation, intro
6.00 - Dinner
7.15 - Introduction to the retreat

7.30 - Encountering Jesus
8.00 - Night Prayer/ Compline

Friday

Before the encounter with Jesus

7.30 - Silent Breakfast
8.15 - Breakfast
9.15 - Intro to the theme
9.30 - St. Peter - pt1
10.05 - Mass with community
10.45 - Break
11.00 - Mary Magdalene pt1
12.00 - Plenary session - options for PM

13.00 - lunch
14.00 - John the Beloved pt2
15.00 - Silent/ free time/ confession/ SD
18.00 - Dinner
19.00 - Mary Mother of God
with evening Liturgy
21.15 - Bed/ free time

Saturday

After the encounter with Jesus

7.30 - Silent Breakfast
8.15 - Breakfast
9.15 - St Peter pt2
10.05 - Mass, Presentation of the Creed
10.45 - Break
11.00 - Mary Magdalene Pt2
12.00 - Plenary session - options for PM

13.00 - Lunch
14.00 - John the Beloved pt2
15.00 - Free time/ silence/ confession/ prayer
18.00 - Dinner
19.15 - Adoration, evening liturgy
21.15 - Bed/ free time

Sunday

Life from here with Jesus

7.30 - Silent Breakfast
8.15 - Breakfast
9.15 - The story continues....
10.50 - Mass with community- 3rd Scrutiny

12.00 - Lunch
14.00 - Pack cars to leave