

ST OSMUND'S PARISH

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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



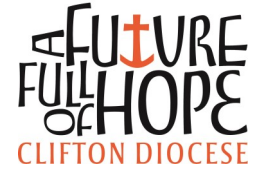
ADVENT WEEK 2 (A)

From Father Anthony

I woke early, made some sandwiches and travel mugs of tea and went to pack the car. I had two Masses and a six hour journey ahead of me. It was dark, damp and very quiet. Light spilled from street lamps and glistened off wet surfaces. The great spire was wreathed in mist: I could feel the solitude. Then, out of the gloom, the gunslinger swooped down. He perched on the church gate ready for action... and sung his heart out. It was magnificent; truly a voice crying out in the solitude.

'A voice cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.' The word translated as *wilderness* also means *solitude*. The word translated as *voice* also means *sound*. In the solitude of our hearts, we will become aware of the noise (*sound*) of every day thoughts, desires, longings, wants and wishes. If we stay in the solitude and let them pass, we might feel the resonance (*sound*), of an alternative voice. Tiny at first it creates a mood or feeling that grows. It almost 'tempts' us to change our minds and hearts (*repentance*): it resonates in such a way that we feel *'there has to be a better way'*. This *better way* is found in prayer.

There are similarities between the solitude of the heart and the solitude of the cross. On the cross Jesus gives us the ultimate pattern of prayer... *"Father, if possible let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I, but as you will it."* Jesus indicates a frame of mind that, after asking for what it wants, surrenders and *wills nothing for itself*. He allows the Divine Will to pervade Him... to *will in Him*. He sets the interior disposition, the mood, of all truly Christian prayer. We can ask, petition or wish; but then let God answer... let Him will and wish *in us*. It is His will, our acceptance of His wishes for us, that effects, in us, a change of mind and heart (*repentance*). This heals, restores and strengthens us. Prayer that wills nothing for itself helps us *to get out of the way of ourselves*. It surrenders us to God and creates a path where His wishes can be received; our acceptance of these wishes lead us out of inner darkness into His wonderful Light. It is an Advent... His arrival in our hearts.



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Anthony B Paris VF (Parish Priest)
01722 333581 or 07544 053785
anthony.paris@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Jonathan Creer (Pastor of Sarum
Ordinariate & Assistant Priest)
07724 896579
jonathan.creer@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Joseph Columba Meigh
(Assistant Priest)
01722 333581
joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Detain (Deacon)
01722 415588
john.detain@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Stephen Godwin (Deacon)
07583 254488
stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Proctor (Deacon)
07802 631968
john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office
Monday-Friday 0900 - 1600

01722 562703
office@salisburycatholics.org

Caroline Williams
caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

Désirée office@salisburycatholics.org

Tony 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"

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

THURSDAY 8 DECEMBER

The Church's teaching on the Immaculate Conception asserts that, 'from the first moment of her conception, the Blessed Virgin Mary was, by the singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, and in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, Saviour of Mankind, kept free from all stain of original sin'. The observance of this feast began with a Papal encyclical by Pope Pius IX in December 1854. Later, in 1858, the Blessed Mother gave her name to St Bernadette at Lourdes stating, "I am the Immaculate Conception." For more on this solemnity click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Christmas Outreach - Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who have collected their packs for visiting our Parishioners or posting cards through letter boxes (Adopt a Street), the ideal time to visit/deliver is from this Monday 5 December. There are still a few packs left, so please do collect them after Mass this Sunday or from the Office during the week.

Christmas Mass Times - The card that is being delivered to our parishioners and via 'Adopt a Street' with all the Christmas Mass Times is now available to view on our website. Just click on the 'Christmas 2022' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Christmas Storytime - for primary school-aged children with author and international speaker and missionary, Meg Hunter-Kilmer. This event is free and will be held on **Monday 19 December** between 3pm - 4.30pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. No need to book, just come along and make this part of your Christmas.

Family Christmas Lunch - a free, no strings attached, community Christmas Lunch for parishioners - individuals and families - who may be struggling or alone at Christmas. **Christmas Day at 1.30pm in St Elizabeth Hall**. Transport can be available if required, please contact the parish office to register, offer a contribution or recommend to us a parishioner or family for whom this would be suitable.

Salisbury Catholics Parishioner Lunch is after the midday Mass this coming Thursday 8 December in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. Come and enjoy a home-cooked lunch in friendly company. There is no charge for lunch but donations are welcome to cover costs.

Christmas Bazaar - hosted by St Gregory's was a wonderful occasion attended by many people from all of our churches. Not only did it raise almost £1600 for parish funds, it was great fun and a lovely social occasion. Thank you to everyone, particularly Jez Mawdsley and all who helped to organise it, donating goods, helping on the day or attending and generously spending money. Michael Illas has kindly provided a selection of photographs. These can be viewed in our 'Photo Gallery' on our website or just [click here](#).

DOWNTON: The Village Carol Service will be held at St Laurence's Church on 11 December at 6pm and our very own Fr Joseph will be preaching. All are welcome.

Vacancy: St Elizabeth Hall Facilities Manager (Maternity Cover) – we are recruiting for someone to provide maternity cover for this part time role dealing with hirings for St Elizabeth Hall. For more details, please email Melanie at: finance.elizabethhouse@cliftondiocese.com.

My Generation will be meeting next Wednesday 7 December at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall for a Christmas Party for those who regularly attend. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

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

PARISH MERGER

Our three Parishes formally merged last Saturday the 26 November, an historic event in the life of the Catholic faithful here in Salisbury. The Mass and reception was well attended with a good representation from across all three of our churches. Many thanks goes to all those who contributed across the whole merger process: the planning and organisation, the consultation and the implementation with the Mass and reception.

The 'Decree of Merger' which was read out at all our Masses last weekend can be found on our website by clicking on the 'Parish Merger' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Advent Carols & Benediction by Candlelight - Wednesday 21 December 7pm at St Osmund's Church. Do come along Fr Joseph assures us that it is going to be truly amazing. He is still recruiting singers (more male voices in particular) to join him with two rehearsals remaining 7 & 14 December 7pm - 8pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. If you are interested in joining please email office@salisburycatholics.org or call 01722 562703.

Consecrating Our Homes and Families to Our Lady The rotation of the statue of Our Lady to the homes of our parishioners culminates this coming Thursday 8 December on the feast of 'The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary'. On Thursday the statue will be processed to the altar, followed by a short blessing prior to the 12 noon Mass at St Osmund's. Our thanks go to Nithin and Reshma Thalakkottur who organised and coordinated this wonderful event.

Saint Matthew's Gospel - In Liturgical Cycle A, the focus falls on St Matthew. Our Gospel readings at Sunday Mass are predominantly taken from Matthew. You can now listen to the whole of St Matthew's Gospel by clicking on the image in the 'Top News' box on our website, the button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Ignatian Listening - The Jesuits in Britain spirituality team have upcoming events, which may be of interest. They include an online 'Ignatian Listening' weekend on 17-18 December and their online School of Prayer series: Tuesday 13 December and Thursday 19 January 2023 which introduces various types of prayer suitable for Catholics wishing to deepen their prayer life. For more on all of this and how to book please click on the image in the Top News box or [click here](#).

First Holy Communion Programme 2022/2023 Details are on our website, please click on 'Sacraments' on our main menu and then on 'Holy Communion' or [click here](#). The next session will be tomorrow Saturday 3 December at 2pm in St Gregory's Church for both parents and children. It is very important that all sessions are attended. For further information please contact Father Anthony or Deacon John Detain.

Applications please for Confirmation in 2023. For young people in school Year 9 or above please apply NOW as we will soon be finalising the programmes. To apply please click on the 'Registration/Update' button on our home page or [click here](#).

An Evening of Recollection for Men in Advent This will be an opportunity for all our men to attend a mini-retreat on Wednesday 14 December starting at 7.30pm at St Gregory's Church with coffee and tea in the hall beforehand from 7pm. The evening will be led by a priest from Opus Dei and will include Benediction and the opportunity for Confession. For all the details please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#). Any questions please do contact Andrew Tucker by email: tuckerandrew1893@gmail.com or phone: 07941 993561.

Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron 2nd Sunday of Advent, in his homily we are invited to meet with John the Baptist in the desert where there are no distractions. To listen and watch, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Children's Liturgy from Catholic Kids Media: 'John the Baptist and the desert of Advent' for this the 2nd Sunday in Advent. Click on the 'Children's Liturgy' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Advent Week 2 and Psalter 2

Saturday 3 December Saint Francis Xavier

10:00 St Osmund MASS Devassy Alappat

11:00 Whaddon MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Tharuthu RIP

SUNDAY 4 December

09:00 St Gregory MASS Paula Christine Elvin

09:00 St Osmund MASS T. C. Jose RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Anne & Catherine Galvin RIP

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS People of the Parish

18:00 St Osmund MASS Paddy McKenna RIP

Monday 5 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

Tuesday 6 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Robson RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 7 December Saint Ambrose

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Susan & Les Burry RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

Thursday 8 December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

12:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving - Tess Johny

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 9 December

10:00 St Gregory MASS Nikolai Bogatyrev - his healing and God's guidance

11:00 Holy Redeemer Requiem MASS Derek Pheby RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

Saturday 10 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving - the Jacob Family

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS David Kirijja Katende

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

St Osmund Saturdays After the 10:00 Mass

Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

And by appointment with our priests.

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parish of: The Immaculate Conception, Stroud with Brownhill, Painswick and More Hall.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Linda Agnew, Frances Dismore, Derek Pheby, John Say and Derek Boston who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-10

Ps 71

In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.

Romans 15:4-9

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight,

and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia!

Matthew 3:1-12

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 September 2023, 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. 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

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL

CHRISTMAS STORYTIME

WITH

MEG HUNTER KILMER

AUTHOR, INTERNATIONAL SPEAKER
BLOGGER & MISSIONARY



Free event for Primary
school aged Children

Monday 19th December
3p.m. - 4.30p.m.
St Osmunds Parish rooms
Exeter St, Salisbury