

# PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

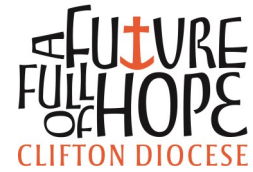
## EASTER WEEK 6

### From Father Anthony

We passed by Downton Chapel. Curtains of water drifted across the lane. Through hedgerows and thickets of trees, a deep copper sun, frowning beneath a monk's cowl of blue-black cloud eased down into the West. The last of its fiery rays set fire to the horizon and the sky writhed and blazed like a smouldering furnace. Spectacular! Agnes (*the BMW*) pulled through the gears, and splashed along until we fused with the main road and on home.

We are told that Jesus lays down his life for us. Externally, He dies for us. Internally, His life, the perfect image of the Father, is fused with ours: the point of *fusion* expressed as 'I Am'. In a spiritual sense the journey of life is not about travelling streets, fulfilling careers, starting a family and so on. The exterior life has value in so far as it leads us to the depth of our interior life; ultimately it is about journeying back to the place where we experience our origin... our 'I Am': the core of our being, the centre from which we truly operate. Here we remember and recognise our affinity with the Divine. It is here that we, '*remain in my love*'. We are no longer *slaves* to the world; we no longer listen to or follow the '*hired man*', *i.e.* the external world with its news, political speeches, advertising, cajoling and attempts at educating us to become its clones. We find and listen to a voice that comes from the very centre of our being; the place where Free Will and God's Will fuse into one; His voice becomes our voice, our voice His... a healing voice the world craves to hear.

Having found the life of Jesus laid down within us, we must now, in a similar manner, lay down our life over others. We must fuse with others and the world in order to transform them! Love is the ingredient that brings about this 'fusion'. We must 'prefer' in others (*Love*) all that is of God. We must find out who the other person is; attempt to see and understand the world from their standpoint: we must go beyond self-centredness and self-absorption and lay our being over theirs; becoming one with them in spirit. The journey of two becomes the journey of one as we fuse together as 'I Am'... obeying the command to *love one another*.



### PASTORAL TEAM

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### Parish Office

**Closed Bank Holiday Monday 6 May**

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 at:

<https://salisburycatholics.org>

["Registration/update"](#)

## THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD - THURSDAY 9 MAY (HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION)

On this day, we recall Jesus' ascension into heaven to take his place at the right hand of God the Father. The great mystery of this day, and the reason it is of such importance, is that he ascended not only as God but as man – ascending in his physical human body. For more and a video entitled 'Why the Ascension of Jesus matters' by Bishop Barron click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**Masses: Wednesday 8 May Vigil (Ordinariate) 6pm St Osmund**

**Thursday 9 May 10am Church of St Osmund\*** (with St Osmund's school children)

*\*Please note this Mass may be very full but overflow space will be available in the Parish Rooms*

**Midday St Osmund (followed by Coffee & Cake!) and 7pm St Gregory.**

**Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-Elect Bosco MacDonald** on Wednesday 8 May at midday. On this momentous occasion for the Clifton Diocese, all of our clergy will be in attendance and therefore there will be no morning Mass at St Gregory. The Ordination will be livestreamed from the Cathedral and can be watched by clicking Bishop Elect Bosco's image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**Clergy Training Fund** - retiring collection this 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. For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#). If you are able to Gift Aid your donation, please do use one of the envelopes available.

**Prayer to the Holy Spirit** - The nine days between the Feast of the Ascension and Pentecost (when the disciples gathered in the upper room and devoted themselves to prayer) is traditionally kept by the Church as a time of prayer to the Holy Spirit. In our parish we will join together in prayer immediately after each Mass. For those parishioners who cannot get to daily Mass but who would like to keep this period of prayer, please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**World Communications Day 12 May** - There will be a retiring collection next weekend to support the work of the Bishop's Conference in communicating news relating to every aspect of the life of the Catholic Church.

**Volunteer Maintenance Person Required** - Do you have some experience in general repairs and maintenance, and a few hours a week that you could volunteer in the parish? If you can provide a few hours each week, we would love to hear from you. If you are interested please email Deacon Steve [stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com). For a full description of the role please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**May is the Month of Our Lady** and the weekly parish Rosary Group will be praying the Rosary in St Osmund's Church on Wednesday 15 May at 2.30pm. Why not come along and join them. If you have never prayed the rosary before and would like to learn, do come along; there is no need to book. If you like more information please contact Josephine on 01722 328410. Don't have a set of rosary beads? No problem, ring the office and we'll arrange for a set to be there for you when you arrive.

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

**Coffee and Cake** which follows the Thursday morning is moved to a later time this week. On **Thursday 9 May 'The Feast of the Ascension' Coffee & Cake will be after the midday Mass**. Come and enjoy the friendly company and some delicious cake in St Osmund's Parish Rooms.

**My Generation.** There is no afternoon session on Wednesday May 15th 2024 as the group will be out to lunch.

**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](#).

**The Eucharist - A Bond of Love that cannot be undone** There is an opportunity on Saturday 8 June to deepen our understanding and love for the Eucharist - participating together as the Body of Christ so that we may be the Body of Christ to the world. A number of our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are travelling together to this day which will be led by Fr Michael McAndrew at St Bernadette's in Whitchurch. If you would like to join them, please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Training** For anyone 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@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com)

**Bereavement Friendship Group** started last Monday 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 invited to 'Life in the Spirit' Seminars which focus on praying for a fuller release of the Holy Spirit each Friday at 7.30pm at the Parish Centre. Last week's talk was given by Deacon Steve Godwin on 'Salvation', this Friday 3 May the talk will be given by Ufuoma Akporido on 'New Life'. All the sessions can be viewed by clicking on the 'The Holy Spirit' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**Parish Prayer & Praise (Alabaré)** is now happening 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.

**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. The First Holy Communion Mass on Saturday 1 June will be 3pm at St Gregory.

**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** - We're getting very close to Pentecost, the great feast of the descent of the Spirit. And on this Sixth Sunday of Easter, the Church gives us three readings that are hinting at the Holy Spirit, a kind of foretaste of that descent. 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.

## LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-2 Easter Week 6

### Saturday 4 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Rev Stephen Ortiger RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Doris Phelan RIP

### SUNDAY 5 May

09:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

09:00 St Osmund MASS Joshua's Intentions

11:00 St Osmund MASS John-Paul Pearson RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Gail Benson RIP

### Monday 6 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

### Tuesday 7 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

### Wednesday 8 May

**No Morning Mass** all Priests attending the ordination of Bishop Bosco.

**NB** You can join the Ordination online via our website Church TV page.

### First Mass of The Ascension of the Lord

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

### Thursday 9 May THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD

10:00 St Osmund MASS Nora Burke RIP

12:00 St Osmund MASS

19:00 St Gregory MASS

**No Exposition or Benediction on this day**

### Friday 10 May

10:00 St Gregory MASS Mary Robson RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS John-Paul Pearson RIP

### Saturday 11 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Rose & Maryann Pace RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS For Peggy White and all those killed in the sectarian conflict in Northern Ireland

## RECONCILIATION

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

**St Osmund: as Fr Joseph is away confessions will only occur  
on Saturday 4 May 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 Chaplaincies to HM forces in the Diocese.

#### 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 10:25-26,34-35,44-48*

*Psalm 97*

**The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.**

*1 John 4:7-10*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'**

**Alleluia!**

*John 15:9-17*

## 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*