

SALISBURY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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



ADVENT WEEK 2 (B)

From Father Anthony...

I sat outside with a cup of steaming tea; cold seeped through my jumper. The garden reminded me of lank hair... when I had some! The Gunslinger squared up to me. The sky was blue and transparent; wisps of candy floss in the distance. Much later, wrapped and huddled, I sat outside again, immersed in darkness and a world of silhouettes. A bat skittered past, dancing the silence. Only now, in darkness, would the black velvet sky reveal what daylight obscured... twinkling little jewels; the firmament was alive with them.

'... John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance...' An historical figure, John the Baptist also represents a state of being. He represents that stage of development when we begin to *perceive* that Christ is found *within*; when we start observing our inner world. He *immerses* himself – βαπτίζω, baptism, *to submerge, immerse* - in the wilderness of his own being, the realm of mind. He encounters the chattering subvocal voice and his conditioning; his behaviour and reactions; voices from the past; what keeps him bound or loosed (*all Judaea and the people of Jerusalem made their way to him*). He begins to understand the obstacles to his spiritual growth – ἀμαρτία, sin, *missing the mark*. The light of understanding twinkles in this *darkness (appeared in the wilderness)*. It provides the conditions for him to have a *change of mind- μετάνοια, repentance, a change of mind*. Observation, (*watching*) leads to understanding and understanding to change.

The '*John*' state leads us to Christ by heightened natural perception, which, in itself, is a form of light (*understanding*). It leads us beyond worldly consciousness to seek Christ in spiritual consciousness, hidden within. But, *perception of light* is not the *Light (not fit to undo his sandals)* ... an important learning point! Immersing ourselves within the wilderness of our own being, understanding sin, having a change of heart reveals a great deal, but it is not Him. It is the necessary preparation to *receive* Him. When He will come we do not know; that is not ours to determine. That He will come is guaranteed. Our task is to prepare the '*ground*' (*make his paths straight*); His promise is to walk on it. As we straighten our path by gently removing the obstacles that obscure spiritual sight, we recognise who it is walking along the path of our life; He comes forth.



PASTORAL TEAM

Parish Priest

Rev Anthony B Paris VF

01722 333581 or 07544 053785

anthony.paris@cliftondiocese.com

Pastor of Sarum Ordinariate & Assistant Priest

Rev Jonathan Creer

07724 896579

jonathan.creer@hotmail.co.uk

Rev John Detain (Deacon)

01722 415588

detains@sky.com

Rev Stephen Godwin (Deacon)

01722 501854

stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Proctor (Deacon)

01722 340206 john@alabare.org

Parish Office

Open 9am-5pm Monday-Friday

01722 562703

office@salisburycatholics.org

Caroline Williams

caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

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

<https://salisburycatholics.org>



@sarumcatholic



Salisbury Catholic Churches

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

TUESDAY 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 details, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or go to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/blog/immaculate-conception>

SAINT AMBROSE, BISHOP - 7 DECEMBER

St Ambrose, the brilliant Bishop of Milan who influenced St Augustine's conversion was, like Augustine himself, a highly educated man who sought to harmonise Greek and Roman intellectual culture with the Catholic faith. For more about this saint click on the image in the 'Top News' box or <https://salisburycatholics.org/blog/saint-ambrose>

YVONNE FOX RIP A Memorial Mass will be celebrated for Yvonne on Monday 14 December 12:00 at St Osmund. The number of parishioners that can attend is limited. If you would like to attend, please book soon via email booking@salisburycatholics.org or call 01722 562703 between 9am-5pm, Monday-Friday.

HERITAGE PROJECT Following on from last week's news item regarding the find of many items in an old shed, the bell tower and above the sacristy at St Osmund's, this has now been featured in the December newsletter of the Pugin Society and contains historical detail and photographs. The newsletter is on our website - click on the 'Heritage' button on our homepage or go to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/heritage>

THE ALABARE COMMUNITY are appealing for food donations this Christmas to support their Care Centre projects for vulnerable people. They are asking for the type of items you would buy for yourselves as treats at Christmas, quality biscuits, chocolates, Christmas puddings etc - no alcohol please. Donations may be dropped off at John & Lee Proctor's house in Tollgate Road - 01722 501586 or John & Catherine Detain, Roman Road - 01722 415588. Please phone first, thank you. Please do not leave items in the church porches at this time.

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). 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.

DOWNTON LITURGY OF THE WORD on ZOOM If you would like to meet the small group of parishioners from Downton who meet for a Liturgy of the Word via Zoom each week, please contact Michael by email: michael.rennie@velaplan.co.uk Everyone is most welcome to attend.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSE NEWSPAPER is available for direct delivery to your home if you would like to receive it. Visit their website: www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call them on 0161 820 5722.

BOOKING TO ATTEND MASS

You can once again arrange to attend Mass in person by sending an email to: booking@salisburycatholics.org or call 01722 562703 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. It is very helpful to us if you use this email exclusively for Mass booking. The Mass schedule for the coming week is on the final page of this newsletter as normal or by clicking on the 'Mass Times' button on our homepage.

SINGING THE PSALM AT MASS Congregational singing at Mass is still, sadly, not permitted by the COVID guidelines. However, we have received a very positive response to the return of a sung psalm at the livestreamed Sunday Masses which have taken place during the most recent lockdown. Moving forward, the psalm will be sung whenever possible at Mass with a spoken (not sung) response for the congregation. In this way, the congregation retain their response to the psalm and we are able to continue with the singing. This arrangement has been approved by our H&S representative as complying with current guidance. Any suggestions/comments/concerns, please direct them to him at HS.salisbury.catholic@cliftodiocese.com

ATTENDING MASS AT CHRISTMAS

Thank you very much 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 who wish to attend in person to book a place at a Christmas Mass as soon as possible, as the Masses are filling up fast! Please see the page below for all the details.**

READING MARK IN ADVENT is an 18-part podcast series where we upload a chapter of Mark's Gospel each weekday of the season. With a global pandemic sweeping the world and lockdowns and restrictions placed on our everyday living we need to remember that the Word of God is never locked down and isolated. Please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or the '**St Mark's Gospel**' button on our homepage to listen to each chapter.

ADVENT We will be providing weekly Advent video reflections on the Sunday Gospel and the life that God can call individuals to. For Advent Week 1: Teresa Carvalho – Living the single state of life'. We also have an audio reflection for Advent from Deacon Stephen Godwin. Steve makes a comparison between two kings, king Herod and our own king, Jesus Christ. All of this can be found by clicking on the 'Advent' button on our homepage or by going 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 (Second 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 '1st Sunday in Advent'. 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 We have the latest podcast from Bishop Robert Barron for this coming Sunday (6 December, Second Sunday in Advent) on our website. Click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or go directly to: <https://salisburycatholics.org/sunday-homily>

MUSIC IN ISOLATION For the second week of Advent we have added 'On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry' sung by Salisbury Cathedral Choir in 2014. Please click on the 'Music in Isolation' button on our homepage or go to <https://salisburycatholics.org/music-isolation>

SCRIPTURE IN SONG This feature associates an element of scripture with song each month. For Advent we have 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel'. Just click on the button 'Scripture in Song' on our homepage 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

Social-distancing and booking a place at Mass are essential 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 well 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 2 and Psalter 2

CONGREGATIONS MAY NOW BE PRESENT IN CHURCH

Please book if you would like to attend Mass in person.

booking@salisburycatholics.org 01722 562703

Saturday 5 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary George RIP
with the baptism of Vlad Onila

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Rita Tora RIP

SUNDAY 6 December

09:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Waters, Larcombe family,
Jim Maloney and Ray Cope RIP

09:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

11:00 St Osmund MASS Gerry Symons RIP

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Harriet Allen for recovery

Monday 7 December Saint Ambrose, Bishop

10:00 St Osmund MASS Davey Kenny RIP

Tuesday 8 December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Robson RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:40 Benediction

19:00 St Osmund MASS

Wednesday 9 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Deceased members of the
Ingram family

12:00 Holy Redeemer MASS For Mary's friends

19:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 10 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of the Donors

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:40 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 11 December

10:00 St Gregory MASS Mervyn Lloyd Walters RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS

Saturday 12 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Patricia Dicks RIP

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

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://salisburycatholics.org/pope-francis>

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for All Hospital & Prison Chaplaincies in the 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 40:1-5, 9-11

Ps 84

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

2 Peter 3:8-14

Alleluia, alleluia!

**Prepare a way for the Lord,
make his paths straight,
and all mankind will see the salvation of God.
Alleluia!**

Mark 1:1-8

SACRAMENTS

MARRIAGES Please speak to the priest for guidance.

FUNERALS Please speak to the priest for guidance.

BAPTISMS Can now take place 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.