

# PARISH OF ST OSMUND

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

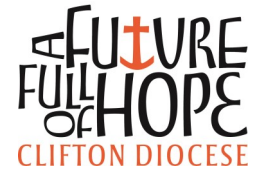
### From Father Anthony

Head down against the rain I hurried back from a meeting and got soaked. I changed and dried off. Gangsters danced and squabbled on the lawn. Their quarrelsome mood matched my own as I glared at low black cloud, a bedraggled garden and buckets of rain. But, as I watched two collared doves descended gracefully, landed and began pecking away together. The gangsters flew off and the scene of chaos and confusion was replaced by one of gentle serenity.

This week we celebrate the baptism of Jesus. Baptism (*Βαπτίζω*) means to 'immerse', (*dip under*), and John means, 'graced by God'. Spiritually, John represents a state of soul which, by God's grace, becomes aware of the spiritual reality behind all physical manifestations. This awareness creates the conditions where our physical senses serve to increase our spiritual awareness. We immerse (*baptise*) ourselves into a life where spirit, rather than our thoughts and senses, guides our life. How?

A good place to start is to become aware of what we are actually immersed in. That is, what is our predominant mood in life. Interiorly, are we predominantly bright, open, relaxed and content or are we quarrelsome, fearful, antagonistic, self-seeking, angry, despairing, confused and so on. If with prayer and reflection we find we are not happy or content with what we find then something is not right; something needs adjusting.

It is this life that Jesus wants to come into. We may not feel worthy but it is into our life *as it is (warts and all)* that He asks to enter, (*It is I who need baptism from you', said John', and yet you come to me!'... Jesus says, 'leave it like this for the time being'*). Jesus wants to join us *as we are...* not where we *could* or *should* be. Just as He comes into the physical world as a baby needing our care and attention, so he comes into our life *as we are now*. He asks to be *immersed* into our lives as they actually are. We can only love Him as we are. This love draws or invites Him in. In effect we immerse Him into our world which is like drawing light into darkness. His entry will have an effect. Like the dove descending, His presence will draw our mood out of darkness into His own wonderful Light until we are truly immersed (*Baptised*) in Him.



### PASTORAL TEAM

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**Rev John Detain** (Deacon)  
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**Rev John Proctor** (Deacon)  
07802 631968  
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### Parish Office

Monday-Friday 0900 - 1600

**01722 562703**

[office@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:office@salisburycatholics.org)

**Caroline Williams**  
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**Tony** [outreach@salisburycatholics.org](mailto: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"

## POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI, who served as Supreme Pontiff from April 2005 to February 2013 died at 9.34am on 31 December.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Bishops' Conference, in part of his statement said:

"I am deeply saddened to learn of the death of Pope Benedict. He will be remembered as one of the great theologians of the 20th century".

"He was through and through a gentleman, through and through a scholar, through and through a pastor, through and through a man of God – close to the Lord and always his humble servant".

For more including a full obituary, reflections, a recording of the funeral please click on the link above the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This Sunday's Feast marks the conclusion of the Christmas Season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. It's a feast of transition from Jesus' hidden life to that of His public ministry. It also echoes the theme of the Epiphany in that the Baptism of the Lord is another manifestation announcing Jesus' divinity to all of His first followers and to the disciples of John the Baptist. For more on this feast with a video reflection, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

**Outreach** - To all our wonderful volunteers who delivered Mass Time Cards to parishioners or Adopt a Streeters (many of you did both) a huge thank you. *We scatter the seeds and we leave the rest to God.* To all those who visited parishioners, can you please return your folders if you have not already done so, either direct to the Office or to a Steward at Mass. We can then get on with updating our Parish Database. Thank you.

**The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)** are holding their White Flower appeal next weekend 14/15 January. There will be a collection after all our Sunday Masses. Please give generously.

**Salisbury Catholics Parishioner Lunch** is on the second Thursday of each month. The next lunch with fellow parishioners will be after the midday Mass next Thursday 12 January in St Osmund's Parish Rooms - put the date into your diary. Donations are welcome to cover costs.

**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](mailto:finance.elizabethhouse@cliftondiocese.com).

**Salisbury Foodbank:** In January we will be collecting dried milk and small bags of rice. .

**Art Group:** Which meets on Mondays between 10.30am - 12.30pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms starts again on 9 January, all are welcome, whether or not you have painted or drawn before. Contact John and Elizabeth on 01725 510310.

**Bible Book Club** meets on Tuesdays in the Parish Rooms 10:45am - 12:30pm and starts again on 10 January. Please join us as we read and study the Psalms. For further details contact John 07899 244072.

**Bridge Club** The St Osmund's Bridge Club which meets every Tuesday from 1pm to 4pm in the Parish Rooms reconvenes in the New Year on the 10 January. For further information contact the Office.

**My Generation** - Meetings will recommence on Wednesday 18 January 2023, and then on the following 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For information please contact Chris on 321109.

## POPE FRANCIS CHRISTMAS MESSAGE AND 'URBI ET ORBI' BLESSING 25 DECEMBER 2022

Pope Francis said in his Christmas message.

"He comes as a helpless child. He is born in the cold night, poor among the poor. In need of everything, he knocks at the door of our heart to find warmth and shelter", before giving his blessing 'Urbi et Orbi' (to the city and the world).

For the full message & blessing in video and text please click on the image in the Top News box or [click here](#).

### SHARING OUR FAITH

**Nicodemus Group** - This is a group of people who wish to share their faith (or lack of it!) with others in a very simple way; by sharing a meal together and reading the gospels. The Group will recommence on the 18 January, in St Elizabeth Hall, 131 Exeter Street 7– 8.30pm. The new programme will be published in the near future.

For more information, please click on '[Becoming Catholic](#)' on our website main menu or contact Dave Blake [nicodemus@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:nicodemus@salisburycatholics.org).

**Bishop Declan's Pastoral Letter for the Solemnity of Mary, The Mother of God.** Which was read out at all last Sunday's Masses, the video and the text are available to be viewed and read by clicking on the image in the 'Top News' box or by [clicking here](#).

**Christmas Day Lunch** at St Elizabeth Hall was a tremendous success with over 30 gathering to enjoy the day which otherwise may have spent alone. A big thank you goes to Xanie for all the effort and organisation and to all those people who prepared and cooked the food, those who helped and to those who contributed so generously towards the costs. Photos can be found by going to the 'Photo Gallery' on our website or just [click here](#).

**Start the New Year with a diary** - We have 2023 Clifton Diocese Liturgical Diaries (£6.50) and Directories (£6.00) which can be purchased from the Parish Office.

**Baptism Preparation Course** Our next course will take place on three Sundays at St Osmund: 22 & 29 January and 5 February attendance at the 9am Mass followed by a meeting in the Presbytery. Please register with the Parish Office on 01722 562 703. To apply for a baptism please complete a 'Baptism Application' by clicking on the 'Registration' button on our homepage or by [clicking here](#). For further information please contact Deacon John Proctor on 07802 631968 or Deacon Steve Godwin on 07583 254488.

**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 on Saturday 21 January at 2pm in St Gregory's Church for the 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 programme. To apply please click on the 'Registration/Update' button on our home page or [click here](#).

**Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron** is on the feast of the Epiphany, he reflects that we should be attentive of our own epiphanies that speak to us of God. To listen and watch, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**Children's Liturgy** from Catholic Kids Media: 'The Epiphany of the Lord'. Click on the 'Children's Liturgy' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

# LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

## Saturday 7 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS John Hosegood RIP

## First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Doris & Nick Phelan RIP

## SUNDAY 8 January THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

09:00 St Gregory MASS Derek Boston RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS Lynnette Fatcher RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Kevin Keating RIP

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

## Monday 9 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

## Tuesday 10 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

## Wednesday 11 January

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

## Thursday 12 January

12:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving - Liji Shibu

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

## Friday 13 January

10:00 St Gregory MASS

19:00 St Osmund MASS

## Saturday 14 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

## First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS People of the Parish

## 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 JANUARY

#### For Educators:

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all. [Click here.](#)

#### CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parishes of: St George / St Teresa of Lisieux (Taunton) and St John Fisher (Wellington with Wiveliscombe).

#### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Alma Bradley, Breda Falconer, David Stockley, Jim Johnston, Yolanda Graziano, Kathleen Gibbs, John Hosegood, Linda Agnew, Frances Dismore, and Derek Pheby who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

#### SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

*Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7*

*Psalm 28*

**The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

*Acts 10:34-38*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded:**

**'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him'.**

**Alleluia!**

*Matthew 3:13-17*

## 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 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](mailto:caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com)