

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

LENT WEEK 1(C)

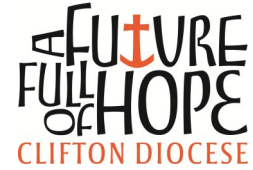
From Father Anthony

My head was a blizzard: thoughts tumbled and turned and, on my way to Wardour, I had taken the Road to Warminster! With some less than eloquent language I rectified the error. However, the children's Mass inspired and calmed me; I realised I needed some 'time out'. Later, I parked up, found a tree and sat. Salisbury nestled in the distance. I took in the Cathedral, worked out where St Osmunds and St Gregory's were, found the Station and gently came home to myself. I had let the world get on top of me and left Jesus behind somewhere... something else to rectify!

Writing to the Church in Rome, St Paul quotes from Deuteronomy, *the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart* (Rom 10:8|Deut 30:14). If we substitute the name Jesus for *the Word* - Jesus is the Word of God - then we could also say that *Jesus is very near us, He is in our mouths and our hearts*. If we do not understand this or feel it not to be true: or if we want it to be true but can't see how it can happen; then perhaps we need the season of Lent.

The word Lent comes from the old English Lenctern which means *spring season*. With spring comes the sense of clearing out the old for the new; the stale for the refreshing; a grimace for a smile. Like Jesus we might need to go into the desert of our being and examine what we find there. To what extent have we put our trust in material things - *turn these stones into bread*. Who do we actually acknowledge as rulers of this world - governments, corporations, media, etc. Which of these do we trust in (*worship me*). How much of our thinking and feeling is actually *putting God to the test*; living by dreams rather than spiritual action (*throw yourself down*).

What we do, say, think, feel or 'how we are in the world' affects the world. Apparently, 'the world' is in a mess; if so, that's because we're in a mess. The remedy is not to blame others but for each of us to clean up our own mess, by finding Jesus in the desert of our being and fusing in love with Him. Others will then feel Him in our hearts and hear Him in our words.



PASTORAL TEAM

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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://salisburycatholics.org)



<https://salisburycatholics.org>

PRAYER FOR POPE FRANCIS

Almighty and Eternal God,
you are the everlasting health of
those who believe in you.

Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis
for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LENTEN SERVICES IN MARCH

Lent Penitential Service 7pm on Tuesday 18 March at St Gregory - There will be a number of priests available to hear confessions.

Stations of the Cross - Every Friday during Lent 5.20pm at St Osmund.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 14 MARCH - LENT APPEAL

This year we hear about Lokho who lives in the Marsabit region of Kenya. When her animals died in a drought, she could not feed her family. So Lokho reached out to local expert Wakera, a CAFOD partner.

Wakera shared his skills for growing food in harsh climates. He provided Lokho with seeds, tools and shade nets to protect her plants from the scorching sun, while still allowing every drop of precious rain through. CAFOD envelopes will be available in all our churches this weekend for collection on 15 & 16 March. For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#)

Lent Resources - Please click on the 'Lent' button on our homepage or [click here](#) for all of the following:

Doors onto Salvation: - daily reflections on images, Bible texts, and action points, leading up to Christ's death and resurrection.

Lent - A reflection on Lent by Bishop Robert Barron.

Confession - In a short video Fr. Alek walks us through how to make a good confession.

The Way of the Cross - Cardinal Nichols invites us to follow him through the Stations of the Cross using the traditional text from Saint Alphonsus Liguori.

Paschal Triduum - Canon Christopher Whitehead talks us through the 7 days of Holy Week.

Plus times, dates and locations of all our Lent Services, in Holy Week and the Paschal Triduum.

First Friday Talks - tonight Friday 7 March at 7.00pm in the Parish Centre - The talk will be by Greg & Pauline who will speak on the biblical meaning of Jubilee. The session will be recorded and will be available to view over the weekend by clicking on 'First Friday Talks' on our homepage 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. 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.

Men's Breakfast - The second men's breakfast will be next Saturday 15 March at 8.00am in the Parish Centre. The speaker will be Matthew Higgins (new head of St Joseph's). Tickets are £10 each. Payment can be made on the day in cash or direct to Deacon John Proctor. Please [click here](#) to book your place.

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

The Parish Retreat is now fully booked having reached the allotted capacity of the Franciscan Centre. The full timetable is on our website, just click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Family of Faith the next session is this Sunday 9 March 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 -Continues to meet on a Wednesday in term time 6.30 - 8pm in the Parish Centre. All the dates are on our website, just click on 'Youth Group' on our home page or [click here](#).



FLAME Saturday 15 March, Organised by The Catholic Youth Federation is a gathering for young Catholics (14+). This year it has sold out the OVO Wembley arena. 10,000 young Catholics will travel to London to celebrate their faith, take in talks from outstanding Catholic and Christian speakers, listen to music and performances from headline acts, and place Christ at the heart of their worship with Adoration led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Father Joseph is taking 15 of our youth for this amazing event. Please pray for grace and blessings for this journey of faith

SHARING OUR FAITH

Confirmation - Last Tuesday was the last time the Confirmation group will meet until Palm Sunday (13 April). Fr Joseph has extended a very warm invitation to the group to come along to Youth Group, details above. In particular, for those that would like to complete the Alpha course, we will be running those sessions (which all include a meal) on the following Wednesdays: 19 March, 2 & 30 April, 7 May and Sunday 4 May (tbc). Please click on 'Confirmation' on our homepage or [click here](#) for more information.

Young(ish) Catholic Adults Group for those in their 20s, 30s, 40s?! New course beginning next Tuesday 11 March at 8pm then every two weeks in St Osmund's Parish Rooms . This year, we are following a course on Catholic theology called *Symbolon* from the Augustine Institute, which explores the teachings of the Creed, and how they're lived out in Catholic life. All young adults welcome; contact Fr Joseph for more info.

Journey in Faith - Our ongoing programme for adults who are interested in Christianity, but who are not confirmed Catholics. The next session is Sunday 16 March at 10.30am at the Parish Centre. Contact Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliffondiocese.com if you are interested in joining or [click here](#)

Rite of Election tomorrow Saturday 8 March 11am Clifton Cathedral. This is when those who are journeying towards becoming part of our Catholic community are presented to Bishop Bosco. This year we are sending Sandy and Angela from our Parish and Josh from St George (Warminster). Please keep them in your prayers as they begin this important stage in their faith journey.

Baptism Preparation Course - The course at St Gregory finishes this Sunday 9 March. The next course will also be at St Gregory starting 4 May. If you wish to join please contact the Parish Office. To request a Baptism for your child, click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-1 Lent Week 1 & Psalter 1

Saturday 8 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

SUNDAY 9 MARCH

09:00 St Gregory MASS Sherly George &
Thressiamma Xavier RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS For our RCIA Candidates &
Catechumens who attended the Rite of Election (yesterday 8 March)

11:00 St Osmund MASS Francis White RIP - 10th
Anniversary

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Maria Herbridge RIP

Monday 10 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Ellen Rutley RIP

Tuesday 11 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Anne & David Power RIP
All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 12 March

10:00 St Gregory MASS Norman Meech RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 13 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Anthony & Kathleen Harty RIP
All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 14 March

10:00 St Gregory MASS Special Intention

17:20 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

18:00 St Osmund MASS Bridie & Harry Clapham RIP

Saturday 15 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Hansel D'Cruz RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Roberta Tibon RIP

RECONCILIATION

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

St Osmund: On the first Saturday of the month from 9am to 12
noon, and on other Saturdays after the 10am Mass

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR MARCH

For families in crisis

Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parishes of St Joseph (Stonehouse) and Annunciation (Woodchester).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Andrew Scarfe, Sylvia Weston, Leslie Dodd, Kathleen Stacey, Norman Meech and Julie Gray 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.

Advance Notice: Requiem Mass for Norman Meech RIP Friday 21 March 12 noon at St Osmund. All welcome.

Psalm Response

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

One does not live by bread alone, but with every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Glory and praise to you, O Christ

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 will be in Year 9 or above from Sept 2025, please use our online form to apply to join our preparation programme for 2026. [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