

Sacred Heart Tisbury & All Saints Wardour Castle

Trellis House, Station Road, Tisbury 01747 870228 Father Robert Miller
tisburyparish@cliftondiocese.com <https://salisbury Catholics.org/tisbury-parish>

Father Robert says Holy Mass each day at 9.00a.m. within Sacred Heart, Tisbury

Live stream from St Osmund's: CELEBRATION OF MASS WILL OCCUR WITHOUT A PUBLIC CONGREGATION

<https://salisbury Catholics.org/st-osmunds>

- May
- 24 SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
*Diocesan prayer league: St Dominic, Dursley
St Joseph, Nympsfield*
Catholic Communications Sunday
10.00 MASS 12.00 Ordinariate MASS 18.00 MASS **St Osmund's**
- 25 Monday *Memorial of St Bede the Venerable, Priest*
10.00 and 19.00 MASS **St Osmund's**
- 26 Tuesday *Memorial of St Philip of Neri, Priest*
10.00 and 19.00 MASS **St Osmund's**
All day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
18.40 Benediction
- 27 Wednesday FEAST OF ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, Bishop
10.00 and 19.00 MASS **St Osmund's**
- 28 Thursday
10.00 and 19.00 MASS **St Osmund's**
All day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
18.40 Benediction
- 29 Friday
10.00 and 19.00 MASS **St Osmund's**
- 30 Saturday
10.00 MASS **St Osmund's**
- 31 SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST SUNDAY
Diocesan prayer league: St Thomas of Canterbury, Fairford, with Cricklade

PRAYERS: for all those suffering; for the wonderful helpers in all sorts of areas of our lives; for the lonely, the anxious and for all those who are unwell. Pope Francis' Month of May prayer intentions for Deacons. **Please pray** for the souls of Martin Morland, Patricia Talbot, Jim Bell and Jo Wolfe RIP who have died recently.

Volunteers/help needed? For any sort of assistance, ranging from a telephone call to help with food shopping and delivering, Michael Hodges is co-ordinating a group of volunteers in the Parish. Contact him on: 01747 870254 and email michael.jeremyhodges@gmail.com

OTHER PARISH NEWS:

Mike Montgomery has flourishing alstroemeria which he would normally sell raising money for Mary's Meals. Do contact him if you would like some (collection from the Donheads) 01747828403

The Twins, Geoff and Wilf Fry are in good shape, cheerful and smiling in the sunshine of Tuckingmill.

Philip Conrath has had great success growing courgette plants- if anyone would like some, please phone him on 01747 870186

Pray as You Go – <https://pray-as-you-go.org> is a daily prayer session that combines music, scripture and some questions for reflection, designed for use wherever you are, to help people pray whenever they have the time.

Re-opening Churches

Cardinal Vincent Nichols spoke to presenter Justin Webb on BBC Radio 4's Today programme on 14 May about how Catholic Churches can be safely re-opened for private prayer as the UK government eases its lockdown restrictions to combat the spread of COVID-19. It is well worth reading (or hearing) : <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/cardinal-on-safely-re-opening-churches-for-private-prayer/>

Christian Art based on daily readings: <https://www.christian.art/>

Carer seeks live-in, long-term employment. Clean driving licence, linguist. Contact either Fr Robert (01747 870228) or Katie Page (830834/830278) katiepage@btconnect.com

Gardening help needed: a little family near Semley would love to have some help ordering an overgrown garden. Contact Catherine for more details 01747229173

Each Thursday there is a live streamed Mass for NHS, Social Care workers, those who are sick and for their families. Mass on 28th May from Middlesbrough Cathedral and should be available on this link: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrHHOTloR8TPdwQEC8IIPVw>

Spiritual Communion – Prayer of St Alphonsus

My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things
and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you
now and forever. *Amen.*

Homily from Father Robert:

Do you remember in primary school, somewhere in the classroom would be a table with a globe on it? If asked to point to Australia, there it was at the bottom. And Great Britain? - at the top. (Query: were Australian globes the same or did they show Australia at the top?)

Give enough correct answers, and you might go up in class, in which case you might feel on top of the world. Too many wrong ones, and you might go down. Make enough silly answers and somebody might pull your leg i.e. 'send you up'. Misbehave and you might be sent up to see the Head rather than your tutor, a lower being. Bad behaviour at university might result in being sent down. And if you were shown kindness or lenience, the person showing it might go up in your estimation.

These sort of things colour our thinking. English is a rich language. It is easy to forget that **up** and **down** can mean so many different things. At Christmas we sing, 'He came down to earth from heaven'. At Ascensiontide, we might sing about Jesus ascending into heaven 'above the skies'. In the Creeds, Jesus descends (to Australia?) or ascends to... where? Unfortunately everybody knows that at the top of the globe is the North Pole. But in between we don't find Hell at the Equator despite the heat. And before you are tempted to 'give up', remember we are not using words literally. Even so, what does it mean?

Well, much of it was shaped when the earth was thought to be flat. Go too near the edge and you might fall off (so different from the dropping off of advancing years) a frightening prospect. But are we any more modern? Rockets still go up even if fired in Australia. Is space up or down? We simply do not have the everyday language for things we can hardly glimpse. Significantly, in the Bible God is often made known in a cloud, usually on a mountain. And Jesus is 'taken from their sight by a cloud'. It may not be clear, but it is clearly better.

As for the rest of it, God being born... in a stable? Really! But babies are something we all know about, for it is how every living thing begins. It suggests that God understands the human condition, reveals Himself as something we can understand. Same with dying, even on a Cross. And as to Jesus being 'taken from their sight', or more prosaically, ascended, surely that must mean that there is a place for our humanity in the divine. Ascension implies progression to something better. And if that is true, we have hope. Death is not the end. Better still we know Who is there.

On Sunday May 31st we celebrate the gift ('descent') of the Holy Spirit. We need to pray that the Spirit, which passes so freely between, will allow us to grasp something of the wonderful mystery which is God. RM

The Little Sisters of the Poor provide safe and professional care for vulnerable, older people in Bristol. In these unprecedented times staff and volunteers are going above and beyond to make sure high quality care continues, responding to the growing needs of the community. Due to recent Government restrictions the Sisters are no longer able to appeal for funds in the community, in Churches, supermarkets or street collections and can no longer make their annual appeal in the churches of the diocese. All fundraising events have been cancelled. All of this has had a dramatic impact on the funds available to look after vulnerable residents. The Little Sisters are appealing for crucial support to help safeguard the Home and meet the evolving needs of the residents. **They are in real danger of being unable to remain financially viable.** They need help to purchase PPE such as gloves, face masks, sanitising gel, etc. All donations, no matter how small, will be gratefully received. Cheques can be made out to Little Sisters of the Poor and sent to 66 Cotham Hill, Bristol BS6 6JT or donate at www.littlesistersofthepoor.co.uk/donate-here.

Prayers for the Pandemic: for keyworkers

God of a day's work,
who knew the early start,
the long shift, the thankless task,
help us to 'see' keyworkers in the pandemic
in a new and lasting way –
the ones who leave home to mingle
with the virus
to keep us fed,
keep us safe, keep us clean,
to care for us: in school, in care, in intensive care;
help us to help them by being careful ourselves
and remembering, on the other side of this,
who deserves our esteem, our national

Raymond Friel

Alone Together: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/prayer-and-worship-at-home/alone-together/>

The Alice Combes Trust supported by The Lord Arundell of Wardour Charitable Trust have created a special fund to distribute to people who are currently suffering financial hardship as a direct result of Covid-19. Sean Moran: 01747 871258 or email alicecombestrust@gmail.com

From Deacon Michael:

Dear friends,

There is a YouTube link at the end of this. It is of Christians, including Catholics, from all around the UK praying a blessing on our land. It may not be your cup of tea! But it is a clear sign that our buildings may be shut but the Faith is alive and active in many Christian hearts. I have also asked the editor to forward to you the most cheering view of our future in a video.

May you all be merry and sound of foot and wind!

It could all be so very much worse than it is. We have much for which to thank God.

I have been reading of St Catherine of Siena's time – the time of "the Great Dying", when in 1348 the plague arrived from the East. People talking in the street would fall down and die. It killed half of Siena's population. 50%!!

That makes the coronavirus, though a tragedy for our nation and the world, seem feeble indeed with less than 1% of our people dying.

How did St Catherine respond to the plague in her time? By fervent prayers to God for the passing of the pestilence, by care for the sick and support for the carers, and a call for the people to turn to God in their trouble.

Do you think that is what we should be doing??

St Peter tells us: "If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, BE GLAD".

Talking to many of you, it is remarkable how glad of heart you have been in this time of pestilence, when, cut off from each other, the dark forces would encourage us to let fear eat at our hearts.

I have been struck by your courage, faith and perseverance in isolation. Christians are always amazing!

We have several baptisms and weddings to look forward to. New life and new love keep coming along! So let us be glad and rejoice! God is with us! Mary our Mother will "stretch her protective mantle over our land and all who live here". In God we trust.

<https://youtu.be/PUtlI3mNj5U>

MH

CAFOD recycling: Phones and gadgets contain components made of increasingly rare metals. These metals are mined on a massive scale to meet the demands of a growing tech market. Father Robert would like us to collect old, broken and unwanted tech and we can then send it to *Recycling for Good Causes*. They rescue precious metals to be used again. They will send money to our parish which we can then send on to CAFOD. Once our churches are open, there will be a box in the porch.

Catholic Safeguarding Advisory Service:

<https://www.csas.uk.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Guidance-Supporting-people-who-may-be-experiencing-domestic-violence.pdf>

Helpline numbers:

Woman's Aid - National Domestic Violence Helpline – 0808 2000 247

The mix – Advice for the under 25yrs. – 0808 808 4994

Advice for Male Victims of Domestic Violence - 0808 8801 0327

Childline – Deals with a vast variety of children concerns including Domestic Violence. 0800 111