

SALISBURY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

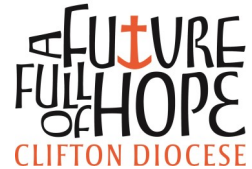
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

From Father Anthony...

It was a soft, bright day. Wispy clouds peaked over rooftops set against a quiet blue sky. Sunlight washed the church; stained glass glittered. The gangsters had been fed and were long gone. Two Collared Doves pecked at the grass; Sparrows squabbled over fat balls. A Blackbird flew low across the lawn, flared and landed on the window sill. She pecked at the window, fixed me with a beady eye and pecked again. Enchanted, I went outside. She flitted around my feet, head up, making a low chattering sound. My heart melted. Would that it was love... food more likely! I sprinkled some mealworm; she gave a chirp of approval and tucked in. It was a wonderful moment; communication without words. So much so that I'm telling you.

'And he (*John the Baptist*) was *preaching*'. The word used is Kerusso (κηρύσσω); it means *to herald, to proclaim from utter conviction*. John had an experience that overwhelmed him. He had to proclaim it. Most of us have had experiences – *especially when we fall in love* – which overwhelm us with sheer clarity and truth; our soul is deeply moved. A light has gone on; heaviness vanishes. We want to proclaim it, share our delight with everyone. The experience is very real for us and we tell our story with conviction even if others don't get it!

John had an experience of Christ. He experienced a transformation from the worldly to the spiritual, from darkness to light. Certainly, it cost him something... he is clothed in camel's hair, a girdle about his loins, living on locusts and wild honey, (*the natural man being purified and freed from all outer pretence and finding inner strength*). Yet, far from leaving him dejected, he is full of devotion and insight (*not fit to undo his sandals*). His old world is nothing compared to the new world he experiences. The experience gives him a sense of who he actually is. As Christ emerges in him; as he gives way to Christ; he understands a relationship that characterises his whole being. Having immersed (*baptised*) himself in the realm of soul (*water*) Christ rises in Him as Spirit; now he knows who he is... the Beloved Son (*child*). He proclaims it, wanting you and me to have the same experience. We must listen to Christ in him for he has a story to tell... so do you and I.



PASTORAL TEAM

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Parish Office

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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 : 2703

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](#).

NATIONAL LOCKDOWN JANUARY 2021

Under the latest guidance from the Government and endorsed by our Bishop's Conference, all churches in England can continue to celebrate Mass with a congregation. However, given the current situation and the increased transmissibility of the new strain of this virus, Father Anthony wishes to **actively** discourage anyone who is vulnerable from attending Mass in person. Please remember that for **everyone** there is no requirement to attend Mass and that the obligation was suspended in March last year and remains in place. For the latest information and Government guidance click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

BOOKING TO ATTEND MASS IN PERSON

If you wish to attend Mass in person, please book by emailing: booking@salisburycatholics.org (it is very helpful to us if you use this email **exclusively** for Mass booking) or if you are unable to email please call 01722 562703 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday. The Mass schedule for the coming week is on the final page of this newsletter as normal or can be found on our website: click the 'Mass Times' button on our homepage.

TESTING POSITIVE FOR COVID 19

If you receive a positive result from a COVID test and have attended one of our churches within 10 days of your positive result, please contact the Parish Office immediately so that we can take all required actions to advise and protect others who may have been close to you during your time in church. Please be assured that your identity will remain confidential. Contact 01722 562703 outreach@salisburycatholics.org

PARISH CANTOR TRAINING for OUR PARISHES on ZOOM

The role of Cantor is a liturgical ministry; we are looking to widen our pool of singers, and to train them adequately for the task. Anyone under 18 years may join the training with an accompanying adult present at the sessions. We're offering two levels - Entry Level for completely new singers (including non music-readers) and Refresher Level for extant cantors/musically-trained new singers.

Entry Level will be open to anyone interested and will take place over three sessions which will be held at **7.30pm on Thursdays 7, 14 & 21 January**.

For Refresher Level; currently-singing Cantors will be directly invited by email and any other established musicians who are interested to join, please contact Rosemary Field on rosemaryfield@rmfield.co.uk initially. Please mention this to any parish singers/musicians that you know. These sessions are taking place on Zoom - If you haven't used Zoom before but would like to join, don't be put off - we can help you. There are no costs involved for participants.



WORLD DAY OF PEACE 1 JANUARY 2021 In his message for the celebration of the 54th 'World Day of Peace', the Holy Father calls on Heads of State and Government, leaders of International Organisations, spiritual leaders and followers of the different religions, and to all men and women of good will to develop a 'Culture of Care as a Path to Peace'. In remarks on New Year's day Pope Francis also calls for prayers for the people of Yemen. For this and for his full message please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

SCORE collection for overseas projects takes place on 17 January. Please put your pink envelope into the main collection - or use a clearly marked plain envelope. Thank you. An update on how SCORE funds were distributed in December can be found on the website by going to 'Parish Life' on the main menu and then selecting 'SCORE' or [click here](#).

YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH Pope Francis has designated this year the “Year of St Joseph”. We have the full Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”) and also the Apostolic Exhortation written by Pope St John Paul II on St Joseph along with a story of this Saint in video and a devotion. Please click on the button on the homepage or [click here](#).

JOURNEYING WITH JONAH talks by Fr Denis McBride. The prophet Jonah is a sympathetic partner, albeit a curious one, to help us review our lives. Although a believer in God, Jonah struggles to come to terms with the awful strangeness of God’s choices, particularly God’s mercy; he grapples to find his true self and purpose in life; he tries to flee from the presence of God; he is angry when he finds that God is not angry but all-merciful. We have the first in the series of talks by Fr Denis just click on the button ‘Jonah’ on our homepage or [click here](#)

URBI ET ORBI: Christmas Message from Pope Francis

“To us a child is born, to us a son is given” (Is 9:6) The theme of the Pope’s Christmas message looks at how Jesus was born for everyone, “the Son that God has given to the entire human family”. We have both the video and text on the Christmas message by Pope Francis. Click on the image in the ‘Top News’ box or [click here](#)

NEW YEAR, NEW BEGINNING

Deacon Stephen Godwin has recorded a reflection for the New Year: you will find it by clicking on ‘Church TV’ on our homepage or [click here](#).

READING MARK IN ADVENT We have now completed the upload of an 18-part podcast series of Mark’s Gospel. 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.

DIVINITAS: THE ART OF FAITH. Fr Marcus Holden and Art Historian Teresa Lane probe the Mysteries of Faith. This week we introduce: Part 6: How Jesus Saves Us. To view this reflection please click on the image in the ‘Top News’ box or [click here](#).

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS There are two more excellent reflections on video by Fr Jim Golka on ‘The Epiphany’ which was celebrated last Sunday in the USA but was celebrated on Wednesday here and ‘The Baptism of the Lord’ celebrated this weekend. The reflections are just 3 minutes each. To view click on ‘The God Who Speaks’ button on our homepage or [click here](#)

CHILDREN’S LITURGY We have children’s liturgy of the word for the Epiphany and also for this weekend; the Baptism of the Lord. To view these, click on ‘Church TV’ then select ‘Children’s Liturgy’ or [click here](#)

CREDO Fr Andrew Eburne continues his journey through the articles of the Creed. We have the tenth podcast in this series: The death of Jesus Christ: “he suffered death and was buried”. What does death mean to Jesus Christ? And how can we ‘follow Him unto death’? We now feature the eleventh podcast ‘The Resurrection’. For these, and the previous nine, click on the button on our homepage or [click here](#).

SUNDAY HOMILY We have the latest podcast from Bishop Robert Barron for this Sunday (The Baptism of the Lord) on our website. The Gospel writers compel us, as it were, to pass through John the Baptist to get to Jesus; all four Gospels give us a version of Jesus’ baptism by John. But this baptism was embarrassing to the early Church, because it was interested in presenting Jesus as the Son of God, and yet people were coming to John as sinners for a baptism of repentance. Why would the incarnate Son of God seek out such a baptism? Click on the ‘Sunday Homily’ button on our homepage or [click here](#)

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-1 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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

booking@salisbury Catholics.org 01722 562703

Saturday 9 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

SUNDAY 10 January

09:00 St Gregory MASS Carmela Nicita RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS Cummings family: Samuel, Sylvere,
Solange and Graziella

11:00 St Osmund MASS June Wilson RIP

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:00 St Osmund Polish Mass

18:00 St Osmund MASS

Monday 11 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Sue Everitt in sickness

Tuesday 12 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Jeanette Dillon in sickness

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:40 Benediction

No Evening Mass

Wednesday 13 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Davey Kenny RIP

12:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Norah O'Reilly RIP

19:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 14 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:40 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 15 January

10:00 St Gregory MASS Joseph and Rosalie Cockle RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS In Thanksgiving: Liji Shibu

Saturday 16 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St Gregory Fridays 09:30 until Mass

St Osmund Saturdays 10:30 to 11:30

Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR JANUARY

Evangelisation: Human Fraternity

That the Lord will give us the grace to live in full fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other religions, praying for one another, open to all.

[Click here](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parish of St Mary, Bath and The Good Shepherd in Batheaston.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please also remember all those who have died:

Anne Watson, Anthea Piggins, Carol-Ann Coyle, Peter Rockett, Imogen Cardew, Yvonne Fox and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:1-11

Is 12

**With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.**

John 5:1-9

Alleluia, alleluia!

John saw Jesus coming towards him, and said:

**This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of
the world.**

Alleluia!

Mark 1:7-11

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. Watch this space.