

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 15 - YEAR A

From Father Anthony

As usual I sat outside, tea in hand, accompanied by Mrs Cat and the sound of desultory traffic and birdsong. A gentle breeze ruffled the early morning haze. I noticed patches in the lawn, gaps along the borders, the overgrown hedge, uneven path, weeds and trees that have lost their shape and yet... it is magnificent; all the imperfections make a marvellous whole. Mrs Cat purred and the tea was good too. *He got into a boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore.* The body (*the boat*) is in the soul (*the water*) and, in soul, Jesus (*the Word*) teaches us. Along the shoreline of our life stand all our thoughts, emotions, longings and wishes... all that we have ever experienced. If we are attentive, we will hear the Master point out how we have allowed, either, consciously or unconsciously, each thought, each emotion, each longing to form us into who we are now. All of us have had moments, maybe repeated moments, of feeling burnt out, strangled and choked by life, our good intentions carried away and so on. All of it brought us to where we are *Now*... listening to the Lord! In his Presence we become aware of who we are and what we have become. The parts may all be imperfect, but the whole is still His image; the person He loves. *Now* is the *hundred-fold* and *now* is always *now*. If we are to transform, we must listen to and feel Him in our hearts... *now*.

It is tempting and very human to be self-critical, to lament or mourn the past; to see all the mental and emotional seeds that died or have grown and deformed us in certain areas; to blame ourselves, others or life itself. This must stop because it is human mental not spiritual activity. Christ is the soil we are planted in; not worldly philosophies, psychologies or illusions. He is the author of true thought, the shepherd of healthy emotion, the object of our longing. It is in His image that we find our true reflection. So, let's look at Him and listen in prayer, meditation and daily life. Thank God for the life we have been given and understand that it has brought us to where we are *now*. Perhaps it still feels like winter: but in Him there is a glorious summer to come!

- Next Wednesday **15 July**, there will be no 10am Mass at St Gregory's. There will be a Service of the Word led by Deacon John Proctor. On Thursday **16 July Benediction** will be at the slightly earlier time of 5.30pm for this day ONLY.



PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS

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PARISH OFFICE

Désirée Coups
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01722 562703
Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday 0900 - 1230
Wednesday CLOSED

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](#)

SEA SUNDAY - 12 JULY

Stella Maris (formerly 'Apostleship of the Sea') is a Catholic charity working to improve the lives of seafarers and their families both in the UK and around the world through their network of local chaplains and seafarer centres. They provide information, advocacy, and spiritual support to all those who provide us with the food we eat and the goods we need. These seafarers are sometimes away from their families for months and even years. **There will be a retiring collection this weekend 11/12 July** and Gift Aid envelopes are available for those who pay tax to increase the value of their donation. There is a short video and booklet on our [website](#) if you would like to learn more.

FRIDAY PRAYER GROUP – EVERYONE WELCOME

Trusting God in Everyday Life - How can we learn to trust God more in our everyday decisions and live each day as a prayer? Join us as we reflect on Scripture, share our faith, and pray together in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. There are just two sessions left before our summer break: this Friday and next Friday, 4.00–5.30 pm, in St Gregory's Hall. We begin with a cup of tea and a biscuit, and everyone is welcome—whether you've been before or are coming for the first time. For more information and all the post summer dates please visit our '[Parish Activities](#)' page and click on '[Friday Prayer](#)'.

BENEDICTION AT ST OSMUND'S CHURCH

The Blessed Sacrament will continue to be exposed after morning Mass on both days for private prayer and adoration through the day, concluding with Benediction (approximately 15–20 minutes).

As attendance and online viewing at Benediction have declined in recent months, these arrangements will be reviewed again in September. If you have never experienced Benediction, please do come along. If you value this devotion, we warmly encourage your regular support so it can remain an active part of our parish prayer life.

Please note that Benediction on **Thursday 16th** is at the slightly earlier time of 5.30pm (6pm on all other days).

First Friday Talk – Last Friday we were blessed with talks from Anthony Binns, Caroline Robson and Deacon John Detain on their various experiences (highs and lows) who have travelled the Santiago de Compostela pilgrimage (the famous 'Camino'). The talks were recorded and are available on our website. Click on the '[First Friday Talks](#)' button on our homepage.

Pray the Rosary in Salisbury Cathedral - Friday 17th July. The Rosary is prayed by Catholics and Anglicans in Salisbury Cathedral on the third Friday of each month at 12 o'clock. The next meeting will be on Friday 17 July in the Trinity Chapel. If you would like to join us we meet in the refectory 1130-1150 before going into the Cathedral.

SPUC volunteers will be outside of our churches offering you a campaign card over the next two weekends. Legal Consequences for a woman aborting her own baby up to birth have now been removed and self-induced abortion is permitted. Please support SPUC and by filling out the card you are offered before Mass and hand it to your SPUC supporter as you leave. Cards will be handed out on the weekends of 11th/12th at St Osmund's & 18th/19th at St Gregory's.

SCORE – Retiring collection for SCORE Home Projects next weekend 18/19 July

HANDING ON OUR FAITH

Last Sunday at the 11am Mass we welcomed Daniel Graham Quirk who received the sacrament of Baptism

This Saturday we will welcome Isabella Rosalie Witt who will receive the sacrament of Baptism at St Osmund.

Please keep these children of God and their families in your prayers.

FAMILY OF FAITH 2026-7

Family of Faith is our way of supporting families with young children grow together in their faith. Within that, it is the place where our children are prepared to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Communion (the Eucharist) for the first time. Please do visit our [Family of Faith](#) webpage where you will find a link to sign up, dates for the new year starting after the summer break on 13 September.

Congratulations to Alba and Alicia from our Family of Faith group who will be making their First Holy Communion at the 9am Mass at St Osmund this Sunday 12 July. They have prepared for this special moment alongside their parents in our Family of Faith programme. Please keep these children in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith, hope, and love as cherished members of our parish community.

CONFIRMATION 2027

If you have a child who will be in Year 9 or above from September, please use our online form to apply to join our preparation programme for 2027 as **there will be an information evening for parents during the first few days of September.** An invitation was sent out to Parents if you did not receive it please let us know.

There is a wonderful residential retreat for the group during the first term and so it is vital that you sign up **NOW** to receive all the information and dates that you will need. Please click on the '[Confirmation](#)' button on our homepage for the link to sign up. The Confirmation programme and Mass are a wonderful time in a young person's life and is gaining in popularity every year with our youngsters. Please sign up now to be assured of a place for next year.

CONFIRMATION 2026

Bishop Bosco has now signed the Certificates of Confirmation for the recently Confirmed cohort for 2026, and these will be presented at the **5pm Mass at St Gregory's this Saturday 11 July**, so we hope that as many as possible can be there. If you are unable to attend that particular Mass, then your certificate will be available to collect from the Parish Office afterwards during office opening hours.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

Not Catholic but interested in learning more?

Our Journey in Faith group will begin meeting fortnightly again later this year, with dates to be announced soon. In the meantime, if you feel drawn to the Catholic faith - or are thinking about returning to it - we would be delighted to speak with you. Please feel free to talk to a member of the clergy, contact the parish office, or speak to Dave Blake.

Parish Retreat 2027- The annual Parish Retreat will take place during Lent at The Franciscan Centre, Ladywell Abbey Monday 15th February - Thursday 18th February 2027. Our theme will be 'Seek ye first the Kingdom of God'. Please consider coming if you have not been before, it is open to everyone in the Pastoral Area of St Edith. There will be more details to come nearer the date, but if you are interested, then put the dates in your diary and contact either the parish office or Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-2 Ordinary Time Week 15 & Psalter 3

Saturday 11 July

10:00 St Osmund MASS Robin Turvey RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Intentions of Benny and Family

With presentation of Confirmation Certificates. All welcome.

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

SUNDAY 12 JULY

09:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

09:00 St Gregory MASS Intentions of Sebastian & Family

11:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Kevin Kelly

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving

Monday 13 July

10:00 St Osmund MASS Elinor Gillan – In sickness

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Tuesday 14 July

10:00 St Osmund MASS John (Johnny) Carroll RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 15 July Saint Bonaventure

10:00 St Gregory **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

Thursday 16 July

10:00 St Osmund MASS Steven & Jan Fleming and Family

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction * **Please note one-off time change.**

Friday 17 July

18:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Tommy & Family

Saturday 18 July

10:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Sebastian & Family

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS For recover of Geraldine McConaghy

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

Reading this newsletter in paper copy? Please consider subscribing to the email/online version to help us to keep our costs down, cut waste and to protect the environment. Contact the parish office for more information if you're not sure how to subscribe and we'll help you!

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER FOR JULY

For respect for human life.

Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognizing it as a gift from God.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for the parish of St Luke & St Teresa (Wincanton).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Malcom Carver, Monica Johnson, Bridget Read and Maureen Mooney who died recently and all those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

FUNERAL - Malcolm Carver RIP

Many parishioners will remember Malcolm and his late wife Janet from the Holy Family Chapel and Alderbury. Malcolm's funeral is on Monday 3 August at 2pm in St Thomas's Church in the town centre and his family have extended an invitation to those who knew Malcom to his funeral and afterwards at The White Hart.

We also pray for all those in our parish currently facing ill-health that they will be granted comfort, healing and strength.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS Please register using this online [form](#). 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 [register](#) your interest in our Family of Faith programme.

CONFIRMATION 2027 For children who are year 9 or above please visit the Confirmation [page](#) our website.

MARRIAGE Please speak to a priest for guidance at least six months in advance of your hoped-for wedding date.

FUNERALS Do your family know your wishes with regards to your funeral? Registered parishioners can provide these details which are stored confidentially with your parishioner record and can be given to families at the appropriate time.

Contact Désirée: salisbury.catholic@cliftondiocese.com

St Gregory's Prayer Group

 **GROWING TOGETHER IN FAITH** 



A welcoming 12-week journey of prayer, friendship,
Scripture reflection and conversation.

Together we will explore the Catholic faith in a gentle, relaxed
and supportive atmosphere. Whether you are confident in your faith,
returning to Church, searching spiritually, or simply wishing to
grow closer to God — **you are warmly welcome.**



SUMMER / AUTUMN 2026 • FRIDAY AFTERNOONS, 4.00 – 5.30PM

WEEK & DATE	SESSION TITLE	THEME
Week 1 – 29 May	Called by Name	Jesus knows us personally and calls us with love
Week 2 – 5 June	Meeting Jesus	Who is Jesus for us — and how do we encounter Him today?
Week 3 – 12 June	Listening to God	Scripture and hearing God speak
Week 4 – 19 June	Belonging to the Church	We are one family in Christ
Week 5 – 26 June	Prayer	Learning simple ways to pray
Week 6 – 3 July	The Mass & Eucharist	Jesus feeds His people
Week 7 – 10 July	God's Guidance	Trusting God in everyday decisions
Week 8 – 17 July	God's Mercy & Forgiveness	Beginning again with God
SUMMER BREAK — REST • RENEWAL • REFLECTION <i>A time to pause, pray and continue noticing God's presence in the ordinary moments of life.</i>		
Week 9 – 4 Sept	The Holy Spirit in Our Lives	God helping us every day
Week 10 – 11 Sept	Mary and the Saints	Friends who help us follow Jesus
Week 11 – 18 Sept	Living the Christian Life	Following Jesus each day
Week 12 – 25 Sept	Hope, Healing & Trust	God stays with us in difficult times
Week 13 – 2 Oct	Continuing the Journey	Where is God leading us next?



EACH SESSION INCLUDES:

- Welcome and refreshments
- Prayer and Scripture reflection
- Open sharing and discussion
- Gentle teaching about the Catholic faith
- Quiet reflection and listening to God



IMPORTANT TO KNOW:

No prior knowledge is needed.
There is no pressure to speak
or participate in any particular way.

***Come as you are —
you are warmly welcome.***

Let us grow together in faith, hope and love.