PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 33 - YEAR A

From Father Anthony

It was a grey day, with low cloud, poor visibility and a cold easterly wind. Gulls circled; figures stood hunched. With an aching shoulder and knee, I stood on the cliff top looking out to sea. Gun metal grey with white tops, it boiled, raged and battered the shore. I pulled my hood up against the wind... but saw in the sea a reflection of myself I did not like.

It is amazing how many of us feel a sense of sorrow, grief, mourning, and an agony that comes with a sense of lost opportunity and unfulfilling relationships - especially with God: mixed with intense anger, rage, disappointment, fury and hatred… *the biblical weeping and gnashing of teeth.* Can we identify with any of this? I can; and I did as I looked out over the raging sea… not that I like to admit it; it does not go with my rosy, cosy, dozy, deceptive self-image. But some of it is there. Why?

It's easy to blame the world, others, parents, schools, church - even God - for the mixed, missed, lost or lack of opportunities; but this doesn't work for me. Jesus' parable does; in this sense.

The man on the journey had three servants. We are the man: the servants are body, soul and spirit. The body has five senses *(five talents):* the soul has an upper and lower component to navigate both the world and spirit *(two talents):* the spirit is the unified Godly expression of who and what we are *(one talent)*. We are constantly navigating the sensory world, multiplying our sensory talents in conjunction with our soul. Body and soul exist together and operate in the world. But neither are just for the world! They are to lead us to the Kingdom of Heaven, the realm of spirit, from which and in which we are fulfilled and achieve our destiny… by reflecting spirit back into the world to transform it. That is our task. Until we do this nothing makes ultimate sense and we will have *buried* our spirit *(like the talent)*, confusing ourselves as just body and soul. Whatever the world gives us, riches or poverty, it will leave us bereft and unfulfilled because we are not complete in the spirit.

This is not a parable to scare or intimidate us but to wake us from a life of *weeping and gnashing of teeth.*

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE
CLIFTON DIOCESE

PASTORAL TEAM

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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

PARISH WEBSITE
salisburycatholics.org

NEW TO THE PARISH?
We wish you a very warm welcome.
Please register online **Click Here**

Red Wednesday 18 November

Red Wednesday is an annual global campaign organised by **Aid to the Church in Need (ACN)** to highlight the persecution and suffering faced by Christians around the world, while promoting the right to religious freedom.
On this, the 10th Anniversary of Red Wednesday, you are invited to join **St George's Cathedral, Southwark** for a special Mass at 6pm. Click in the **'Top News'** box to join and also to read ACN's latest report on Christian persecution.

Gift Aid Declarations (GAD)

We are grateful that many parishioners make occasional donations to the parish via direct transfer to our account but, in the main, it is only those parishioners that contribute by Standing Order for whom we hold an 'enduring' GAD. If you are a UK taxpayer and make occasional donations – for Mass Stipends or to support a particular Youth event perhaps, please consider signing an enduring GAD – we can then claim an extra 20% from HM Government at NO COST to you on ***all*** of your donations, however large or small. Every penny helps!

SCORE – There will be a retiring collection for SCORE Overseas Projects this weekend 14/15 November.

'Proper' Christian Christmas Cards in support of Catholic charities 'Aid to the Church in Need' and the 'Catholic Children's Society' are now on sale in the Parish Office and will be on sale after some of the Masses this weekend.

November Masses for the Holy Souls - Please write the names of your departed loved ones in an envelope and place it in the box or basket at the foot of the altar. If you are unable to come to church in person but would like a name included, please email or ring the parish office, and we will be happy to add it for you.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC) Training in St Gregory's Church tomorrow Saturday 14 November, 11am–1pm. This session is intended to train two additional EMHCs. However, any existing ministers from either church, attending any Mass, who would welcome a refresher session are also very welcome to come along.

First Friday Talk –Last Friday's talk by Greg Wall on '*The Common Good'* was recorded and is now available to watch on our website. Please click on 'Parish Activities' on our main menu and then on 'First Friday Talks'.

Magnifica Humanitas – A Parish Journey - Exploring Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas, and its call to safeguard human dignity in the age of Artificial Intelligence. The next session, 'Why the limit is not a defect' will take place next Tuesday 17 Nov from 7.30pm to 9.30pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is warmly welcome. For the full programme see website.

Rosary in Salisbury Cathedral - Friday 20th November: 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 20th November in the Chapel of St Edmund and St Thomas. If you would like to join us we meet in the refectory 1130-1150 before going into the Cathedral.

The Parish Rosary Group also meets via Zoom every Wednesday at 2.30pm to pray together. For more information, please contact Alison on 01722 741681. All are warmly welcome to join.

Bonfire Night: The night Salisbury burned the Pope.

On 22 November 1850, some 7,000 people took to Salisbury's streets in an extraordinary anti-Catholic demonstration, culminating in a huge bonfire on Green-Croft. Effigies of the Pope and Catholic bishops went up in flames — although one cardinal stubbornly refused to burn! Discover this remarkable episode in Salisbury's Catholic history, including eyewitness accounts and a contemporary illustration, on our parish history blog at salisburycatholics.org/history.

Theatre Trip to Bath – Saturday 21 November: Join us!

We have great news – there are now some more tickets available for **parishioners** (of any age!) to join with us at the theatre in Bath to T. S. Eliot's celebrated play *Murder in the Cathedral*, starring Sir David Suchet (famous for playing Hercule Poirot on TV!). We go next Saturday, 21 November so please email/ring the parish office without delay if you'd like to join. Why not plan to do some shopping in beautiful Bath and then join Fr Joseph & the group at the theatre? (You can, of course, join the group for Mass as well if you'd like to!) The play tells the extraordinary story of St Thomas Becket, whose martyrdom in 1170 transformed Canterbury into one of Christianity's greatest centres of pilgrimage, later immortalised in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. It's a wonderful opportunity to explore our Christian heritage while enjoying a great work of English literature.

Young People - we hope to celebrate Mass and enjoy a picnic together too. We'll leave Salisbury around 10am and return by approximately 6.45pm. **Young people/parents – there are still some tickets and space in the transport so do get in touch asap if your young person would like to come!**

Family of Faith

The next session will take place this Sunday 15 November at the Parish Centre after the 9am Masses. While the children attend their session, parents have a separate session of their own. It is essential that at least one parent remains for the session each time. More details are on our website: https://salisburycatholics.org/familyoffaith
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch**.**

Confirmation 2027 & Youth Group

The next session for those preparing to receive the Sacrament is next Wednesday 18 November 6.30pm at the Parish Centre. The theme will be 'Why be Catholic? For more please visit our Confirmation page by clicking on the image on our homepage.
The Youth Group also meets on Wednesdays in term time at the Parish Centre at 6.30pm. This group is for those in Years 8-11 to meet up, relax, play games, chat about faith, ask questions, and pray.

Handing on our Faith

Baptism Preparation – session 2 of 3 takes place this Sunday and Sunday 15 November after the 9am Mass at St Gregory's Church. A full schedule of upcoming preparation courses can be found on the Baptism page of our website. To request a baptism for your child please click on the Registration button on our website and select 'Infant Baptism Application'.

Journey in Faith

Not Catholic but interested in learning more?
Our Journey in Faith group will begin meeting fortnightly from the 29 November, all the dates are now on our website via the Journey in Faith button on the homepage. 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: Join us for our annual Parish Retreat at the Franciscan Centre, Ladywell Abbey, from 15 to 18 February 2027 during Lent. Our theme is "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God." Open to everyone in our Deanery, whether you have attended before or not. To express interest, contact the parish office or Dave Blake at salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com.

Liturgy this Week

Year A-2 Ordinary Time Week 33 & Psalter 1

Saturday 14 November **The Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese**

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER

09:00 St Gregory MASS Mr & Mrs Wara RIP

09:00 St Osmund MASS Elisabeta DiVana

11:00 St Osmund MASS Private Intention

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Xander Dre Beresford RIP

Monday 16 November **Saint Edmund of Abingdon**

10:00 St Osmund MASS James Patrick Thurlow Herlihy RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Tuesday 17 November **Saint Hugh of Lincoln**

10:00 St Osmund MASS Peter Duffy RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Osmund's Church

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 18 November

10:00 St Gregory MASS Holy Souls

Thursday 19 November

10:00 St Osmund MASS Jamie Purvis RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in St Osmund's Church

12:00 Downton MASS

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 20 November

18:00 St Osmund MASS Beryl Smith RIP

Saturday 21 November **Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

10:00 St Osmund MASS Private Intentions

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Celia Maidment RIP (Birthday)

Reconciliation

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

Prayer & Scripture

PAPAL PRAYER FOR NOVEMBER

For the proper use of wealth

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for the parishes of St Teresa of the Child Jesus (Filton) and St Vincent de Paul (Southmead, Bristol).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kathleen Finnegan, Bernadette Jones, Lisa Piago, Tom Gardner and Mark Wilson who died recently and all those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

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*

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