Parish of St Osmund

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND Part of the Clifton Diocese: Registered Charity 1170168 Company No 10462074



ADVENT WEEK 4 (A) **CHRISTMAS**



From Father Anthony

I woke very early: it was bitterly cold. Looking out into the darkness I could see the silver sheen of frost on the lawn. Stars twinkled and moonlight bathed the rooftops in spectral light. It was very quiet but too early for tea! So, I sat huddled in the duvet and began to pray. Two hours later I woke up!... with a pain in my neck! Sunlight spilled through the window and birdsong heralded the new day. I made tea trying to remember the dream I'd had... when I should have been praying!

'When Joseph woke'... The aim of spiritual practice is to wake up. Spiritually, Joseph represents intuitive wisdom; he intuitively understands the spiritual reality behind the natural world. It is this wisdom that helps us to discern (waken to) God's will for us... 'he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home'. There is evidence that the word wife guné (yuvή), derives from ginomai (yívoμαι), which means to become, to come into being. Our intuitive wisdom (Joseph) allows something to come into being within (take home). And this is Mary... who represents the spiritual Soul. God wants us to waken to the life of soul within.

For this we must *listen to the angel*. Angel means *messenger*. Everything in the world is 'sending out a message', an angelic force. To understand it we must develop our spiritual faculties through prayer and spiritual practice. How often have we felt that something does not feel right, we feel uncomfortable, something is grating? On the surface everything looks normal... but we do not feel right about it. Intuition is trying to tells us something; it is sending out a message. Through practice we learn to receive the message through and from our intuition. It is light in the darkness... an Advent. Life is communicating messages (angelic forces) all the time. Hence the emphasis on listening not just with our ears but with our soul; so as to hear, intuit, feel what it is that God is commanding us to do. The word command, prostássō (προστάσσω) means to emphasise the intention of the one assigning (commanding). It means to intuit what God wants of us; it means, with Angelus Silesius, that, 'Christ could be born a thousand times in Galilee but all in vain until He is born in (you) and me'.



PASTORAL TEAM

Rev Anthony B Paris VF (Parish Priest) 01722 333581 or 07544 053785 anthony.paris@cliftondiocese.com

Rev Jonathan Creer (Pastor of Sarum Ordinariate & Assistant Priest) 07724 896579 jonathan.creer@cliftondiocese.com

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Rev Stephen Godwin (Deacon) 07583 254488 stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com

Rev John Proctor (Deacon) 07802 631968 john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office Monday-Friday 0900 - 1600

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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. Please register online at: https://salisburycatholics.org click "Registration/update"









SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS EVE

4pm	Carols	4.30pm	Vigil Mass	St Gregory*
4.30pm	Carols	5pm	Vigil Mass	St Osmund
7.30pm	Carols	8pm	Vigil Mass	Holy Redeemer
9.30pm	Carols	10pm	Vigil Mass	St Osmund
11.30pm	Carols	Midnight	Mass	St Gregory

^{*}Children may wish to come in their Nativity Outfits

SUNDAY 25 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS DAY

9am	Christmas Day Mass	St Gregory
9am	Christmas Day Mass	St Osmund
11am	Christmas Day Mass	St Osmund
12.15pm	Sarum Ordinariate Christmas Mass	St Osmund

A friend of mine had emergency major surgery this year and was lucky to escape with her life. You can imagine the impact... suffering, confusion and anguish. But, it also brought new insights and a really strong compassion for those who suffer. Recovery will take time; but recover she will and to a stronger more fulsome life. Over the last three years we have all undergone a form of trauma, what with illness, lockdowns, loss of loved ones and the disruption to a way of life we perhaps thought immutable. Just as we shake a blanket to get rid of the dust so the last few years have shaken us out of comforts and certainties. It will take time to recover... but recover we will!

There is something positive in every event and we must find it. Why? So as to pass it on. The merger of our three parishes, for example, might seem to some a sign of demise. Is it? Or, is it a sign urging us to regroup, understand and refresh... not lament. Just as we might regret the passing of a season we also smile, knowing it will come back again. You and I and the church we must sustain and grow will come back firm and strong... maybe in a different form but, nevertheless, firm and strong. Let's learn from the past and then, let it go. Similarly, we should not fear or be anxious about the future... that's equivalent to letting what we don't know about – events which have not and might not happen - have power over us. If we accept and learn from the past: if we accept that the Divine Nature will be found in future events; then, we can begin to rest in the present moment, rise above it and find the world of spirit. Here we will be given the vision and understanding of what to do *now: now* is where we heal the past in the present to release the future! We have a bright future; let's make it so.

Welcome to Father Joseph whom, against all the odds in a time of fewer priests, we are so blessed to have with us. Welcome to all those Baptised this year. Congratulations to our young people who we Confirmed this year and to all our couples who were Married. We continue to pray for those suffering from any kind of illness that full health will be restored. We pray especially for the bereaved and those whom we miss and who now rest in the beloved arms of the Lord. And... 'thank you' to all those, without whom, the day to day running of our parish simply would not happen. You often work behind the scenes, unnoticed and often without thanks. So, 'Thank You'.

On behalf of Fr Jonathan, Fr Joseph, Deacon John P, Deacon Steve, Deacon John D and myself, I wish you a lovely Christmas and a Holy, Peaceful New Year.

Love and prayers, *Fr Anthony*

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS OVER CHRISTMAS



The Parish Office will close at 12:00 on Thursday 22 December.

After this time, there will be no one to answer telephone calls or respond to emails until Tuesday 3 January when the Parish Office will reopen.

From all of us in the office to all of our parishioners - we wish you a very Happy and Holy Christmas.

FROM OUR PARISH TREASURERS...

Christmas Offerings to our priests

The Christmas collection is our offering to our priests. Envelopes are available at the back of our churches for those able to attend Mass in person. If you would like to make an offering via the parish bank account:

Account Name: Clifton Diocese re Parish of St Osmund Salisbury

Sort Code: 52-10-03 Account Number: 66287111

Please be sure to quote the reference **CHRISTMAS** with your payment so we can keep the money separate from parish funds.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD - FRIDAY 6 JANUARY HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Masses will be: 10am St Gregory 12 noon Holy Redeemer 7pm St Osmund

There will also be a Mass at 10am in St Osmund's Church which will be attended by all St Osmund's School pupils - please note space will be limited but overflow space will be available in the Parish Rooms

'Epiphany: this word indicates the manifestation of the Lord, who, as Saint Paul tells us in the second reading (cf. Eph 3:6), makes himself known to all the nations, today represented by the Magi. In this way, we see revealed the glory of a God who has come for everyone: every nation, language and people is welcomed and loved by him. It is symbolized by the light, which penetrates and illumines all things'. *Pope Francis, Epiphany 2020*

Christmas Photoshoot. There is the opportunity to have some beautiful family photos taken by one of our parishioners Michael (a professional photographer) this Sunday 18 December in St Gregory's Hall between 10am and 12.30pm. There is no cost but a cash donation to our parish is encouraged. For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box or click here.

Family Christmas Lunch - a free, no strings attached, community Christmas Lunch for parishioners - individuals and families - who may be struggling or alone at Christmas. **Christmas Day at 1.30pm in St Elizabeth Hall.** Transport can be available if required, please contact the parish office to register or to recommend to us a parishioner or family for whom this would be suitable.

Flowers for our Churches this Christmas. Donations towards the cost of the flowers in our churches this Christmas would be most welcome. If you are able, please place a contribution in an envelope marked 'flowers' in the normal offertory on a Sunday Mass or direct to the Parish Office.

Church Cleaning for Christmas will take place tomorrow in St Osmund's from 12 noon Saturday 17 December. Please do come and help Henrietta and Raiiti if you can - many hands make light work! Chaps, don't be shy we need you too. Everything provided.

Start the New Year with a diary - We have 2023 Clifton Diocese Liturgical Diaries (£6.50) and Directories (£6.00) which can be purchased from the Parish Office.

SCORE update. The following projects have recently received grants form SCORE: Salisbury Pantry (£3,000); Hope Exchange, Cape Town (£2,500); CRESS (£2,500); St Osmund's School Chaplaincy (£1,500). In addition a grant was made to an individual from the Hardship Fund. Further details can be found on the website, together with information about SCORE; application forms for grants; meeting dates and dates for SCORE collections.

The collection this weekend 17 & 18 December is for 'Home Projects', money raised will go to the 'SCORE Hardship Fund'. This fund is for individuals/families in need of our support this winter. Application forms for support are available in all our churches and also on our website, click on 'Parish Life' on the main menu and then select 'SCORE' or simply click here.

Salisbury Catholics Parishioner Lunch is on the second Thursday of each month. The next lunch with fellow parishioners will be after the midday Mass on Thursday 12 January in St Osmund's Parish Rooms - put the date into your diary. Donations are welcome to cover costs.

SPUC Coffee Morning 19 November. Thank you to everyone who supported the coffee morning, £281 was raised for this worthwhile charity working hard to protect the rights of the unborn.

Vacancy: St Elizabeth Hall Facilities Manager (Maternity Cover) We are recruiting for someone to provide maternity cover for this part time role dealing with hirings for St Elizabeth Hall. For more details, please email Melanie at: finance.elizabethhouse@cliftondiocese.com.

Salisbury Foodbank: During October and November 326kg of baked beans, jam and sandwich spread was collected and delivered to the Foodbank. Over the whole of 2022 food donated weighed 1175kg - roughly the equivalent of 2350 meals. Thank you for your generosity. In January we will be collecting dried milk and small bags of rice. Click here for photo of approximately 80kg.

Art Group: Which meets on Mondays between 10.30am - 12.30pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms starts again on 9 January, all are welcome, whether or not you have painted or drawn before. Contact John and Elizabeth on 01725 510310.

Bible Book Club meets on Tuesdays in the Parish Rooms 10:45am - 12:30pm and starts again on 10 January. Please join us as we read and study the Psalms. For further details contact John Lester 07899 244072.

Bridge Club The St Osmund's Bridge Club which meets every Tuesday from 1pm to 4pm in the Parish Rooms reconvenes in the New Year on the 10 January. For further information contact the Office.

My Generation - Meetings will recommence on Wednesday 18 January 2023, and then on the following 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For information please contact Chris on 321109.

Rosary Group - Meets to pray the Rosary together via Zoom on each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Please contact Josephine in the New Year on 01722 328410 for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

SHARING OUR FAITH

Nicodemus Group - The Group will recommence in the New Year on the 18 January, in St Elizabeth Hall, 131 Exeter Street 7pm - 8.30pm. The new programme will be published in the near future. For more information, please click on 'Becoming Catholic' on our website main menu.

Journey in Faith Our ongoing programme for adults interested in Christianity who are not confirmed Catholics. The last meeting for this year is this Sunday 18 December at 3pm in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund and will be with Fr Jonathan. For more information please visit 'Becoming Catholic' on our website main menu or click here

Christmas Storytime - for primary school-aged children with author and international speaker and missionary, Meg Hunter-Kilmer. This event is free and will be held this **Monday 19 December** between 3pm - 4.30pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. No need to book, just come along and make this part of your Christmas.

Advent Carols & Benediction by Candlelight - next Wednesday 21 December 7pm at St Osmund's Church. Do come along Fr Joseph assures us that it is going to be truly amazing. The service will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Rooms.

Advent Reflections and Hymns. We have two reflections on Advent and a selection of Advent and Christmas Hymns on our website. To view click on the 'Advent Reflections' button on our homepage or just <u>click here</u>.

SPUC National Prayer Campaign: 10 Million Prayers for 10 Million Lost Lives: Since the Abortion Act of 1967, 10 million babies have lost their lives to abortion in this country. The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) have launched a National Prayer Campaign, with the aim of reaching 10 million prayers being pledged, one for each life lost. For more and how to join please visit our 'Blog' on our website or <u>click here</u>.

Ignatian Listening - The Jesuits in Britain spirituality team have upcoming events, which may be of interest. They include an online 'Ignatian Listening' this weekend 17-18 December and their online School of Prayer series: on Thursday 19 January 2023. For more please click on the image in the Top News box or <u>click here</u>.

Baptisms For baptisms please register your application by clicking on the 'Registration/Update' button on our home page or <u>click here</u>. For information contact Deacon John Proctor email: <u>john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com</u> or Deacon Stephen Godwin email: <u>stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com</u>

First Holy Communion Programme 2022/2023 Details are on our website, please click on 'Sacraments' on our main menu and then on 'Holy Communion' or <u>click here</u>. The next session will be Saturday 21 January at 2pm in St Gregory's Church for children. It is very important that all sessions are attended. For further information please contact Father Anthony or Deacon John Detain.

Applications please for Confirmation in 2023. For young people in school Year 9 or above please apply NOW as we will soon be finalising the programmes. To apply please click on the 'Registration/Update' button on our home page or <u>click here</u>.

Sunday Homily from Bishop Robert Barron Many people today hold that time is meaningless; it is just one thing after another. As we see in the readings for the fourth Sunday of Advent the Bible does not agree, time has a trajectory; it moves toward its fulfilment in Christ, who is Emmanuel 'God with us'. To listen and watch, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or <u>click here</u>.

Children's Liturgy from Catholic Kids Media: The Promise of the Messiah! A fun reflection based on the readings for the 4th Sunday of Advent, Year A. Select the 'Children's Liturgy' button on our homepage or <u>click here</u>.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Advent Week 4 and Psalter 4

Saturday 17 December 'O Sapientia'

10:00 St Osmund MASS Hermione Galibardy

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Deceased members of the Moran

and Hughes Families

SUNDAY 18 December

09:00 St Gregory MASS Mathew Muricken RIP
09:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Samantha

Chinedum

11:00 St Osmund MASS For all Friends & Relatives of

Mary Fleming

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

Monday 19 December 'O Radix'

10:00 St Osmund MASS Carol Carthy RIP

Tuesday 20 December 'O Clavis David'

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgving

10.00 of Osmand MAOO manksgv

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 21 December 'O Oriens'

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Alistair & Terence RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

19:00 St Osmund Advent Carols & Benediction

Thursday 22 December 'O Rex Gentium'

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thank you to Carers for all their

support from Mike Lennard

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 Benediction

Friday 23 December 'O Emmanuel'

10:00 St Gregory MASS Joseph Kenny RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS Mooney Family, Elizabeth Kane

& Patricia Knott RIP

Saturday 24 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass
St Osmund Saturdays After the 10:00 Mass

No confessions at Holy Redeemer on Christmas Eve

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR DECEMBER Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation. <u>Click here.</u>

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parish of: Holy Rood (Swindon).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

John Hosegood, Linda Agnew, Frances Dismore, and Derek Pheby who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalm 23

Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

Romans 1:1-7

Alleluia, alleluia!

The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us'.

Alleluia!

Matthew 1:18-24

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS For baptisms please register your application <u>click here</u>. For more information contact Deacon John Proctor or Deacon Stephen Godwin.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION If you have a child who will be in Year 3 or above from September 2023, please use our online form to apply to join our next preparation programme. Click here.

CONFIRMATION If you have a child in Year 9 or above, please use our online form to apply to join our next preparation programme. 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 Caroline for more details:

caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

LITURGY CHRISTMAS WEEK 1

Year A-1 Christmas Week 1 Proper of the Solemnity

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

CHRISTMAS EVE

	Cı	INISTIMAS LVL
16:00	St Gregory	Carols followed by MASS at 16:30
16:30	St Osmund	Carols followed by MASS at 17:00
19:30	Holy Redeemer	Carols followed by MASS at 20:00
21:30	St Osmund	Carols followed by MASS at 22:00
23:30	St Gregory	Carols followed by MASS at Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY

SUNDAY 25 December

		No Evening Mass
12:15	St Osmund	Ordinariate MASS
11:00	St Osmund	MASS
09:00	St Osmund	MASS
09:00	St Gregory	MASS

Monday 26 December SAINT STEPHEN

10:00 St Osmund MASS Brian Drake RIP

Tuesday 27 December SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE

10:00 St Osmund MASS Frank Farley RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 Benediction

Wednesday 28 December HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Peter Barnes RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 29 December SAINT THOMAS BECKET

10:00 St Osmund MASS 60th Wedding Anniversary

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 30 December THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY

AND JOSEPH

10:00 St Gregory MASS Oliver Lacey RIP & Family

19:00 St Osmund MASS Angel Byrne RIP

Saturday 31 December

10:00 St Osmund MASS Anthea Piggins RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Dorte Hecter RIP23:30 St Osmund MASS (Consecration at Midnight)

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass
St Osmund Saturdays 10:30 to 11:00
Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parish of: St Mary (Swindon).

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Vigil Masses St G 16:30, St O 17:00 & HR 20:00

Isaiah 62:1-5

Psalm 88

I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.

Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Alleluia, alleluia!

Tomorrow there will be an end to sin of the world and the saviour of the world will be our king.

Alleluia!

Matthew 1:1-25 (Matthew 1:18-25 at 16:30 & 17:00)

Mass during the night St O 22:00 & St G Midnight

Isaiah 9:1-7

Psalm 95

Today a saviour has been born to us; he is Christ the Lord.

Titus 2:11-14

Alleluia, alleluia!

I bring you news of great joy:

today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Luke 2:1-14

Christmas Day

Isaiah 62:11-12

Psalm 96

This day new light will shine upon the earth: the Lord is born for us.

Titus 3:4-7

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace to men who enjoy his favour. Alleluia!

Luke 2:15-20



LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-1 Christmas Week 2
Proper of the Solemnity and Weekday Psalter 2

SUNDAY 1 January		MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD		
	09:00	St Gregory	MASS	6th Wedding Anniversary Nithin &
				Reshma Thalakottur
	09:00	St Osmund	MASS	Daniel Quirk RIP
	11:00	St Osmund	MASS	Anthony Woodard RIP
	12:15	St Osmund	Ordinaria	ate MASS
	18:00	St Osmund	MASS	People of the Parish
	Monday) lanuam.	Cointo D	lacil the Creat and

Monday 2 January Saints Basil the Great and Gregory Nanzianzen

10:00 St Osmund MASS Jo Watson RIP

Tuesday 3 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Peter Lynch RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 Benediction

Wednesday 4 January

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS Anne Josephine Sheehan RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate Mass

Thursday 5 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 6 January THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

10:00 St Gregory MASS

10:00 St Osmund St Osmund's Whole School Mass

(space will be limited but overflow into the Parish Rooms will be set up)

12:00 Holy Redeemer MASS19:00 St Osmund MASS

Saturday 7 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS John Hosegood RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass
St Osmund Saturdays After the 10:00 Mass
Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

And by appointment with our priests.

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR JANUARY

For Educators:

We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all. Click here.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for the parishes of St Peter (Swindon) and Sacred Heart (Royal Wootton Bassett).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Jim Johnston, Yolanda Graziano, Kathleen Gibbs, John Hosegood, Linda Agnew, Frances Dismore, and Derek Pheby who died recently and all those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 66

O God, be gracious and bless us.

Galatians 4:4-7

Alleluia, alleluia!

At various times in the past and in various different ways,

God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets;

but in our own time, the last days,

he has spoken to us through his Son.

Alleluia!

Luke 2:16-21

SACRAMENTS

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