

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

EASTER WEEK 3(A)

From Father Anthony

I recently came across some photographs, taken a few years ago, of a reunion at my old school. With anticipation I scanned the groups of faces, older, lined and wrinkled now but they appeared as strangers. Then with repeated glances the features of one person seemed to morph out at me... and there was a very close friend whom I'd not seen for ages staring out and smiling. It was quite a shock: I was amazed that I had not recognised him at first glance after all we had lived and been through into middle age. I smiled back.

The men on the road to Emmaus seem to have had a similar experience... *their eyes were prevented from seeing him*. In my case I was looking with the eyes of the boy of over fifty years ago. I had the images and mindset of the past recalling all the longings, freshness and expectations of that time. As I looked at the photos, I was living the past in the present. And they don't really mix or overlay. It was only when I relaxed and let the faces reveal themselves as they were, in that present moment, that my friend and a few others became visible and recognisable.

The gospel passage suggests that, spiritually speaking, Jesus walks by the side of our lives but we do not recognise Him. Why? Maybe we have smothered Him with images taken from religions, books, sermons, schools and other stuff. He is not contained by any image either mental or physical. He is Himself. So how to recognise Him? He gives us a clue... *"beginning with Moses and all the prophets, He interpreted to them what referred to Him in all the Scriptures"*.

Don't see Scripture as secular history; see it as salvation history... your salvation. Whatever passage you read... relax! Then let the events and characters represent aspects of your own life; immerse yourself in them: become them, let them take root. After a while, with perseverance and repetition, a veil might lift; the bread of your life will be broken; it's as if you *are being seen*. You will experience a self-encounter. And as you come to recognise yourself (*the true you*) you will recognise Christ because Christ lives in you as you. In recognising Christ, you will recognise Him who revealed Christ to us... Jesus, our Lord and Master.

Please note: There will be no Ordinariate Mass at 6pm on Tuesday 21 April and Tuesday 28 April. On Wednesday 22 April at 10am in St Gregory, Mass will be replaced by a Service of the Word.



PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS

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Rev John Proctor (Deacon)

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PARISH OFFICE

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1600

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1600

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salisbury.catholic@cliftondiocese.com

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](#)

EASTER MESSAGES

[From Bishop Bosco MacDonald](#) - Within it he tells us: "The resurrection of Jesus is the decisive act of God in history, and the living truth by which the Church now stands. Christ is alive, and because he lives, no darkness is absolute, no wound is beyond his mercy, no future is closed to grace".

[Urbi et Orbi message of Pope Leo XIV](#) - Pope Leo reminds us in his Easter proclamation that Christ is risen from the dead "opens us up to a hope that never fails, to a light that never fades, to a fullness of joy that nothing can take away: death has been conquered forever; death no longer has power over us!"

CONGRATULATIONS & WELCOME TO ALL WHO WERE RECEIVED INTO THE CHURCH THIS EASTER. To Christopher, Sophie, Luisa, and Jennifer who were confirmed at the St Osmund Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. Enormous thanks is due to David Blake & the Journey in Faith team and also to Deacon Steve who have accompanied our candidates on their faith journey and through the various RCIA rites this year. It is a real blessing to the wider parish to be able to be part of those important stages and rites. Thank you for sharing your faith with such joy and dedication.

TRIDUUM & EASTER AT OUR CHURCHES

We were truly blessed by the beauty and reverence of the liturgies celebrated throughout Holy Week and Easter. The dedication and generosity of so many people—musicians, singers, readers, welcomers, altar servers, cleaners, organisers, flower arrangers, and our congregations—was remarkable. In celebrating the Paschal Triduum across two churches, we were especially thankful to the many parishioners who so willingly shared their gifts, talents, and time, and who attended the liturgies wherever they were held. It was a powerful sign of our unity in Jesus Christ our Lord, and of our shared commitment to gather for the most sacred celebrations of the Paschal Mystery.

Just under 1,000 attended both the Triduum and our Easter Sunday Masses. The children's Easter egg hunts were once again hugely popular (no surprise there!). Thank you to everyone who donated chocolate eggs — your generosity was truly incredible.

A huge thank you to Greg for providing images from the Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral on 31 March, the Mass of the Lord's Supper at St Gregory on Holy Thursday, the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil Mass at St Osmund. All the images can be viewed by clicking on ['Holy Week & Easter'](#) on the main menu of our website or by visiting our ['Photo Gallery'](#).

Last - but by no means least, is the grateful acknowledgement from those unable to attend church but have been able to attend virtually through the Livestream. This investment continues to reap rich rewards. Thank you to all who contribute to the running costs of the livestream for the benefit of us all and in the service of God.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - SUNDAY 12 APRIL

Congratulations to Amelia, Bernadette, Ada & Mille who made their First Holy Communion last Sunday, 12 April at St Osmund. There is a phot ['Photo Gallery'](#) button on our homepage. Please continue to pray for the children that they will be sustained by the Eucharist throughout their lives.

Retiring collections for SCORE overseas projects this weekend 18/19 April and for the Clergy Training Fund next weekend 25/26 April.

PASTORAL AREA RETREAT MONDAY - THURSDAY 18-21 MAY

This year, our popular residential Retreat to Ladywell Abbey is taking place during Eastertide rather than Lent and we plan to reflect upon how we respond to the exhortation at the end of Mass to 'go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!' We will focus therefore upon mission and discipleship – living our faith. Never been on a retreat before? Not sure if it is for you...? Why not give us a ring to talk it through? Retreats are not just for the super-Holy (far from it!) or the super-religious! A Residential Retreat can provide a short break for thought and prayer for those who need a bit of a 'reset' or for those who maybe need a break from their routine to focus upon matters of the heart and reconnect with their faith in a beautiful rural setting. For further details see below or go to our [website](#). To book a place, click [here](#)



HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF LIFE

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have asked all parishes and Catholic communities to hold a Holy Hour to pray for the dignity of all human life, as peers in the House of Lords continue to debate whether to legalise assisted suicide. This initiative is intended to offer a unified and prayerful appeal to Our Lord for the protection of life from conception to natural death, and for the strengthening of a culture of life in our land. **A Holy Hour will take place at St Osmund's this Sunday, 19 April, at 4.30pm**, with Adoration and prayer, followed by Benediction.

Come Holy Spirit – From 17 April onwards a new prayer and discernment group meeting weekly on a Friday afternoon 4 to 5:30 pm at St Gregory's to explore the gifts of the Holy Spirit through scripture and prayer. Meeting over Tea coffee and cake to which you are all very welcome. For more click on the image in the '[Top News](#)' box

Encounter 2026 – From Eastertide to Pentecost. Join a series of inspiring evenings exploring the Holy Spirit. Clifton [Cathedral livestream](#) (YouTube after the event). Tuesdays, 21 April – 19 May | 7:00–9:00pm.

Congratulations to Deacon Steve and Margaret Godwin who celebrated their **Golden Wedding Anniversary** on the 3 April. Reaching 50 years of marriage is a wonderful milestone and a witness of enduring love, faith, and commitment. May God continue to bless them with joy, good health, and peace in the years to come.

Family of Faith: Next session is Sunday 26 April after the 9am Masses at the Parish Centre on Exeter Street. For more click on the [Family of Faith](#) webpage.

Baptism Preparation. The next session of the current course is this Sunday 19 April and then followed by the final session the following Sunday 26 April after the 9am Mass at St Osmund.

Cancer Support Salisbury will be holding a social drop-in on Monday 20 April from 7 to 9 pm in the Parish Centre. It is for anyone affected by cancer whether you have been diagnosed with cancer, carers, relatives and friends. Come and join us in a safe and welcoming environment, with plenty of refreshments.

Financial Statement

St. Osmund Parish Finances	March 2026	YTD
Total Receipts	£35,922	£105,110
Total Payments	£35,003	£94,996
Surplus	£919	£10,114

Month's Second Collections

Priests' Retirement Fund	£530
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LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-2 Easter Week 3 & Psalter 3

Saturday 18 April

10:00 St Osmund MASS Simon Thornton RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Intention of Margery Baker

SUNDAY 19 APRIL

09:00 St Osmund MASS Peter Gange RIP

09:00 St Gregory MASS C. V. Varghese RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Somy & Family – special intentions

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:30 Holy Redeemer Syro-Malabar MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

Monday 20 April

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving – Jacob family

Tuesday 21 April

10:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Ellen Rutley RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

No Ordinariate Mass this week and next week.

Wednesday 22 April

10:00 St Gregory Service of the Word

THURSDAY 23 APRIL SAINT GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND

10:00 St Osmund MASS Isabel – birthday intentions

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 24 April

18:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Thomas Lloyd RIP

SATURDAY 25 APRIL SAINT MARK, EVANGELIST

10:00 St Osmund MASS Thomas (William, Albert) Hutton RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Mrs Sebastian – Birthday Intentions.

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR APRIL

For Priests in crisis.

Let us pray for Priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for the parishes of St Dunstan (Somerton) and Holy Ghost (Yeovil with South Petherton),

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Philip Potter, Bob Kimsey, Tony Broughton, Carlo Zaccariello, Evin Harold, Lynda Nunn, Christopher Turner, Beth Newman and Darren Barnes who died recently and all those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

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

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE:

Psalm Response

O Lord, you will show me the path of life.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us.

Alleluia.

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS Please request 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



PASTORAL AREA RETREAT

Glorify the Lord by your life: living our faith every day.

Monday May 18th – Thursday May 21st

This year, our popular residential Retreat to Ladywell Abbey is taking place during Eastertide rather than Lent and we plan to reflect upon how we respond to the exhortation at the end of Mass to 'go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life!' We will focus therefore upon mission and discipleship – living our faith.

To maximise participation by both laity and clergy from our pastoral area we are going during the week this time, rather than over a weekend and we hope this will mean that some who have previously not been able to attend may be able to do so.

Speakers: Sister Magdalene Cletus, a Franciscan Missionary of the Divine Motherhood (the resident community) and Father Tomas Krejci, priest in residence at Tisbury. We have organised the schedule this year to allow more time for reflection, quiet prayer and contemplation than in previous years as a result of our experience and feedback from you.

Travel: last year we all managed to give lifts to those who needed them, so we will do the same again, rather than try to take bus mid-week in term time.

Accommodation: Ladywell offers us full board – breakfast, lunch and dinner with unlimited tea, coffee and biscuits in between. All the rooms are *en suite* and some have accessible bathrooms or are situated on the ground floor. There are lifts for those who find stairs a challenge. There are single rooms and double rooms for couples, but you can also opt to share a twin room with a friend for a reduced cost.

Worship: we will join the community for Mass every day and there will be opportunity for confession. We will begin the day with prayers and end with Compline.

Activities: the afternoons will be free, but we will have some optional walks, reflections and times when you can seek spiritual guidance or request confession. The important thing at Ladywell is to allow yourself to relax into the spirituality of the place and its beautiful surroundings.

Cost: £300 per person, single. £600 for a couple in a double room. £270 per person, friendly sharing in a twin room.

Financial Assistance: if you would like to attend the retreat but would have difficulty affording it, please speak confidentially to one of our clergy, or call the St Osmund's Parish Office and speak to Dezi or Caroline.

Offering: if you would like to make a financial offering so that other people could go on retreat who might not otherwise be able to afford it, then please contact the St Osmund's Parish Office.

Book online [here](#):

