

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

LENT WEEK 2(A)

From Father Anthony

I parked, wrapped up and walked around Old Sarum. The airfield stretched below, windswept and quiet. Far into the distance, across spidery roads and bare, rolling fields lay Boscombe Down, Amesbury and the Plain. Salisbury snuggled along the valley to my right, the Cathedral tiny yet majestic. I breathed deeply, grateful to be away from the tight, cramped, bustle of the city. The views from on high were fresh, alive and internally liberating.

Jesus took them up the mountain. Last week Jesus went into the Desert. Let's stay with Him during Lent; not just to keep Him company but to learn the lessons He learned and gain the insights He gained. Remember, the basic temptation is to confuse *effect* with *cause*. We must learn and come to understand that there is only God; God is *cause* everything else *effect*, including us. He is the Vine, we the branches. Our sole focus must be on God not *effects* or *derivatives*. All our learning, beliefs, social values, corporations, organisations, governments and so on are *effects*. They are the tight, cramped, bustling, mental streets we live on, travel along and which mesmerically distort us. If we stay with Him, He will lead us out of mesmerism into spiritual awareness (*take us up the mountain*). There we will not only experience His spiritual reality but ours too (*transfiguration*). We will become aware of the wisdom, power and love of God (*Moses, Elijah and Jesus*) as aspects of God (*Cause*) waiting to emerge and operate in and through us. This vision, insight and experience will transform us completely in body, soul and spirit (*three tents*) so that, coming down the mountain, we may heal a world ruled by *effects* by revealing God as *Cause* and Saviour (*our spiritual mission*).

The mountain, like the desert, is experienced in prayer or meditation. Here the only object is God... *not asking for anything*. Our needs will be met if we focus solely on God. Begin with the *Mind*; ponder or cogitate on a passage of scripture, God's Word. Chew it over, digest it. Let it lead to *Awareness* of what the mind is doing - rest in that awareness underneath the activity of the mind (*feels like waiting for something or someone*). Then let His *Presence* emerge. *Mind, Awareness, Presence*. Presence may take a while... but practice several times daily for very short periods and... stay with it.

Friday 27 February was **CAFOD Lenten Fast Day**. There are envelopes available in all our churches for a retiring collection this weekend. For more information on this year's appeal, see the parish [website](#)



PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS

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SALISBURY DEACONS

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Rev John Proctor (Deacon)
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PARISH OFFICE

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1600

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1600

01722 562703

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](#)

LENTEN LITURGIES

Lent Penitential Service with Bishop Bosco at Sacred Heart Church in Tisbury at 7pm **THIS** Thursday 5 March. The priests of our deanery will also be present to hear individual Confessions.

Deanery Penitential Service 7pm on Tuesday 31 March at St Gregory - with several priests to hear confessions.

Stations of the Cross - Fridays during Lent 5.20pm at St Osmund prior to the 6pm Mass.

RITE OF ELECTION & RCIA JOURNEY

Candidates from our Pastoral Area travelled together to Clifton Cathedral last Saturday, to take part in the Rite of Election. Accompanied by Fr Anthony, their sponsors, catechists, and parish supporters, they shared in this joyful and significant moment. They each met Bishop Bosco and signed the Book of the Elect in his presence as a sign of their commitment to continue in their journey towards reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil in their own parishes. Photographs from the day can be viewed on our [website](#) where you can also read the wonderful homily given on the day by Bishop Bosco MacDonald.

Stages on the Journey

The next stage for the Elect is to take part in three 'Scrutinies' that take place here in the parish during this period of purification and enlightenment. These liturgies take place during Sunday Mass and follow our Gospel readings: the Woman at the Well (John 4:5–42), the Man Born Blind (John 9:1–41), and the Raising of Lazarus (John 11:1–45). They will be celebrated at the 9am Mass at St Gregory on the 3rd and 5th Sundays of Lent, and at the 9am Mass at St Osmund on the 4th Sunday of Lent. There are also Presentations of the 'Creed' and the 'Our Father' at the 6pm Masses at St Osmund on Friday 13 & 27 March. Everyone is most welcome to attend any/all of these liturgies in support of our candidates.

Please keep the Elect of our Parish: **Sophie, Jennifer, Luisa and Christopher** uppermost in your prayers at this important time for us all.

[Preparing for Easter](#) - Join us for a thoughtful and uplifting series of Lenten talks inspired by the popular reflections of Fr Stephen Wang. **Every Tuesday during Lent from 7.30–9.30pm** at the Parish Centre on Exeter Street, beginning with light refreshments. There is plenty of free parking, and no booking is required - simply come along.

First Friday Talk – Next Friday 6 March after the 6pm Mass at the Parish Centre will feature a video talk by Fr Stephen Wang on 'The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist'. All are welcome, but if you cannot attend, the talk will be available on our website later that evening. Please click on the '[First Friday Talks](#)' button on our homepage.

CALLING ALL SINGERS!

Choir for the Easter Triduum in St Gregory's & St Osmund's. Rehearsal Dates for your Diary!

The Triduum spans both churches and we hope therefore that singers from both churches will join to form one unified choir. You do not need to be able to read music or have choral experience. If you enjoy singing with others and love to sing in church then this is for you! We started this week and had a wonderful session led by local singing teacher and soloist (and parishioner!) Faye Eldret. It's not too late to join – we especially need some more men! The next get-together will be next Wednesday 4 March followed by rehearsals on Wednesdays 18 & 25 March in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund at 6pm.

PARISH FINANCES – JANUARY 2026

Total Receipts	£32,682	Recent Second Collections	
Total payments	£32,899	SCORE (January)	£2,344
Deficit	£ -217	<i>Many thanks for your generosity.</i>	

EMHC TRAINING DAY & RECOMMISSIONING - 7 MARCH

Fr Joseph is inviting **ALL** Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion to join him at 3pm in St Gregory's Hall. There will be a short talk followed by the worldwide premiere (!) of our recently recorded training materials for EMHCs. Ministers will be re-commissioned at the 5pm Mass at St Gregory's after the session. **Final Call please for ALL Extraordinary Ministers of Communion** to inform us whether you are able to attend by completing the online form [here](#) as soon as possible.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Bible Study with the Fathers of the Church - Fr Joseph's group for Young(ish) adults (open to all in their 20s & 30s) meets on alternate Tuesdays at 8pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms, also available to join online via Zoom. Please email Fr Joseph to be added to the WhatsApp group for notifications. joseph.meigh@cliftondiocese.com

Family of Faith: Next session is this Sunday 1 March after the 9am Masses at the Parish Centre on Exeter Street. Please visit the [Family of Faith](#) to sign up and for all the detail.

SHARING OUR FAITH

Journey in Faith – The next session is Sunday 8 March 10.30am at the Parish Centre on Exeter Street. For more including the timetable click on the '[Journey in Faith](#)' button on our home page.

Confirmation 2026 - The next key Confirmation session is Wednesday 11 March at 6.30pm in the Parish Centre. Please click on '[Confirmation](#)' on our homepage for more information.

Baptism Preparation. The next course starts this Sunday 1 March after the 9am Mass at St Gregory for three consecutive Sundays, contact the Parish Office if you wish to join. To request Baptism for your child, please click the '[Registration](#)' button on our homepage.

Men's Breakfast – The next Men's Breakfast is on Saturday the 14 March at 8am in the Parish Centre. The speaker will be Matthew Higgins new Head of St Joseph's School. Please book by [following this link](#) and completing the form. The cost is £10 per head, payable on the day or direct to John Proctor.

World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service in Salisbury Baptist Church next Friday 6th March at 2 pm

[For more please visit our 'Blog'](#).

Hope And Friendship group: for those who know loss or bereavement, a friendly gathering on the second Monday of each month from 10.45 until noon, at the Parish Centre at the end of Exeter Street. This month Deacon Steve will be joining you.

Children's Liturgy at St Gregory - Krys and Mo lead the Children's Liturgy at the 9am Mass at St Gregory's on Sunday Mornings and would really value some support. If you would like to join them please contact them: Krys 07787558576 or Mo 07599449729

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-2 Lent Week 2 & Psalter 2

Saturday 28 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Anni Hanns and family

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Pat & Errol Rayner in sickness

SUNDAY 1 MARCH

09:00 St Osmund MASS Ahini Aline

09:00 St Gregory MASS Sherly George
& Thressiamma Xavier RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Hadyn Ingram

Monday 2 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving

Tuesday 3 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Wednesday 4 March

10:00 St Gregory Service of the Word

Thursday 5 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary-Anne Clarke RIP

11:00 St Osmund Requiem MASS Darren Barnes RIP

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

7pm Sacred Heart, Tisbury
LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE with Bishop Bosco

Friday 6 March

10:00 St Gregory Rosary

17:20 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

18:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Emilia Kerley RIP

Saturday 7 March

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Robson RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Louise Musante RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon and by appointment

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

For disarmament and peace

Let us pray that nations move toward effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament, and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for the parish of St Thomas of Canterbury (Fairford with Cricklade).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Beth Newman, Anthony Scouller, Orlando Saraze, Joan Conner and Veronica Barreiro 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

May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

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