PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS - YEAR A

From Father Anthony

Sometimes it all gets too much… as I'm sure you know. So, instead of whinging and whining I took myself off to a little place I know, high and overlooking the Chase. I sat against the old tree and took in the views. Wide sky, rolling landscape, cattle grazing, a tractor in the distance. It wasn't long before my mind settled. Interior perspectives aligned and reshaped themselves. I laughed at my own neuroses and interior, habitual motivators. It was holy ground, a place set apart. Refreshed, I left ready to join the fray again.

On the Feast of All Saints, we best honour them by becoming like them. The word Saint, from the Latin *Sanctus,* means *to be holy* or *consecrated;* and *Holy,* in its turn, means *to be spiritually whole* or *set apart from the everyday or humdrum*. Within each of us there is a space or place *set apart*; it is Holy; a spiritual oasis from which we can observe the goings on of our minds, hearts and actions. For example, we might be asking, with the voice in the head, for one thing but in our heart feeling something completely different or opposed to what we are asking for. In the head we might be asking to live with Christ poor; yet our *real motivation or desire* is for wealth and status. Until we can align thought, word and action we remain fragmented, dismembered, dysfunctional… our soul is scattered across the senses; we are Ptōchoi (πτωχοί) *beggars (poor) in spirit*. Aligned, we begin to inhabit the Kingdom of Heaven from which everything is seen.

Our sacred, internal space is often left undeveloped. We use lots of words in mental prayer… and wonder why we don't get what we think we want or ask for. The discrepancy between head and heart renders us confused and empty as one cancels out the other. We are unaligned and at the mercy of polar opposites; up and down like a seesaw.

The Gospel sets out these opposites and paradoxes; what we consider weakness is often strength and vice versa. The implication is that there is a place from which all this can be seen and understood; the fulcrum. That place is our holy ground, whole and untainted by the world and our neurotic, selfish, ungoverned motivations. We must find, cultivate and operate from this place to be Saints in the world.

Please note: the 10am liturgy at St Osmund's on Tuesday 3 November will be a **Service of the Word**. In addition, due to cleaning works at St Osmund's, the 10am Mass on Thursday 5 November will be celebrated at St Gregory's. There will be no Adoration or Benediction on that day.

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

NEW TO THE PARISH?

We wish you a very warm welcome.

Please register online **Click Here**

ALL HALLOWS' EVE - A NIGHT OF LIGHT

All parishioners are warmly invited to join Fr Joseph in St Osmund's Church from 8pm THIS Saturday, 31 October. This will be an opportunity to turn away from the darkness now sadly associated with Halloween and turn our hearts towards Christ, the Light of the World. You are welcome to join for some or all of this candlelit evening centred on the real hope and joy found in Jesus Christ in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Beginning with Exposition and Adoration at 8pm, the evening will conclude with Mass at 10pm. Come and spend time in the presence of the Lord as we keep vigil on the eve of All Saints' Day.

ALL SOULS' DAY - MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER

Blessing of Graves on All Souls' Day. The graves of your loved ones in the London Road, Devizes Road and The Avenue cemeteries may be blessed on this day. Please gather at 3pm at one of the following locations: London Road Cemetery: by the central Cross, Devizes Rd Cemetery: just inside the main gate, The Avenue, Wilton: in the car park. All are welcome to join us in prayer as we remember and commend our departed loved ones to God's care.

November Masses for the Holy Souls - During November, we pray especially for the Holy Souls. Special Prayer Request envelopes are available in the porches of our churches. Please write the names of your departed loved ones on an envelope and place it in the box or basket at the foot of the altar. A Mass will be offered each week for all those whose names are submitted. These will be celebrated at: St Gregory's on Wednesdays 4 & 18 November and in St Osmund's on Fridays 13 & 27 November. 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.

REMEMBERING THE HOLY LAND

On Remembrance Sunday next weekend, we welcome Andrew Nash from *Friends of the Holy Land*, who will speak at some of our Masses about the work of the charity in supporting the small Christian communities of Palestine, Israel and Jordan. As we remember all those who have suffered through war and conflict, we are particularly mindful of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, for whom daily life can be marked by uncertainty, fear and hardship. We will hear how Friends of the Holy Land offers practical support and hope to these communities.

There will be a retiring collection as you leave the church next week to support this important work. Gift Aid envelopes are available in the porch THIS week in readiness for this appeal. Please take one if you plan to contribute and are a UK taxpayer. To find out more, visit www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk.

In support of this appeal we have on sale in the Parish Office a beautiful prayer resource at a price of £7.99. Published by 'Friends of the Holy Land' entitled 'Christmas Voices from The Holy Land'. This would make a super Advent gift for a friend or family member to help them prepare for Christmas.

Christmas Mass Times – are now available on our website. Please click the image in the 'Top News' box.

Christmas Cards are now on sale in the Parish Office and will be on sale after Masses next Sunday.

First Friday Talk – The next talk will take place on Friday 6 November at 7pm in the Parish Centre. Presented by Greg Wall it is entitled *'The Common Good'*. All are welcome to attend. If you are unable to be there in person, the talk will be recorded and made available on our website over the following weekend. Please click on 'Parish Activities' on our main menu and then on 'First Friday Talks'.

ONE-YEAR MISSALS Orders are now being taken for the **St Paul's 2027 Cycle B** Sunday Missals. We estimate the cost to be £9.50 - £10 depending on how many we order. Deadline for orders is next Sunday 8 November. Because of the passing nature of these missals, we ONLY order those committed to and don't hold any 'in stock'. Please order by email to: *salisbury.catholic@cliftondiocese.com*

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC) Training - St Gregory's Church, Saturday, 14th 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. Please let Deacon Steve know if you plan to attend:Stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com

Family of Faith

The next session will take place this Sunday 1 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**.**

First Holy Communion - Congratulations to Ella, who made her First Holy Communion last Saturday, and to Hugo, who will receive his First Holy Communion at the 9am Mass at St Osmund's this Sunday. Both have completed our Family of Faith programme alongside their parents. We give thanks for this joyful milestone, which marks a deeper friendship with Jesus in the Eucharist.

Confirmation 2027 & Youth Group

The next session for those preparing to receive the Sacrament is next Wednesday 4 November 6.30pm at the Parish Centre. For more please visit our Confirmation page by clicking on the image on our homepage.

The Youth Group 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. The group will reconvene after half-term on Wednesday 4 November.

Handing on our Faith

Last Saturday we were delighted to welcome **Luna Matthews Padanyi** who received the Sacrament of Baptism at St Osmund at the morning Mass alongside her sister Ella who made her First Holy Communion. Please keep Luna & Ella and their parents in your prayers as they grow together as a family of faith.

Baptism Preparation – begins again at St Gregory's next Sunday 8 November, with sessions continuing on the following two Sundays after the 9am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join. A full schedule of upcoming preparation courses can be found on our Baptism page under Sacraments. To request a baptism for your child please click on the Registration button on our website and select 'Infant Baptism Application'.

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, 'Technology – Master or Servant?' will take place next Tuesday 3 November from 7.30pm to 9.30pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is warmly welcome. For the full programme click the image on our website.

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 at: salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com.

Liturgy this Week

Year A-2 Ordinary Time Week 31
Proper of Solemnity & Psalter 3

Saturday 31 October

10:00 St Osmund MASS Sue Halliden RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS John Tobin RIP

Night of Light - All Hallows Eve

20:00 St Osmund Exposition & Adoration prior to Mass

22:00 St Osmund VIGIL MASS of All Saints

SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

09:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

09:00 St Gregory MASS Seena Shibu RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS John Kerin RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

MONDAY 2 NOVEMBER ALL SOULS' DAY

10:00 St Osmund MASS All Souls

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Tuesday 3 November

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

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 4 November Saint Charles Borromeo

10:00 St Gregory Mass Holy Souls

Thursday 5 November ** PLEASE NOT CHANGED LOCATION**

10:00 St Gregory MASS Chinedum Ukaqwu RIP

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Benediction

Friday 6 November

18:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Susan, Les Burry & Son

Saturday 7 November

10:00 St Osmund MASS

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS

Reconciliation

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

Prayer & Scripture

PRAYER FOR POPE LEO XIV

Loving and merciful Father,

We entrust to your tender care our Holy Father, Pope Leo. Be close to him in his illness, strengthen him in his recovery and fill his heart with your peace.

Bless those who care for him, restore him to full and lasting health, and renew his strength for the ministry to which you have called him.

May he always know the love and prayers of your people throughout the world.

Through the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, keep him safe in your loving care.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for the parishes of St Augustine of Canterbury (Downend), Our Lady of Lourdes & St Bernadette (Kingswood) and St Lawrence (Chipping Sodbury) with St Paul (Yate).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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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