

# PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

## LENT WEEK 1(A)

### From Father Anthony

Long before the sun began its daily climb, I started *a lap of the beads*. The gentle repetition of familiar prayers guided me beyond the clutter of my mind to the edges of a desert of internal stillness and silence. I've never been able to spend much time here; either concerns or worries pile in and destroy it ... or I fall asleep! I woke to birdsong, light above the rooftops and a sore neck. So much for prayer! Yet for a moment I had touched that silence and in a strange way it was enough and would stay with me throughout the day.

*Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert...* We are offered a period of forty days to enter our internal desert and reconsider (*repent*) who, how, what, and, why we are: to become aware of the difference between who we think we are and who we truly are: to remember we are one with and have never really been separate from God; a time to realise that with the fullness of God within us we need for nothing but can only give of that fullness... *the journey from sin to salvation*.

The original sin was *to eat of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil*. Until then we had lived in God experiencing God living in us and through us.... paradise, the garden of Eden, the life of Grace. The appearance and beauty of creation (*foreground, effect*) had not obscured the reality of and oneness with God (*background, cause*)... *in whom it lived, moved and had its being*. There was knowledge of one Power only. Eating of the tree of good and evil changed all that. Within the experience and reality of oneness we became aware of the appearance of opposites or twoness: and erroneously believed the opposites had power or were causes in themselves when in fact they were simply effects. Now we live by effects but miss the cause... and look at the mess.

Jesus invites us to enter the desert with Him; to face and overcome the temptation to confuse *effect* with *cause*. Material things and thoughts (*bread*) are effects. Man does not live on effects but on the life of God living in him (*every word of God*). If we rest in God as *cause* the *effects* we need to live by will be given us.

### Please note

**The Ordinariate Mass on Tuesday 24 February at 6pm has been cancelled  
Wednesday 25 February 10am at St Gregory will be a Service of the Word**



### PASTORAL TEAM

#### PRIESTS

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#### SALISBURY DEACONS

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#### PARISH OFFICE

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1400

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1400

01722 562703

[salisbury.catholic@cliftondiocese.com](mailto: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

**Stations of the Cross** - Fridays during Lent 5.20pm at St Osmund, starting today 20 February.

**Rite of Election – this Saturday 21 February 11am Clifton Cathedral.** Those who are preparing to enter full communion in the Catholic Church are presented to Bishop Bosco and their names recorded in the Book of the Elect. This year, of those being received into the Church at Easter in our Deanery, **8 candidates** (already baptised) and **3 Catechumens** (those not yet baptised) are travelling to Clifton Cathedral with their friends, family, catechists, sponsors and Fr Anthony to the Rite of Election. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin this important stage in their faith journey. All are most welcome to attend!

**This Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent) – Ordinariate Mass for Fr Keith Robinson RIP.** The vestments generously purchased by the Ordinariate Community will be blessed at the 12.30pm Ordinariate Mass which will be celebrated by Mgr Keith Newton, the Ordinary Emeritus with Fr Tomas also present. Everyone is most welcome to attend.

**Lent Penitential Service with Bishop Bosco** at Sacred Heart Church in Tisbury at 7pm on Thursday 5 March. The priests of our deanery will be present to hear individual Confessions. If there is sufficient need, we will take a minibus and travel there together! Contact the parish office if you'd like to go but need transport.

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

## POPE LEO XIV: LENT AS A TIME OF CONVERSION

Pope Leo XIV highlights Lent as a season to **recentre our lives on God**, returning to what truly matters. He teaches that **conversion begins with listening**—especially listening to the Word of God.

He explains that **fasting** is much more than giving up food; it is a spiritual practice that helps us recognise our deeper hunger for God. The Pope places special emphasis on **fasting from harmful speech**, encouraging us to refrain from words that wound.

Finally, he reminds the faithful that **conversion is both personal and communal**. Throughout Scripture, God's people listen, fast, and renew their covenant **together**, and Lent is a time to rediscover this shared journey of faith.

[For the full message click on the image in the 'Top News' box.](#)

[Prepare for Easter this Lent](#) - Join us for a thoughtful and uplifting series of Lenten talks inspired by the popular reflections of Fr Stephen Wang. These evenings are designed to be engaging, practical, and welcoming to everyone — whether you attend each week or just drop in when you can. **Every Tuesday in 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 and take part.

## CALLING ALL SINGERS!

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

Fr Joseph has invited Faye Eldret (parishioner and local singing teacher/soloist) to lead/support a group of singers to enhance the music at our Triduum liturgies. The Triduum spans both churches and so we hope 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! The first get-together will be next Wednesday 25 February followed by rehearsals on Wednesdays 4, 18 & 25 March. The first gathering will be in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund at 6pm.

## CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY – LENT APPEAL

By supporting CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent, you're being the good neighbour Jesus calls us to be – loving others as we love ourselves. This Family Fast Day, let's show love to our neighbours. Let's eat simply and give generously – so another family can put food on the table. Thank you. CAFOD envelopes will be available in all our churches this weekend for collection on 28 February & 1 March. [For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box.](#)

## 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. **Please could ALL Extraordinary Ministers of Communion** please 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** - Father Joseph's group for Young(ish) adults (open to all in their 20s & 30s) started a new course last Tuesday (17 Feb) and will meet every other Tuesday 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@clifftondiocese.com](mailto:joseph.meigh@clifftondiocese.com)

**Family of Faith: Next session is next 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.

**Youth Group** – meets each Wednesday (in term time) at the Parish Centre at 6.30pm. All the dates are on our website, click on [Youth Group](#) on our home page.

## SHARING OUR FAITH

**Journey in Faith** – The next session is this Sunday 22 February 10.30am at the Parish Centre on Exeter Street. If you are interested in joining do contact Dave Blake at [salisbury.journeyinfaith@clifftondiocese.com](mailto:salisbury.journeyinfaith@clifftondiocese.com) 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 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.

**World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service in Salisbury Baptist Church on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 2.00p.m.** For 2026 the women of Nigeria have created a service that speaks to our need for peace and solace, drawing on their faith and experiences in a world filled with struggles and anxieties. [For more please visit our 'Blog'.](#)

**Welcomers needed at the 9am Mass at St Gregory** If anyone would like to join the Welcoming Team for the 9am Mass at St Gregory's on Sunday, please contact Jane on 07810774855 or [jane7dench@gmail.com](mailto:jane7dench@gmail.com)

**Children's Liturgy – 9am Mass (St Gregory's)** After the introductory greeting at the 9am Mass at St Gregory's, children are invited forward and then leave with their own Bible for an age-appropriate liturgy in the adjacent hall. They return in time for the Offertory, having reflected on the Gospel of the day. We are currently looking for an additional adult helper. If you are able to help, please speak to one of the Children's Liturgy catechists after Mass.

## LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-2 Lent Week 1 & Psalter 1

### Saturday 21 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Jose Cardoso & Hansel Dcruz RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

### SUNDAY 22 FEBRUARY

09:00 St Osmund MASS Maurice Petty RIP

09:00 St Gregory MASS Anne Josephine Sheehan RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Francis Conio RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS Fr Keith Robinson RIP

18:00 St Osmund MASS Lillian & Graham and family

### Monday 23 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Deacon Steve Bowler

### Tuesday 24 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Saramma Mathai RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

**Ordinariate Mass is cancelled this week**

### Wednesday 25 February

10:00 St Gregory Service of the Word

### Thursday 26 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Makarita Naceva and family

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

### Friday 27 February

10:00 St Gregory Rosary

17:20 St Osmund Stations of the Cross

18:00 St Osmund MASS (G) John Edmunds RIP

### 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

## 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 FEBRUARY

#### For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

**CLIFTON DIOCESE** We pray for the parish of St Dominic (Dursley) with St Joseph (Nympsfield).

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anthony Scouller, Orlando Saraze, Joan Conner, Veronica Barreiro, Rosemary Thomas, Christopher Warren, Patricia Dry and Shane O'Neill 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

Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

#### Gospel Acclamation

#### Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

One does not live on bread alone;  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

#### Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

## 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](mailto:salisbury.catholic@cliftondiocese.com)