

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY



From Father Anthony

The morning was sullen faced, blue black and brooding, with copious downpours and splashes of light. I opened up the ironing board and switched on the iron – to military echoes of being called “a shabby little man” and “you look as if a biblical multitude just sat on you Padre!” The reservoir started to whistle alarmingly. I had over filled it! I quickly squeezed the trigger, released the pressure and let the steam hiss until peace reigned... *and then I took it out on the shirts!*

Jesus breathed *on (into)* them. The Life Force of Christ (*breath, Spirit*) is imparted to the disciples and therefore to us. Perhaps, more precisely, we realise this *Life Force* has *always* been with us; without it we could not live, move or have our being. *Receiving* or waking up to this *Breath* transforms us from a *Disciple*, one who learns, to an *Apostle*, one who is sent; *as the Father sent me so I am sending you*. The principle characteristic of an Apostle is to forgive: to forgive the world, others and self so that the *effect* of forgiveness is experienced by the one forgiven *and the one forgiving*. What is the effect? Among other nuances the word translated as *forgive*, *aphiemi* (ἀφίημι) means *to release or let go*. For example, when we hold grudges we are tied to whatever or whoever the grudge is held against. It creates a suffocating bond and debilitating tension between the two. *The grudge affects both*. When we *release* the grudge, not only is the other released from its effects but so are we *from holding it*. This release is an expression of the Divine flowing through us... who releases all bondage and burdens bringing forth new birth (*Pentecost*). The *effect* of forgiveness is *release*. Release brings freedom and joy.

When we allow the Father dwelling within (*Holy Spirit*) to *Breathe within us*, we think, act and feel as God does. It is, therefore, not us forgiving or *releasing* but the Spirit living in us, releasing the other, and therefore ourselves, from whatever the perceived offence is. If we do this, *sins are forgiven*; if not, *they are retained* and both the sinner and the *sinned against* suffer; therefore... *we must forgive*. This may not be the mission of the world; but it is the mission of the Church and through it the world is healed and reborn.

PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS

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PARISH OFFICE

Monday & Tuesday 0900 - 1230

Wednesday CLOSED

Thursday & Friday 0900 - 1230

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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](#)

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed for the
Bank Holiday on Monday 25 May

PENTECOST

Celebrated by Christians 50 days after Easter, Pentecost marks the day that the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles as they cowered behind locked doors following Jesus' Resurrection. On our [Pentecost webpage](#) there is a video from the Bible Project which explores how God's Spirit filled and empowered Jesus' followers, renewing them and preparing them to announce the good news to the nations. We also have a reflection from Fr Mike Schmitz in answer to the question 'Aren't all Christian denominations the same?'

Encounter 2026 from Eastertide to Pentecost, exploring the Holy Spirit. The last talk in this series was on Tuesday of this week given by Ann Tarr on 'Sent in the Spirit: Living My Mission in Everyday Life'. Recordings of the talks are available on our website click on 'Encounter 2026' in the '[Top News](#)' box.

Come Holy Spirit! This is a really important time for our teenage candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please keep them in your prayers now that they are in the final stages of preparation for their Confirmation in June.

RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA

To mark the 300th anniversary of St Gerard Majella, a nationwide tour of his relics is taking place across England and Wales. This special occasion brings the presence of the saint to several dioceses, offering the faithful an opportunity for prayer, reflection, and devotion. St Osmund's will have the privilege of hosting the relics on Friday 5 June 2026. There will be Adoration at 5pm, followed by Mass at 6pm, celebrated by Fr Royston Price, the Redemptorist priest leading the tour. After Mass, Fr Royston will offer individual blessings with the relics for those who wish. Priests will also be available for Confession. St Gerard is popularly invoked as a patron of mothers, especially expectant mothers, couples hoping to conceive, and those seeking work. For more on St Gerard click [here](#).

OUR PARISH COMMUNITY

Did you know that we have a wide range of faith and social activities taking place in the Parish Centre and at St Gregory's Hall? Far too many to list each week in our newsletter!

Please click on [Parish Activities](#) on our home page (or the poster in the church porch) to see what is happening at our centres — you are warmly welcome to come along to any of our groups and activities.

The Parish provides these facilities free of charge for parishioners who would like to organise events and activities that help build and strengthen our Catholic community. So, if there is something you would like to start — perhaps a dance class, prayer group, exercise class, social afternoon or evening, bingo, coffee and chat group, or any other activity you feel passionate about — and you are willing to help facilitate and run it, the halls are available for you to use at no cost. There is good WiFi and facilities at both centres. For more details or to talk through any ideas, please contact Deacon Steve: stephen.godwin@clifftondiocese.com

Parish Finance

St Osmund Parish	April 26	Year to Date
-Total Receipts	£32,488	£137,598
-Total Payments	£22,236	£117,232
Surplus	£10,252	£20,366

April Special Collections	
Holy Places	£393.70
Clergy Training Fund	£491.00

UPCOMING FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to Timotej, who will receive his First Holy Communion at the 9am Mass at St Gregory's this Sunday, 24 May. It would be lovely to celebrate with him in the hall after Mass, if you can bring some cake or nibbles that would be most welcome - just bring them into the Hall before Mass.

This joyful milestone will soon be followed by a further 10 children, making their First Holy Communion on Sunday 7 June (Corpus Christi) at the 9am Mass at St Gregory's and at the 11am Mass at St Osmund. They have prepared for this special moment alongside their parents in our Family of Faith programme. Please keep all the children in your prayers as they continue to grow in faith, hope, and love as cherished members of our parish community.

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

Family of Faith: The next gathering will take place on 21 June following the Spring Bank Holiday on 25 May and because celebrations of First Holy Communion on 7 June. See the [Family of Faith](#) webpage for more information.

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

Youth Group (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. For more, click on [Youth Group](#) on our home page.

SHARING OUR FAITH

Confirmation 2026 - The next meeting will be on 3 June. If you have a child that will be in Year 9 or above in the next school year who wishes to be confirmed, you can sign up for the 2027 programme by visiting our [Confirmation](#) page.

Baptism Preparation. The last session of the current course is this Sunday 24 May after the 9am Mass at St Gregory. If you wish to apply for a baptism for your child please click on the '[Registration](#)' button on our homepage or call the Parish Office.

We will welcome Antonella Gorosito Zabala who will receive the sacrament of Baptism this Sunday 24 May at St Osmund. Please keep Antonella, and her parents in your prayers.

IN OUR DIOCESE

'Dilexi Te' (Love for the Poor) - 'Now is the Time' is a Symposium to explore the teachings of Pope Leo in his Apostolic Exhortation 'Dilexi Te' (Love for the Poor) at St Brendan's College, Brislington, on Saturday 30 May. Our keynote speakers will be Bishop Bosco MacDonald, Sir John Battle KC*SG and Raymond Friel (CSAN). For more and how to book please click on image in the '[Top News](#)' box.

MISSIO - The amount raised for 2025 through the Red Boxes and those giving directly was £2292.26, comprising of St Osmund's £1561.44 and St Gregory's £730.82. Thank you to all who contributed.

Salisbury Catenians Circle – May 2026 Article - The May 2026 article is now available to read—please visit their [webpage](#) under 'Parish Activities'.

First Friday Talk – on the 5 June will not occur due to the visit of the relics of St Gerard Majella on that day.

PC Monitor – Do you have a spare/unwanted one? Our Parish Office needs computer monitor (one of ours has died!) If anyone has one that they no longer need, it would save the parish from having to purchase a new one. Please contact the office if you have one that you'd be happy to donate. Many thanks.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year A-2 Ordinary Time Week 8 Psalter 4 & Proper of Season

Saturday 23 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Buck RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 24 MAY PENTECOST SUNDAY

09:00 St Osmund MASS Peter Gange RIP

09:00 St Gregory MASS Anniversary Blessings upon Steve & Margaret Godwin

11:00 St Osmund MASS Tony Broughton RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Maurice Petty RIP
1st Anniversary

Monday 25 May Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

10:00 St Osmund MASS Alasdair Buchanan RIP

Tuesday 26 May St Philip Neri

10:00 St Osmund MASS Bob Kimsey RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

WEDNESDAY 27 MAY ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

10:00 St Gregory Service of the Word

THURSDAY 28 MAY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST

10:00 St Osmund Requiem MASS - John Wilson RIP
All welcome

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

17:30 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 29 May

18:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Margarita RIP

Saturday 30 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Vanderputt Family - in thanksgiving

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Private Intention

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER FOR MAY

That everyone might have food.

Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Bill Allen, John Wilson, Philip Potter, Bob Kimsey and Tony Broughton 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.

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@cliffondiocese.com