

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

EASTER WEEK 2 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



From Father Anthony

It was early morning, Maundy Thursday. I sat by my bedroom window, tea in hand, waiting for sunrise and listening to the birds. Pink and white blossom clung to the trees; blue bell flowers nestled in the green. Slowly the sun peeped over rooftops and, to the roar of a motor bike! burst forth, scattering golden rays over earth and sky... *'hints of resurrection and freedom'*, I thought. However, many do not live with a sense of resurrection or freedom!

'The doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear...' Many of us live behind the locked doors of a closed heart, soul or mind; out of fear of the world and what others might do; fear caused by unresolved anger, disappointment or confusion; fears from past wounds festering in the background; fear of what the future might bring. There is fear of penalty's to be incurred for sins committed and, unbelievably, fear of God! This is no way to live. It is beneath our elegance and dignity as daughters and sons of God. We are created in love and freedom *for* love and freedom; not for the dark rooms of fear. Freedom, resurrection and light are not found in books, self-help or various spiritual programmes or exotic belief systems. They are found in a Person; Jesus.

The good news is that He is not found *'out there'* but *'in here'*... inside the locked doors of our broken hearts; amidst the fears we live with. Just like sin, fear is a place where Jesus is found; not to applaud sin or fear but to demonstrate that the one who really loves us is found where we most need Him. So don't run from sin or fear; use it to experience His Loving Kindness (*meaning of Mercy*). Become aware of Him in the midst of it all. Awareness of Him will be like the sun bursting over us, dispelling both sin and fear and offering us new life: resurrection.

Seemingly, congregations are growing throughout the country. Many are turning to Jesus; finding Him for the first time or returning to a Church they left for a while. They have a Church (*His Mystical Body*) to come to because you have sustained and nurtured it: have kept its doors open so others may enter. As the Son burst over them with Love and Light, let's remember... it bursts over us too!

PASTORAL TEAM

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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](#)

POPE FRANCIS – REQUIESCAT IN PACE

Please visit our dedicated webpage '[Pope Francis RIP](#)' by clicking on the item on our main menu there you will find links to:

Urbi et Orbi Easter Blessing (the last public appearance) The Announcement of the death on Monday
Vatican Live (which has carried all the ceremonies) Tributes from Cardinal Nichols and Bishop Bosco

An excerpt from Bishop Bosco's tribute to Pope Francis:

'Today, Easter Monday, with deep sorrow and deeper gratitude, we mourn the death of His Holiness Pope Francis a shepherd whose life radiated humility, compassion, and a joyful faith. As the Church throughout the world reflects on his extraordinary legacy, we give thanks to God for the gift of this remarkable servant of Christ.'

Pope Francis lived the Gospel with simplicity and sincerity. From choosing to live in Casa Santa Marta to washing the feet of prisoners, his every gesture pointed to a Church that is close to the poor and tender with the wounded. He called bishops and priests to be "shepherds with the smell of the sheep," and he reminded all of us that true leadership is found in service'.

There will be a Requiem Mass for Pope Francis at St Osmund this evening Friday 25 April at 6pm.

The funeral Mass will take place (tomorrow) Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 9am (UK time) in St. Peter's Square.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 27 APRIL

On this day, we celebrate and pray for God's grace in our lives - today, tomorrow, and at the hour of our death.

You are warmly invited to a special celebration of Divine Mercy at St. Osmund's Church at 3pm this Sunday. The liturgy will consist of a reflection on God's Mercy, Scripture Readings, Hymns of praise and mercy, the prayer of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, an opportunity for the Sacrament of Confession and a final Blessing. An image of Jesus, The Divine Mercy, will be displayed for veneration during the service.

A Divine Mercy image will also be displayed at the 6pm Vigil Mass (26th) and the 9am Mass at St Gregory's and throughout Sunday 27th. For more information click on the Divine Mercy image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

For the Sick of the Parish next Saturday 3 May at St Osmund - there will be Anointing and Confessions from 9am to 12 noon with Adoration following Mass at 10am. Need help with transport? Contact the Parish Office.

The Assisted Dying Bill is having its 3rd reading in Parliament on May 16th. SPUC intend to hold a silent witness against this Bill on Saturday 3 May between the 11am – 1pm. We will stand holding a banner along the Southampton Rd opposite Wiltshire College. This is safe and guaranteed to be seen by hundreds of people slowing down for the roundabout. Please contact Alison Verrian on 01722 741681 if you can commit to joining this important event.

First Friday Q & A next Friday 2 May 7pm in the Parish Centre after the Friday evening Mass. The subject will be 'Marianology'. We hope to see you there.

Congratulations to Meg & David Scouller on their 65th Wedding Anniversary – Blessed at Mass by Fr Anthony on Tuesday. Please visit our blog or [click here](#) for the photo

In support of Salisbury Hospice - The Fabulous Family Fun Day is back for its 11th year! Saturday 10 May from 12 noon at Salisbury Rugby Club. Lots for everyone to enjoy! If anyone would like tickets for the grand raffle please contact Sarah Varney by email Svarney1@me.com

CONGRATULATIONS & WELCOME TO ALL WHO WERE RECEIVED INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH THIS EASTER

Selina & Jody were Baptised & Confirmed and Angela, Sandy and Tom were Confirmed at the St Osmund Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday and Josh who was Confirmed at the Easter Vigil at St George (Warminster). Enormous thanks is due to David Blake and all clergy & lay faithful who have been part of the RCIA and Retreat team this year. Thank you for sharing your faith with such joy and dedication.

TRIDUUM & EASTER AT OUR CHURCHES

We have been truly blessed with beautiful liturgies throughout Holy Week and the Easter weekend. The dedication of so many people - musicians, singers, readers, welcomers, altar servers, cleaners, organisers, flower-arrangers, congregations etc. - was astonishing. We were especially grateful in this first year of a Paschal Triduum spanning two churches to the many parishioners willing to offer their gifts, talents and effort and to attend regardless of which church each liturgy occurred in. It was a wonderful sign of how united we are in Jesus Christ our Lord and of our commitment to join together at those most sacred celebrations of the Paschal mystery.

Over 1,000 attended the Triduum and then over 1000 attended Easter Sunday Masses. The children's Easter-egg hunts again proved very popular (no surprise there!). Thank you to all who donated the chocolate eggs - you were INCREDIBLY generous!

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. A HUGE 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.

SHARING OUR FAITH

Family of Faith the next session is this Sunday of Easter 27 April beginning at our morning 9am Masses continuing afterwards at our Parish Centre. For all the dates click on the '[Family of Faith](#)' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Journey in Faith - A new programme will start in the Autumn for adults who are interested in Christianity, but who are not confirmed Catholics. Contact Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com if you are interested in joining or [click here](#)

Confirmation - The Confirmation group will next meet on Tuesday 6 May at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. Please click on 'Confirmation' on our homepage or [click here](#) for more information.

Baptism Preparation Course - The next course will be at St Gregory starting next Sunday 4 May. If you wish to join please contact the Parish Office. To request a Baptism for your child, click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Congratulations and welcome to Aurelius Albrecht-Taylor who received the sacrament of Baptism on Easter Sunday. Please keep Aurelius, his parents Peter & Alythea and his godparents in your prayers.

Requiem Mass for Celia Maidment RIP will take place in Holy Redeemer Church at 1pm next Thursday 1 May.

Requiem Mass for Peter Gange RIP will take place in St Osmund's Church at 12 noon on Thursday 8 May. There will be no 10am in St Osmund's on this day. All parishioners are warmly welcomed to attend the Requiem for Peter.

Requiem Mass for Gertie Harmon RIP will take place on Friday 9 May at 10am at St Osmund's. This Mass will be the parish morning Mass for that day, replacing the normal Friday 10am Mass at St Gregory. All welcome.

LITURGY THIS WEEK

.Year C-1 Easter Week 2 & Proper of Season

Saturday 26 April

10:00 St Osmund MASS Louise Dirks RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 27 APRIL DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

09:00 St Gregory MASS Special Intentions

09:00 St Osmund MASS Rosemary Brown RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Valeria Findlay-Wilson

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Estebon Tiban RIP

MONDAY 28 APRIL SAINT GEORGE, PATRON OF ENGLAND

10:00 St Osmund MASS George & Monica Pickford RIP

TUESDAY 29 APRIL SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

10:00 St Osmund MASS Lou Godwin RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 30 April

10:00 St Gregory MASS Peter Emmett RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 1 May

10:00 St Osmund MASS Rani Jose Vazhappilly RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

13:00 Holy Redeemer Requiem MASS Celia Maidment RIP

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 2 May Saint Athanasius

10:00 St Gregory MASS Peter Emmett RIP

18:00 St Osmund MASS Maria Weeks RIP

SATURDAY 3 MAY SAINTS PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES

For the Sick of the Parish

09:00 – 12:00 Confessions & Anointing with Adoration after Mass

10:00 St Osmund MASS Gwylm Walker RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Fridays after the 10am Mass & Saturdays 5.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays after the 10am Mass until 12 noon
and by appointment

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS' LAST MONTHLY INTENTION

For the use of the new technologies. Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.. [Click here](#).

CLIFTON DIOCESE - We pray this week for the parish of Sacred Heart (Tisbury with Wardour).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pope Francis, Peter Gange, Peter Emmett, Margaret Price, Gertie Harmon, Celia Maidment 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

**Give praise to the Lord for he is good,
his mercy endures for ever.**

Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia. You believed, Thomas, because
you have seen me, says the Lord.**

**Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have
believed. Alleluia.**

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SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS For baptisms please register your application [click here](#). 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 use our online form to register your interest in our Family of Faith programme. [Click here](#)

CONFIRMATION If you have a child who will be in Year 9 or above from Sept 2025, please use our online form to apply to join our preparation programme for 2026. [Click here](#)

MARRIAGES Please speak to the priest for guidance.

FUNERALS Do your family know your wishes with regards to your funeral? Registered parishioners can provide these details which are scanned and stored confidentially with your parishioner record and can be given to families at the appropriate time. Contact Désirée for more details: office@salisburycatholics.org

PHOTOS FROM HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Provided by Greg

Please visit our [Photo Gallery](#) or click on the title below:

[Chrism Mass @ Clifton Cathedral 16 April](#)

[Holy Thursday Mass @ St Gregory 17 April](#)

[Good Friday Walk of Witness 18 April](#)

[Easter Vigil @ St Osmund 19 April](#)

YOUTH GROUP

Thank you to the 18 members of our youth group who came to Bemerton Lodge Care Home (run by the Order of Malta) to help plant out their front garden on Easter Wednesday! The manager and her team had arranged for some digging, weeding, and planting which was enthusiastically achieved. Much enjoyed by residents, staff, and all of us. We concluded with prayer, and Fr Joseph blessed the new garden, as well as the residents, staff, and workers.

