

# PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

## ORDINARY TIME WEEK 4(B)

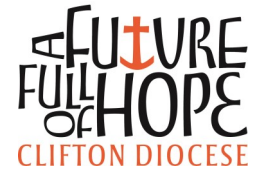
### From Father Anthony

.It took over five hours driving in the dark. I arrived tired and weary... it was worth it. Icy, sea air embraced me and filled my lungs with that special mixture of ozone, seaweed and salt. I breathed deeply and unpacked. After some delectable home made soup and exquisite home made bread I slept like a babe until the sun was two hands high. Later, along the coast, huge waves foamed and tossed their heads like wild horses: they tumbled, barrelled and thumped against the seawall exploding like giant water bombs. Gulls wheeled and screeched. There were no fishermen mending their nets that day! It was a magnificence of confusion and chaos.

Last week the disciples left their boats and their nets to follow Jesus. Spiritually they left the confused, chaotic, confined limitation of sensory, everyday consciousness for the vast unbroken plane or 'net' of pure, unbounded, spiritual consciousness: from where all creation takes place. They did this to further their own spiritual development but also to teach others and lead them to the Truth. They were to become 'fishers of men'.

What they are to teach they must learn and experience for themselves. Nothing theoretical here! Jesus takes them to the synagogue, (a gathering place). Spiritually it represents the gathering place of sensory thoughts and ideas (mentality). Amid the diversity, confusion and error found here Jesus Himself must be heard and experienced; i.e. our deepest consciousness, the I AM, must command. Its voice, its approach, is fresh, new and invigorating (teaches with authority): it leaves us astonished by how we have mistakenly trusted to our sensory, individual consciousness to give us all we need... astonished by how it fails to do so. We have become a 'village of sorrows' (meaning of Capernaum). Here we must learn there is only one Truth (Christ) expressed through many individuals: not many individuals expressing limited ideas of their truth. In the face of Truth the soul limited by ideas of truth is 'unclean' and feels threatened (have you come to destroy us). Its ideas of truth must be dispelled so that it might come from Truth in all it does.

This is a purification we must all go through. It is not a punishment but rather, an attitude God has towards us. Capernaum also means comfort in sorrow. God comforts with the Truth and by liberating us from false ideas of it.



### 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 at:  
<https://salisburycatholics.org>  
click "Registration/update"

## RACIAL JUSTICE DAY SUNDAY 28 JANUARY

*'Seeing one another in the life of the Church'.*

We have on our website a short message by Bishop Paul McAleenan, lead for Racial Justice, who offers a short message on this Sunday. We also have the history of some of the saints of colour in the Catholic Church who have inspired the faithful in their devotions. Please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

## THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 2 FEBRUARY

*'When the days were completed for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, just as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be consecrated to the Lord," and to offer the sacrifice of "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons," in accordance with the dictate in the law of the Lord'. ~Luke 2:22-24. For a reflection of this feast please click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).*

**Liturgy of the Word with Communion Tuesday 30 January.** Due to unavailability of a Priest there will be no Mass at 10am. Deacon John Proctor will be leading a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion. The Reception class from St Osmund's School will be present.

**Holocaust Memorial Day Saturday 27 January.** This year the theme is 'Fragility of Freedom'. Freedom means different things to different people, but what is clear is that in every genocide that has taken place, those who are targeted for persecution have had their freedom restricted and removed, before many of them are murdered. For more and a prayer we are encouraged to pray click on the image in the 'Top News box or [click here](#).

**Chrism Mass in Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday 27 March.** We are booking a coach to travel to the Chrism Mass which will be picking up in Salisbury and Amesbury. If you would like to join our priests and deacons at this Mass, please complete the sign up sheet in the porch of each church or contact the office [office@salisburycatholics.org](mailto:office@salisburycatholics.org)

**Congratulations** to Tina and Mark who were married in St Osmund's last Saturday 20 January. We pray for Tina and Mark that their home will be filled with happiness and love.

**Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion - Commissioning.** For all active Eucharistic Ministers who have not been commissioned in the past year, there is a further opportunity on Saturday 3 February 3.30pm at St Gregory. Please do contact the Office if you plan to attend.

**Sunday 6pm Mass - Parking.** One of the welcomers at this Mass has kindly volunteered to open and close St Osmund's School Car Park each Sunday evening. Please ensure your car is removed immediately after Mass.

**SPUC** wish to thank all who contributed to the White Flower appeal. The amount collected was £675.39. This has been sent directly to Society for the Protection of Unborn Children.

**Coffee & Cake** in the Parish Rooms. This lovely social event will continue each week after the 10am Mass at St Osmund on a Thursday. Everyone is welcome.

**Parish Rosary Group** meets to pray the Rosary together via Zoom on each Wednesday at 2.30pm. Please contact Josephine on 01722 328410 for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

**My Generation** will be meeting next on Wednesday 7 February 2024 for Hoy Bingo at 2pm in the Lounge of Roman Road Methodist Church due to the current work being carried out in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

## LENTEN RETREAT: FROM THE DESERT TO THE MOUNTAIN 22-25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

Following the wonderful and highly successful Parish Retreat last year, we will be returning to the Franciscan Centre near Godalming for a retreat to kick-start your Lenten experience so that enter the Easter season with a renewed sense of faith and personal mission. If you are interested in learning more, please contact the Parish Office and put your name down to receive the information pack. There will be 25-30 places available. The cost per person is about £250-£300. If you cannot go, but would like to contribute to the costs to enable someone else to go who otherwise would not be able to afford it, why not make this part of your Lenten almsgiving?

**Retiring Collection this weekend (27/28th Jan)** and again on 17/18th Feb after all our Masses will be to enable you to support this. (Gift Aid envelopes will be available). All money collected will go towards helping those who cannot afford a place on the retreat to attend.

### LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE WEDNESDAY 20 MARCH AT 7PM - CHRIST THE KING, AMESBURY

Bishop Declan is to celebrate Liturgies of Reconciliation during the Season of Lent at five venues across the diocese. One of the chosen venues is Christ The King, Amesbury and being in our deanery, all of our priests will be in attendance. The details of the other venues can be found on our website Blog or [click here](#). Due to the proximity of dates our previously planned Penitential Service at St Osmund on 21 March will be moved to an alternative date.

**Journey in Faith:** This is a programme for adults who are interested in Christianity but who are not confirmed Catholics. The next meeting is Sunday 4 February at 4.30pm in the Parish Rooms, next to St Osmund's on Exeter Street. For more on this programme please visit 'Exploring Your Faith' on our main menu or [click here](#).

**Father Anthony's Homilies:** Following on from his previous homilies, the transcript of the homily for The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is now on our website. Click on the link below his image or [click here](#).

**Congratulations and Welcome** to Arthur William Wrobel who received the Sacrament of Baptism last Sunday at St Osmund. Please keep Arthur, his parents Grace & Toby and his godparents in your prayers.

**Baptism.** Our next preparation course will take place at St Osmund's on Sunday 18 & 25 February and 3 March commencing with the 9am Mass and followed by a one hour session in the Presbytery. If you plan to attend, please contact the Parish Office. To apply for a Baptism please click the Registration button on our homepage or [click here](#).

**First Holy Communion 2024** The next session: 'Liturgy of the Word' is next Saturday 3 February at 2pm in St Gregory's Church. All the information and the programme schedule is on our website: [click here](#).

**Confirmation 2024** Our Confirmation Group are now on retreat at Buckfast Abbey (Dartmoor) and will be returning on Sunday. We wish them every success: *'Lord, instil in them the courage to embrace this experience fully. Let them be open to new friendships, activities, and most importantly, to hearing your Word'*. They will gather again next Tuesday 30 January at 7pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms.

**Homily from Bishop Robert Barron** This week he reflects first on the reading from Deuteronomy. Speaking to the people before they enter the Promised Land, Moses says, 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen'. Who could be greater than Moses? We find the answer in the Gospel. To listen and watch, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

## LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year B-2 Ordinary Time Week 4 and Psalter 4

### Saturday 27 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Anne & Maurice Williams

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Jim Presley 80th Birthday

### SUNDAY 28 January

09:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

09:00 St Osmund MASS Francis Conio RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Intentions of Keith Fleming and his family

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Michael, Peter, & Susan Leyden RIP

### Monday 29 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving

### Tuesday 30 January

10:00 St Osmund Liturgy of The Word & Communion

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

### Wednesday 31 January Saint John Bosco

10:00 St Gregory MASS Mary Muricken RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

### Thursday 1 February

10:00 St Osmund MASS Anniversary of Thomas Cherian RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

### Friday 2 February THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

10:00 St Gregory MASS Maria Luisa Fernandez Prieto RIP

19:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving

### Saturday 27 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Doris Phelan RIP

### First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Mike Lennard - in sickness

## PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

**Pope Francis Intention for January - For the gift of diversity in the Church:** Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognise the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church. [Click here](#).

**CLIFTON DIOCESE** - We pray for the parish of Immaculate Conception (Stroud with Brownhill, Painswick and More Hall).

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Natalie Morabito, Joan Cave, Marianne Clare and Sheila Crooks 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

*Deuteronomy 18:15-20*

*Ps 94*

**O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts'.**

*1 Corinthians 7:32-35*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.**

**Alleluia!**

*Mark 1:21-28*

### 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 will be in Year 3 or above from Sept 2024, please use our online form to join our 2025 programme. [Click here](#).

**CONFIRMATION** If you have a child who will be in Year 9 or above from Sept 2024, please use our online form to apply to join our next preparation programme. [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 Caroline for more details:

[caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com)

## RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Fridays after the 10:00 Mass & Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays after the 10:00 Mass (extended hours on the first Saturday in the month have been paused for the time being)

*and by prior appointment with our priests.*