

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 22 - YEAR A



From Father Anthony

Mrs Cat sprawled along the wall enjoying the breeze. The Gunslinger eyed her suspiciously from among crab apples littering the path. The hot weather has brought a bumper harvest of plums, figs, grapes and olives, much to the delight of the brown sparrows and other garden inhabitants. However, the lawn has been toasted, and many plants have succumbed to the heat. Tea in hand and Gospel verse ringing in my head, I was pleased I listened to sound advice and refrained from planting some rather delicate flowers: they would never have survived!

Your thoughts are not of the things of God but of the things of men. The word translated as *thought* is *phroneó, φρονέω*; it conveys *insight* or *understanding* that manifests in corresponding action. If we look at the condition of the world, governments, society, church; if we listen to our so-called leaders: we might *wonder* about the thoughts of mankind. We may be excused for thinking they cannot be reflecting the thoughts of God. For all the talk about listening and being inclusive, wonderful and elegant as this is, are we listening to and including God? Or are we placing man above God? Of course, before we examine and criticise others we must first look within. What do we daily entertain and allow to grow and manifest as thought, word or deed? Who or what do we allow into the sanctuary of our heart to plant these *things* and, how do we feed them? Afterall, the world *out there* is but a reflection of the thought *in here*.

The Cross and its cruel death might seem like madness to '*normal*' thinking; yet it was God's way and Jesus, the fulness of Enlightenment, followed it: and from this seeming madness and calamity came Resurrection and the Holy Spirit.

If we are to think with God, we must '*pick ourselves up*'; we must give ourselves to God by following the way of Jesus. We are spiritual beings *pinned* to our bodies (*spine and shoulders forming a cross*) via our five senses (*five wounds*). These senses are earth bound and produce human thought. By casting them aside (*get behind me Satan*) we exchange the earthly for the spiritual. Through worship of and focus on God we may come to experience and understand that in the light of the world we find darkness; but in the darkness of God, we find Light.

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed for the
Bank Holiday on Monday 30 August

PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS

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& Assistant Priest)
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Ordinatee & Assistant Priest)
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SALISBURY DEACONS

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Rev John Proctor (Deacon)
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PARISH OFFICE

Désirée Coups
salisbury.catholic@cliftondiocese.com

01722 562703

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](#)

ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO GLASTONBURY 6 SEPTEMBER

URGENT - Minibus Driver Required! It is our hope to be able to transport those who have signed up to attend the Glastonbury Pilgrimage on Sunday 6 September by minibus. Unfortunately, we now have no driver for that trip. We need an experienced and safe driver who is confident and happy to drive a minibus. NO Special licence is required, just a regular driving licence that has been held since before 1 January 1997. Could you help? It would mean attending the pilgrimage with the group for the day, setting off from St Elizabeth Hall and returning there at the end of the day. **Please contact the parish office by Tuesday at the latest if you can help.**

WORLD YOUTH DAY SEOUL 2027

From 3 to 8 August 2027, young people from across the world will gather in Seoul, South Korea, to celebrate their Catholic faith at World Youth Day with Pope Leo.

If you are interested in joining this pilgrimage, please speak to Fr Joseph or Deacon John Detain as we begin to explore the possibilities and gather expressions of interest.

Further details will be shared over the coming weeks. In the meantime, please visit our [World Youth Day 2027](#) page by clicking on the image in the 'Top News' box for more information.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

The young adults group (open to anyone in their 20s & 30s) meets every fortnight to pray, and discuss faith & life. Next week's topic will be: *How to discern your vocation*. Tuesday 1 September, St Osmund's Parish Rooms, 8pm (online option available). Contact Fr Joseph for more info.

Religious Freedom - Over **five billion people** live in countries where religious freedom is restricted, including more than **200 million Christians**. Aid to the Church in Need is urging support for an online petition calling on governments to uphold **Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, which protects freedom of religion. Click the [Article 18](#) image in the 'Top News' box for details and to sign up.

Assisted Suicide - Bishop Timothy Menezes has highlighted the dangers assisted suicide poses to vulnerable people, including those with disabilities. MPs are expected to vote on the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill on 11 September. Please click on the [Assisted Suicide](#) button on our home page to watch his video and contact your MP.

The Friday Prayer Group at St Gregory's resumes on Friday 4 September, following the summer break. We have an exciting 15-week programme planned, running right up to Christmas, and everyone is warmly invited to join us. The group meets on Fridays from 4.00pm to 5.30pm in a relaxed and friendly setting, beginning with refreshments. Whether you are a regular attendee or coming for the first time, you will be most welcome. Please visit [Friday Prayer Group](#) under 'Parish Activities' to see the full programme

First Friday Talk – Re commences on Friday 4 September. Catholic Social Teaching is an incredibly fruitful area of formation so we will start with a gentle introduction to Catholic Social Teaching by Jason Charewicz. 7.00pm in the Parish Centre. All are welcome, but if you cannot attend each talk will be recorded and available on our website over that weekend. Please click on [Parish Activities](#) on our main menu and then on [First Friday Talks](#).

Youth Group which meets on Wednesdays in term time at the Parish Centre at 6.30pm resumes on Wednesday 9 September. 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.

INTERNATIONAL MASS – SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

9:00AM, ST GREGORY'S

Our International Day promises to be a joyful and inspiring celebration of the rich diversity within our parish community. Together, we will give thanks for the many cultures, traditions and backgrounds that enrich our faith and help make our parish such a welcoming and vibrant place.

Following Mass, everyone is warmly invited to enjoy a shared meal featuring food from around the world. If you are able, please bring a dish that reflects your culture or country, something delicious for others to experience and enjoy. If you are unable to attend, you may still wish to support the day by donating an item or a service for our auction, such as two hours of babysitting. All proceeds will go to the Foodbank, helping local families in need.

We also encourage everyone attending to bring a non-perishable food item for the Foodbank.

Come along, share your culture, share your food and, most importantly, share in the joy of our wonderful parish community! [Please click on the image in the 'Top News' for the full details](#)

FACILITATORS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION PHASE OF THE SYNOD

The Synod on Synodality is an on-going process, sharing what we are doing and where we are growing. There will be a synodal Diocesan Assembly in 2027 at which the implementation group will be presenting a review of how we are journeying together across Clifton Diocese. Over the next few months, we will be encouraging parishes to gather and consider their own journey through Conversations in the Spirit (CiS). In addition, we will be having area assemblies in the run up to the main assembly.

To do this well we will need good facilitators both experienced and new people who would feel confident about offering their service to the Diocese. Back in 2022, the facilitators did a fantastic job having generously given their time enabling groups to have meaningful conversations. We hope many of them will say yes again but so that we know who might be willing to take this on, we would like to create a new data base of people who would be happy to support this work. We are particularly keen to encourage catechists, people who have trained in Pastoral Ministry, PPC members and Youth workers to respond to this invitation, but anyone who feels called to support us will be VERY welcome. Please share this with anyone who you think might be suitable and enjoy it.

People do not need to have experience of running small groups using the methodology of CiS as we will offer formation to everyone and guidance around the purpose of the groups.

We hope to start this formation in September/October so please do let us know if you would be happy to be included by clicking on this link:

[Synod Facilitators: Conversation in the Spirit – Fill in form](#)

Thank you! If anyone would like to chat over what might be involved, I would be very happy to talk to them.

Pax et bonum,

Dave Blake

Journey In Faith programme, St Osmund's, Salisbury.

The Justice & Peace group are screening the film 'National Emergency Briefing' on Friday 11 September 7.30pm at the Parish Centre. This is a powerful film about climate change and the implications of continuing to burn fossil fuels. Warning: this film spells out the impacts on the future of our choices today. It is not suitable for under 16s.

FAMILY OF FAITH

If you have a child who has not yet made their First Holy Communion, and is in Year 3 or above, our Family of Faith programme will begin again next month, so it's time to sign up via the Parish Website! There will be a short information session for parents after Mass on Sunday 6th September, and the first proper session will be Sunday 27th September. Sessions are fortnightly during term time, after the 9am Masses, at the Parish Centre. Parents have their own session whilst the children have theirs, and it is essential that at least one parent stays for the whole session, which will last 1 hour. Lots more information is on the website (<https://salisburycatholics.org/familyoffaith>), and if you have any questions, please do get in touch.

HELP NEEDED particularly for these Family of Faith sessions, either with the parents or the children, even if it is not possible to commit to every time. In particular, it would be wonderful if somebody could offer to manage a "crèche" for younger siblings so that parents can bring them along and not be too distracted from the sessions!

HANDING ON OUR FAITH

Baptism Preparation. The next preparation course starts Sunday 13 September after the 9am Mass at St Osmund for three consecutive Sundays, please do contact the Parish Office to join. To apply for a baptism for your child please click on the [Registration](#) button on our homepage and select 'Infant Baptism Application'.

Marriage Preparation – Our next preparation for those wishing to get married next year will be on Friday 18 & Saturday 19 September. Please register with the Parish Office

CONFIRMATION 2027

If you have a child who will be in Year 9 or above from September, please use our [online form](#) to apply to join our preparation programme for 2027. **There will be an information evening for parents & candidates on Wednesday 9 September at 6.30pm.**

The Confirmation programme includes a wonderful residential retreat in the first term, so it is important to sign up now to receive all the key dates and information. Simply click the '[Confirmation](#)' button on our homepage to register.

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 just click on 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.

Parish Retreat 2027- The annual Parish Retreat will take place during Lent at The Franciscan Centre, Ladywell Abbey Monday 15th February - Thursday 18th February 2027. Our theme will be 'Seek ye first the Kingdom of God'. Please consider coming if you have not been before, it is open to everyone in the Pastoral Area of St Edith. There will be more details to come nearer the date, but if you are interested, then put the dates in your diary and contact either the parish office or Dave Blake salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com.

LITURGY THIS WEEK
Year A-2 Ordinary Time Week 22 & Psalter 2

Saturday 29 August The Passion of Saint John the Baptist

10:00 St Osmund MASS Arthur Buck RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

SUNDAY 30 AUGUST

09:00 St Osmund MASS Sarah Hatton – Birthday wishes

09:00 St Gregory MASS Patricia Rayner RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS Sally Power RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

Monday 31 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Bernadette Moloney RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Tuesday 1 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Jeremy Callaghan RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 2 September

10:00 St Gregory MASS Helen Ahern RIP

THURSDAY 3 SEPTEMBER SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

10:00 St Osmund MASS Suzane & Sharone Roshan as they
start a new year at school

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 4 September

18:00 St Osmund MASS The Holy Souls

Saturday 5 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Prayer intention – Jacob family

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Deceased members of the Rogerson
and Helm families.

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER FOR AUGUST

For the Care of Water

Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for the Parishes of Our Lady & St Alphege (Bath) and St Joseph (Peasedown St John).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Anne Beale, Sally Power, Catherine Reid, Michael O'Sullivan, Sheila Whatley, Malcom Carver and Monica Johnson 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@cliftondiocese.com

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