

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 22 (C)

From Father Anthony

I sat looking out of the window. It was very early with a clear black sky studded with a vast array of stars. Satellites tracked from corner to corner; red and green navigation lights flickered followed by the deep hush of jets: bats did last minute wingovers avoiding the window. Finally, the sun announced its arrival with a dim red, rising halo. Another day on its way! ... but I enjoyed the dark stillness and rest.

And it came to pass going into the house of one of the chief pharisees to eat bread on a sabbath... Among other things the Sabbath points towards rest: a cessation from doing things... a cessation from the chattering mind and noisy cluttered thoughts. Of course, the world wants to keep us active, tense, responsive to its lies, its 'science', its concept of society, its rules and regulations, its advertising, media and so on. And we wonder why mental health issues are rising! The world wants to be its own master and creator; it does not want us interested in or coming close to *the* Creator. It often laughs at or scorns God as an outdated concept or a vengeful, dictatorial myth. Yet, this is not the experience of the Saints, Mystics and many others. In God they find perfect stillness and rest: no anger, retribution, judgement or condemnation; just Love: the still point from which everything and nothing emanates. *Once again*, He is Cause; all else effect. Abiding in Him brings rest and ecstasy.

The Gospel passage urges us to acknowledge the pharisaic, worldly aspect of our life, enter it and bring it to rest. Don't run from the world; actively bring it to rest. Still its active wheels from turning... just for a while. Allow its mind to wind down. The world is like a seesaw going up and down but going nowhere. It's up to us to bring it to balance: the midpoint, which is God, fulness and fulfilment.

For this to happen in the world, of course, it must happen in us. Our actions, prayers and meditation must bring us to rest in Divine stillness. In this stillness we come to see how poor we are in spirit; how pompous, arrogant and self-entitled we are in thought and worldly ways. Awareness of this allows us to balance our worldly and spiritual nature... which is the marriage mentioned in the Gospel



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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](#)

SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT – WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER

Gregory was content to be a monk, but he willingly served the Church in other ways when asked. He sacrificed his own preferences in many ways, especially when he was called to be Bishop of Rome. Once he was called to public service, Gregory gave his considerable energies completely to this work. Gregory's description of bishops as physicians fits in well with the late Pope Francis' description of the Church as a 'field hospital'. For more on this great Saint click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Notice: Due to art work in the Sanctuary at St Osmund's, the 10am Masses next Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September will be celebrated in St Osmund's Parish Hall. The services will still be livestreamed during this time. Please select the 'St Osmund's Hall' tab when accessing the livestream on these days.

On Thursday, 4 September at the 10am Mass at St Osmund's, we will welcome St Osmund's Primary School for their Start of Year Mass. Please note that seating in the church will be limited.

STOP ASSISTED SUICIDE – ACTION NEEDED! The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September. Right To Life UK has launched an Easy Action tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. Please ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide by visiting <https://righttolife.org.uk/aspeers> - or [click here](#), it just takes 30 seconds!.

Planning Meeting This Sunday – International Mass We will celebrate an International Mass on Sunday 21 September at 11am in St Gregory's, incorporating contributions from the many nationalities in our parish community. To prepare, there will be a short planning meeting this Sunday, 31 August, immediately after the 11am Mass in St Gregory's Hall. All are warmly invited to come along and share ideas.

The Osmund Archive: Gleanings from the history of St Osmund's church, Salisbury. We intend to post short nuggets of interest from the fascinating history of our parish, and the Catholic presence in South Wiltshire. The first article is about Fr Patrick Reilly, who served in St Osmund's, but was shot dead in Korea as a martyr, 75 years ago this Friday. To read it, please click on 'History' in the main menu or [click here](#).

New Parish Book Club – We're launching a new Parish Book Club in the Parish Centre this September — a friendly and relaxed space to enjoy books, share ideas, and build community. Each gathering will include refreshments and plenty of opportunity for conversation and friendship. Contact Steve at stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com if you are interested in joining. Watch this space for further details and meeting times.

First Friday Talks - begins again next Friday 5 September after the 6pm Mass in the Parish Centre. All are welcome, but if you cannot attend each talk will be recorded and available on our website over the weekend. Please click on 'Parish Life' on our main menu and then on 'First Friday Talks' or [click here](#).

Men's Breakfast - The next men's breakfast will be on Saturday 13 September at 8.00am in the Parish Centre. Tickets are £10 each. Payment can be made on the day in cash or direct to Deacon John Proctor. To book your place please [click here](#) or for the QR code [click here](#) .

SCORE grants. If you are involved in a charitable project here or overseas, you may wish to apply for a grant from SCORE. Applications will be considered at the next committee meeting on 8 September. Guidelines and an application form can be found on the parish website (Parish Life/SCORE), or [click here](#).

My Generation will be meeting next Wednesday 3 September for an afternoon of Music from a Ukelele Band at 2pm in St Gregory's Church Hall. For further information please contact Chris on 01722 321109.

SEASON OF CREATION

The World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, celebrated on 1 September, is the official start of the Season of Creation, a time of sustained prayer and action which lasts a month and four days. During this season we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.

Next Friday evening 5 September 6pm, Fr Joseph will offer Mass using new texts just published by the Vatican, 'the Mass for the Care of Creation'. It will be an opportunity to pray for God's grace and inspiration in our stewardship of the world, that the Earth and all its peoples may thrive together.

For more click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION IN SALISBURY FOR 2026

The preparation of our children to receive their first Sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Communion (the Eucharist) takes place at *Family of Faith*. All the information is below.

FAMILY OF FAITH

Family of Faith is our parish's way of helping families with young children grow together in their faith. It is also where our children are prepared to receive their First Sacraments of Reconciliation & Holy Communion. The children have some teaching and fun activities, and the adults have a separate input and discussion to support each other in nurturing faith-filled families.

Family of Faith is open to children in Year 2 to 5, with Year 3 being the normal age for children to start preparing for their First Communion. This year, we are going to try moving to a new home at St Gregory's church. We will gather from 9.15am, and then move into the 11am Family Mass.

The first session this year will be on Sunday 28th September. There is lots more information, and all the dates, and the link to sign up, on our website—[CLICK HERE](#).

CONFIRMATION 2026

This year's Confirmation programme is now published, so if you (or your son or daughter) are in Year 9 or above and want to be confirmed, this is for you. The course will start in September, and it will be on Wednesday nights. So if you are interested in Confirmation in 2026, please click on the '[Confirmation](#)' button on our home page or [click here](#). Please note there is an information evening on Wednesday 10 September 6.30pm for the parents in the Parish Rooms at St Osmund. The potential candidates will join with Youth Group at the Parish Centre

SHARING OUR FAITH

Journey in Faith – For adults who are not confirmed Catholics and for those who are returning to the faith of their childhood. The new programme which starts in the Autumn is now on our website with the first session on 21 September 10.30am at the Parish Centre. If you are interested in joining do contact Dave Blake at Salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com. For more including the timetable click on the '[Journey in Faith](#)' button on our home page or [click here](#).

Congratulations to Maksymilian Sebastian Dharmarajah who will receive the sacrament of Baptism tomorrow Saturday 30 August at St Osmund. Please keep Maksymilian, his parents Anna & Norman in your prayers.

Baptism Preparation – The first course after the summer break starts on Sunday 14 September at St Gregory and will run for 3 consecutive Sundays after the 11am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to join. To request Baptism for your child, please click the 'Registration' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-1 Ordinary Time Week 22 & Psalter 2

Saturday 30 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Private Intention

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Frances & Ken Rimmer 63rd Wedding Anniversary

SUNDAY 31 AUGUST

09:00 St Osmund MASS 30th Wedding Anniversary Mary & Richard

11:00 St Gregory MASS Thanksgiving – Janet & Jacob Vazhappilly

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS Doris Phelan RIP

18:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

Monday 1 September

10:00 St Osmund Hall MASS RIP – Anthony K. D

Tuesday 2 September

10:00 St Osmund Hall MASS The Holy Souls

Due to work on the sanctuary, there will be no Exposition or Benediction.

WEDNESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER SAINT GREGORY THE GREAT

10:00 St Gregory MASS Pearl Usher RIP

Thursday 4 September

10:00 St Osmund **St Osmund Whole School start of term Mass** Intention: Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 5 September

10:00 St Gregory MASS Prayer Intentions – Jacob Family

18:00 St Osmund MASS **For the Care of Creation**

Saturday 6 September

Anniversary of the Dedication of the Parish of St Osmund

10:00 St Osmund MASS Lourdes Garcia de Villava RIP

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 St Gregory MASS Maurice Petty RIP

RECONCILIATION

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

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

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

For our relationship with all of creation

Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect. [Click here.](#)

CLIFTON DIOCESE - We pray this week for the Parish of the Holy Family (Patchway, Bristol).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Stephen Castle, Sally Bradley, Ruth Gibson, Duncan Green and Terri Thomas, 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

In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart.

Alleluia.

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 2026 For children who will be year 9 there is an information evening on Wednesday 10 September for potential candidates and their families.

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