

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 23 - YEAR A



From Father Anthony

Despite a clear sign saying, keep left, I bounded up the hospital stairs on the right... and into a lady. She berated me, questioning my eyesight and ability to read. I stood corrected, apologised and thanked God she was not in uniform: and then continued on the left only to meet a doctor coming down on the right. I said nothing... coward.

Love includes the courage to confront and correct error and then forgive. Not always popular. In societies living according to grand narratives, this was, perhaps, easier and more acceptable. A grand narrative is a broad story that gives meaning to life uniting smaller stories; it provides boundaries against which one's attitude and behaviour can be measured. Examples of grand narratives are Democracy, Marxism, the Enlightenment, Capitalism and some would say Christianity. Last century it was argued that the 'totalising (grand) narratives of Modernity' were too authoritarian and no longer viable in Postmodernity. It was suggested that "little narratives" or 'micro-narratives' were more appropriate. We each tell our own story with our own truth. Not Truth but lots of little truths - you can sense the confusion that this might cause: perhaps our present-day situation reflects it.

Catholicism does not understand itself as a grand narrative; if narrative, it is the Narrative of Salvation. It is rooted in God's Revelation. It contains the living Word of God; not fable or ideology. It did not arrive from the ground up by man; but from the top down by God. It did not originate from holy men, philosophers or politicians, who became enlightened: but from Enlightenment Itself becoming Man. God became Man and dwelt among us. In Jesus, the Second Person of the Trinity, (the Word) we have a Person of a different order; the Person who speaks before time, in time: through Law and Prophets and finally as Man: not a man becoming enlightened but Enlightenment Itself becoming Man. The way we relate and respond to Him must reflect His primacy; a vertical not horizontal relationship.

The Second Person of the Trinity left the Church as His Mystical and Institutional Body on earth. Through it He Presides and Teaches so that we may live as God lives (His image becoming His likeness) and against which we may be measured and corrected. Included in our Mission is to know His Word and correct the world accordingly... which takes clarity and courage.

PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS

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PARISH OFFICE

Désirée Coups
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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](#)

178 YEARS OF ST OSMUND'S

This weekend marks the 178th anniversary of the dedication of St Osmund's Church. Our parish archivist tells the story of the original dedication in a new blog post — click '[History](#)' on the main menu of our website to read it. To mark the anniversary, the 9am Mass at St Osmund's this Sunday will be celebrated as a special Mass for the Dedication of the Church.

INTERNATIONAL MASS – SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER, 9AM, ST GREGORY'S

Our International Day will be a joyful celebration of the many cultures and traditions that enrich our parish community. After Mass, everyone is invited to share a meal featuring dishes from around the world. If you can, please bring a dish that reflects your culture or country. You can also support the event by donating an item or service for the auction, with all proceeds benefiting the Foodbank. We encourage everyone attending to bring a non-perishable food donation. Come and share your culture, your food and the joy of our parish community. Click the image in '[Top News](#)' for full details.

SEASON OF CREATION

Mass for the Care of Creation At the beginning of this month, the Church entered the Season of Creation which closes on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4 October. To mark the 800th Anniversary of the saint's death, Pope Leo has approved the new *Mass for the Care of Creation*. On **Friday 11 September** in St Osmund's Church, Fr Joseph will celebrate this new Mass at 6pm to which all are warmly invited.

The Justice & Peace group are screening the film 'National Emergency Briefing' on Friday 11 September 7.30pm at the Parish Centre following the 6pm Mass (see below). 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. Please note that the film is not suitable for under 16s.

SCORE – Retiring collection for SCORE Home Projects next weekend 12/13 September

World Youth Day Seoul 2027: Young Catholics from around the world will gather in Seoul, South Korea, from 3-8 August 2027 for World Youth Day with Pope Leo. If you are interested in joining this pilgrimage, please speak to Fr Joseph or Deacon John Detain. Expressions of interest are now being gathered, with further details to follow. See the [World Youth Day 2027](#) page via the 'Top News' box for more information.

The Friday Prayer Group at St Gregory's resumes today Friday 4 September at 4pm. 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 – This evening's talk will be 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 this 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 next 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.

FAMILY OF FAITH

If your child is in Year 3 or above and has not yet made their First Holy Communion, our Family of Faith programme begins with a short information session for parents this Sunday 6 September at the Parish Centre, following the 9.00am Masses.

The first full session will take place on Sunday 27 September, with subsequent sessions held fortnightly during term time at the Parish Centre after the 9.00am Masses. While the children attend their session, parents will have a separate session of their own. It is essential that at least one parent remains for the full hour-long session each time.

Further details, including the registration form, can be found on our website: <https://salisburycatholics.org/familyoffaith>
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to 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

We will welcome **William Christopher McDonagh** and **Raffaele Antonio Carmelo Inglese**, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism at St Osmund's next weekend, 12/13 September. Please keep William and Raffaele, together with their parents and families, in your prayers.

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 next 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 via 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 23 & Psalter 3

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.

SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER

09:00 St Osmund MASS Mitchel Chinedum

09:00 St Gregory MASS George Devassy RIP

11:00 St Osmund MASS People of the Parish

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Justina Ingram – in sickness

Monday 7 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving

14.30 St Osmund Memorial Service Catherine Reid RIP

18:00 Ordinariate Mass is cancelled this week.

TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

10:00 St Osmund MASS Marie Therese Farley RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 9 September

10:00 St Gregory MASS Frank Farley RIP

Thursday 10 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Robson RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 11 September

18:00 St Osmund MASS (G) Margarita Callan RIP

Saturday 12 September

10:00 St Osmund MASS James Patrick Thurlow Herlihy RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Gilbert Miller RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER FOR SEPTEMBER

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 Parish of St Peter & Paul (Bath).

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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