PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

From Father Anthony

It was a long hard drive; most of it in the dark. Near Sunderland I felt drowsy… time to take a break. I parked, got out and stretched. Ship lights flickered in the distance like stars in the dark; waves sighed and softly splashed; the air was filled with salt and seaweed. Perfect. The drowsiness dissipated like early morning mist; I felt fit and awake and ready for the final leg.

'They all became drowsy and fell asleep'… 'therefore stay awake'. At one level the parable of the foolish and wise virgins represents two aspects of human nature; spiritual drowsiness and spiritual wakefulness. When the soul is scattered throughout the senses it becomes a slave to and mesmerised by the vagaries and forces of the world. It becomes subdued. We sue for peace, follow governments, the crowd, social propaganda and so on. Bonhoeffer called it *stupidity:* the Gospel, *foolish virgins*. But there is also an aspect, that through prayer, spiritual practice and Godly desire, unifies the soul so that it commands and is not commanded by the senses; it does not surrender its individuality. It is in the world but not of it. It stands in its own light; a light that, undimmed by the senses, reflects spirit. It looks into the spiritual realm and reflects the Kingdom of God. It is ready for the Bridegroom and the marriage of soul and spirit in the body. However, the Bridegroom comes in His own time. It is our task to prepare and be ready.

The cult of the lowest common denominator seems to be sown deep among us; everything reduced to the same for fear of offending someone or anyone. Man's so-called 'truths' are given a higher place than Christ, the Truth; and so, His Presence is obscured by the drowsiness caused by worldly beliefs and concerns.

Knowledge of or about Christ is not the same as *knowing* Him. The images we are offered and form of Him, are not Him. By speaking or praying to an image we are not speaking or praying to Him. To know Him we must have a spiritual or mystical encounter with Him *as He is.* For that we must be awake to receive Him; not in a drowsy dream world. Otherwise, we might hear Him say *I do not know you… because you never approached or spoke to Me: only an image of Me.*

Reminder: the 10am liturgy at St Osmund's on Thursday 12 November will be a **Service of the Word** as Fr Joseph is commissioning the Chaplaincy Team members for Wardour School at a special Mass in Wardour Chapel at 10.30am to which all are warmly welcome.

There will be Mass at 6pm on that evening in St Osmund's Church.

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE
CLIFTON DIOCESE

PASTORAL TEAM

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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**

Remembrance Sunday – 8 November

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

Please note: There will be an '**Act of Remembrance'** at the beginning of each Mass this weekend. Please arrive to Mass in good time in order not to disturb the 2-minute silence. Stewards are asked to ensure that latecomers enter the church *after* the Act of Remembrance is complete. Thank you for your co-operation.

Remembering the Holy Land

This Remembrance Sunday, we welcome Andrew Nash from Friends of the Holy Land, who will speak at some of our Masses about the charity's work supporting Christian communities in Palestine, Israel and Jordan. As we remember all those affected by war and conflict, we hold especially in our prayers our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, many of whom face daily uncertainty and hardship. Andrew will share how the charity brings practical support and hope to those in need. There will be a retiring collection after Masses this weekend to support this important work. Gift Aid envelopes are available in the porch for UK taxpayers. To learn more about Friends of the Holy Land, visit their website. https://www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk Also available from the Parish Office is *Christmas Voices from the Holy Land* (£7.99), a beautiful prayer resource published by Friends of the Holy Land. It would make an excellent Advent gift to help family and friends prepare for Christmas.

Let there be Light!

Thank you for your patience with Mass changes this week which allowed for window and high-level specialist cleaning in St Osmund's. Be sure to take note of the renewed brightness of the windows in St Osmund's Church! If you would like to support the maintenance of our buildings, donations are always gratefully received and can be made via the contactless machine in the porch, please select 'Building Fund' or speak to the Parish Office. Many thanks.

Bonfire Night: The night Salisbury burned the Pope.

On 22 November 1850, some 7,000 people took to Salisbury's streets in an extraordinary anti-Catholic demonstration, culminating in a huge bonfire on Green-Croft. Effigies of the Pope and Catholic bishops went up in flames — although one cardinal stubbornly refused to burn! Discover this remarkable episode in Salisbury's Catholic history, including eyewitness accounts and a contemporary illustration, on our parish history blog at salisburycatholics.org/history.

November Masses for the Holy Souls - During November, we pray especially for the Holy Souls. Please write the names of your departed loved ones in an envelope and place it in the box or basket at the foot of the altar. If you are unable to come to church in person but would like a name included, please email or ring the parish office, and we will be happy to add it for you.

Christmas Cards are now on sale in the Parish Office and will be on sale after some of the Masses on Sunday.

SCORE – There will be a retiring collection for SCORE Overseas Projects next weekend 14/15 November.

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EMHC) Training in St Gregory's Church, Saturday 14 November, 11am–1pm. This session is intended to train two additional EMHCs. However, any existing ministers from either church, attending any Mass, who would welcome a refresher session are also very welcome to come along. Please let Deacon Steve know if you would like to attend:stephen.godwin@cliftondiocese.com

First Friday Talk: Join us this evening, Friday 6 November, at 7pm in the Parish Centre for Greg Wall's talk, *The Common Good*. Everyone is welcome.

Youth Theatre Trip to Bath – Saturday 21 November

We're inviting young people to join us for a special trip to the Theatre Royal Bath to see T. S. Eliot's celebrated play *Murder in the Cathedral*, starring Sir David Suchet (famous for playing Hercule Poirot on TV!).

The play tells the extraordinary story of St Thomas Becket, whose martyrdom in 1170 transformed Canterbury into one of Christianity's greatest centres of pilgrimage, later immortalised in Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*. It's a wonderful opportunity to explore our Christian heritage while enjoying a great work of English literature.

We hope to celebrate Mass and enjoy a picnic together too. We'll leave Salisbury around 10am and return by approximately 6.45pm. **Places are limited to 15, so please get in touch soon if your child would like to come!**

Could you help make this possible? We would be enormously grateful to parishioners willing to sponsor a young person's ticket (£30), or travel (£15), helping us make this opportunity available to everyone.

Family of Faith

The next session will take place on Sunday 15 November at the Parish Centre after the 9am Masses. More details are on our website: https://salisburycatholics.org/familyoffaith .

First Holy Communion - Congratulations to Hugo, who made his First Holy Communion last Sunday. Hugo has completed our Family of Faith programme alongside his parents. We give thanks for this joyful milestone, which marks a deeper friendship with Jesus in the Eucharist.

Confirmation 2027

The next session for those preparing to receive the Sacrament is next Wednesday 11 November 6.30pm at the Parish Centre. For more please visit our Confirmation page by clicking on the image on our homepage.

The **SPUC Salisbury Branch** warmly invites you to an open evening at **St Gregory's Hall** on **Friday 13th November, from 7.00pm to 8.30pm**. Julie Vivienne, SPUC Regional Representative will give a short talk about SPUC's work and how you can support our mission. Refreshments will be provided, and everyone is most welcome to attend.

Baptism Preparation – begins again at St Gregory's this Sunday 8 November, with sessions continuing on the following two Sundays after the 9am Mass. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join. A full schedule of upcoming preparation courses can be found on our Baptism page under Sacraments. To request a baptism for your child please click on the Registration button on our website and select 'Infant Baptism Application'.

Magnifica Humanitas – A Parish Journey

Exploring Pope Leo XIV's first encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas, and its call to safeguard human dignity in the age of Artificial Intelligence. The next session, 'Artificial Intelligence – what is / what is not?' will take place next Tuesday 10 November from 7.30pm to 9.30pm in the Parish Centre. Everyone is warmly welcome. For the full programme click the image on our website.

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 at: salisbury.journeyinfaith@cliftondiocese.com.

Liturgy this Week

Year A-2 Ordinary Time Week 32 & Psalter 4

Saturday 7 November

10:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS For Alistair for healing

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

09:00 St Osmund MASS Mr & Mrs Aisea RIP

09:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

11:00 St Osmund MASS The Fallen

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Jason Low RIP

MONDAY 9 NOVEMBER DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mr Vitukawalu RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Tuesday 10 November Saint Leo the Great

10:00 St Osmund MASS Frank Farley RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 11 November Saint Martin of Tours

10:00 St Gregory MASS For peace between nations

Thursday 12 November Saint Josaphat **PLEASE NOTE **

** 10:00 St Osmund **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**** 18:00 St Osmund MASS** Mr & Mrs Simone Dali RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 13 November

18:00 St Osmund MASS The Holy Souls

Saturday 14 November The Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

Reconciliation

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

Prayer & Scripture

PAPAL PRAYER FOR NOVEMBER

For the proper use of wealth

Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for the parishes of St Nicholas of Tolentino (Easton) and St Joseph (Fishponds) with St Patrick (Redfield, Bristol).

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kathleen Finnegan, Bernadette Jones, Lisa Piago, Tom Gardner and Mark Wilson who died recently and all those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. May they rest in peace.

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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