

PARISH OF ST OSMUND

ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

ORDINARY TIME WEEK 19 - YEAR A

From Father Anthony

It was dull with a chilly wind and choppy sea. The crowds of yesterday had long departed. Several wet-suited adventurers, carrying surf boards and sails, made their way across the beach to windsurf. Bravely they scooted across the waves, sails bulging, gusts of wind sending them high into the air to land like skimming stones or with a big splash in a tangled mess. I shivered, zipped up my fleece and, not so bravely, headed for the warmth and comfort of the kitchen!

And directly He compelled the disciples to enter into the boat and go before him to the other side while He dismissed the crowds. Having been released from sensory attachment to the world (*broken and fed*) the soul feels compelled to focus on and engage with spirit, *get into the boat and go to the other side (the soul freed from its bodily attachment):* where *boat* stands for *body*, *water* for *soul* and *wind* spirit. Notice, it is Jesus who dismisses the crowds; those elements of soul tied to the world and hindering our development; it is something He does, not us! This frees the soul, so that unencumbered, we can encounter, focus on and return to our spiritual origin (*the other side*).

The transitional journey of a soul tied to the world to encountering, living in and being directed by spirit can be arduous and choppy. We encounter the *fourth watch of the night (that cold, bleak period between three and six in the morning)*. The spirit blows where it wills. Gods ways are not necessarily ours; what we take as logical, necessary, common sensical, a neat and proper fit are not necessarily the ways of spirit. It can be a bleak challenging, uncomfortable and confusing time. We may feel as if we are going mad; and so it may seem to others too. These can be very choppy waters and depending on our resolve, courage and bravery we may turn back for a while.

If we stay the course we will encounter Christ within travelling across the distance between our attachment to the world to our new experience of spirit. While focused on Christ we can operate from our spiritual soul (*walk on the water*). The moment we return to our 'heavy', attached, worldly mind we sink. Only in, with and as Christ can we live in and from spirit. It might take a while!



PASTORAL TEAM

PRIESTS

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SALISBURY DEACONS

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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](#)

ANNUAL DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO GLASTONBURY 6 SEPTEMBER

Pilgrimage to Glastonbury - This year's pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, 6 September 2026, and will be centred on the theme "Mary, Mother of the Faithful." We have booked a coach, with fares of £26 per adult, £19 for children aged 12-18, and free for children under 12. The increase in cost is due to a requested entrance fee of £4 and rising fuel prices. **Early booking would be greatly appreciated.** Sign-up sheets are available in both churches. Please ensure you include your contact details when booking. If you would like to attend but are concerned about the cost, please speak in confidence to one of our clergy. For more information click on the image in the '[Top News](#)' box.

YOUTH GO-KARTING - SATURDAY 1 AUGUST 2026

Last Saturday, Fr Joseph took a minibus full of youth for a unique pilgrimage... for a session of go-karting, as a generous gift from a kind parishioner. On arrival, we read St Paul instructing Timothy about completing the race, to win the crown of glory which is eternal life - and the virtues of discipline, perseverance, and good sportsmanship. These virtues were on display in variable quantity in the racing that followed! A number of horrendous pile-ups turned the race track into a scale model of the M25 at times. But we all had a great time, with Fr J making the humblest of podium finishes, in 3rd place. St Paul, St Timothy, and St Frances of Rome (patron saint of motorists) - pray for us! Please click on the image of [Fr Joseph](#) in the 'Top News' box for a short video and some photos.

INTERNATIONAL MASS – SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

We are delighted to announce that our International Mass will take place at 9am on Sunday, 13 September, at St Gregory's Church. This joyful celebration will reflect the rich diversity of our parish, with Scripture readings and the Prayers of the Faithful in different languages, an international choir, and a celebration with food and refreshments after Mass.

Everyone is warmly invited. [Please click on the image in the 'Top News' for the full details.](#) If you would like to represent your country or culture by taking part in the liturgy, music, traditional dress, or refreshments, we would be delighted to hear from you. For more information please contact Daniel Wairimu 07554 118333 or email: dmungai.w@gmail.com

SCORE – There will be a retiring collection for SCORE Overseas Projects next weekend 15/16 August.

Cecilia Laughton RIP - The children and grandchildren of Cecilia will be attending the 10am Mass at St Osmund's tomorrow Saturday 8 August to remember Cecilia and mark what would have been her 100th birthday. Cecilia was a devoted and active member of St Osmund's parish for many years, serving as Fr Thomas Athill's secretary and becoming a close and valued friend. All are warmly welcome to join the family in keeping her in their prayers.

Children's Liturgy Printer Appeal – Thank You - Our sincere thanks to the many generous parishioners of St Gregory's and St Osmund's whose wonderful support has enabled us not only to reach, but exceed, our appeal target for a new printer. We are delighted that the printer will now be in place ready for Children's Liturgy when sessions resume after the summer break on Sunday, 6 September. Thank you for helping us provide engaging, faith-filled resources for our youngest parishioners.

FAMILY OF FAITH

If you have 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

Next Sunday 16 August we will welcome Sammy Emanuel Valladores who will receive the sacrament of Baptism at the 11am Mass at St Osmund. Please keep Sammy his parents Mary & Salvador and the godparents 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 as **there will be an information evening for parents & candidates on Wednesday 9 September at 6.30pm.**

There is a wonderful residential retreat for the group during the first term and so it is vital that you sign up **NOW** to receive all the information and dates that you will need. Please click on the '[Confirmation](#)' button on our homepage for the link to sign up. The Confirmation programme and Mass are a wonderful time in a young person's life and is gaining in popularity every year with our youngsters. Please sign up now to be assured of a place for next year.

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 19 & Psalter 3

Saturday 8 August

Saint Dominic

10:00 St Osmund MASS Cecilia Laughton RIP - 100th Birthday

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS Jack Patterson RIP

18:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

SUNDAY 9 AUGUST

09:00 St Osmund MASS Birthday blessings upon David (90) & Charles (60) O'Brien

09:00 St Gregory MASS People of the Parish

11:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Webb RIP

12:30 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS Thanksgiving from Rejimol John

MONDAY 10 AUGUST SAINT LAWRENCE

10:00 St Osmund MASS Peggy O'Farrell RIP

18:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Tuesday 11 August Saint Clare

10:00 St Osmund MASS Colin O'Farrell RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Wednesday 12 August

10:00 St Gregory MASS Frank Farley RIP

Thursday 13 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Leonard Hirst RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 14 August Saint Maximilian Kolbe

18:00 St Osmund MASS Bishop Mervyn Alexander RIP

Saturday 15 August

10:00 St Osmund MASS Mary Eyre RIP

First Mass of Sunday

17:00 St Gregory MASS John Brook RIP

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory: Saturdays 4.30pm until Mass

St Osmund: Saturdays 9.30am until 12 noon

Reading this newsletter in paper copy? Please consider subscribing to the email/online.. Contact the parish office for more information if you're not sure how to subscribe and we'll help you!

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

PAPAL PRAYER FOR AUGUST

For mutual coexistence

Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray for University / College / School Chaplaincies

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

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