

SALISBURY CATHOLIC CHURCHES

HOLY REDEEMER + ST GREGORY + ST OSMUND

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

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

From Father Anthony

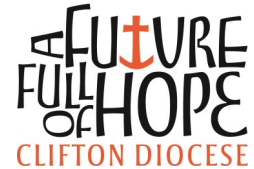
I took some rubbish out to the bin. The garden looked neglected and bedraggled but the rain had stopped. The Gunslinger, resplendent in red breast, swooped to a perch and challenged me. I wished him a Happy New Year, threw on a jacket and went for a stroll. Evening was just around the corner: the light was low. For a moment, mingled with car fumes, I detected a hint of Spring... that distinct sweet quality in the air. It filled me with happiness; a sense of expectancy; new life is on the way!

This week Jesus is baptised by John. Baptism (*Βαπτίζω*) means to 'immerse', (*dip under*), and John means, 'graced by God'. John represents a state of soul which, by God's grace, becomes aware of the spiritual and creates the conditions where spirit may rule. In this 'state' we are immersed (*baptised*) in a life where spirit, rather than the senses, guides our life. This 'state' is not Spirit; it is the state from which we recognise, desire and become aware of Spirit. As a man Jesus joins us in this state of immersion, *John's baptism*. As God, He raises us beyond awareness and recognition to immersion in Spirit itself... 'He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire'. The word 'fire' (*πῦρ*) is often used in scripture to depict that which transforms all it touches 'into light and likeness with itself'. Whatever you throw into a fire is consumed by and becomes one with the fire. When we allow ourselves to be baptised by and in Christ we become consumed by and are one with Him.

Last year was not an easy one! Maybe fear, worry or disturbance unsettled us. This might have led to anger, irritation, confusion and despair. We may have allowed ourselves to become *immersed* in darkness: we may feel we are drowning. The New Year brings us a Gospel of comfort. Christ knows what we are going through. He is immersed in the darkness with us... that's how close He is! To the extent that we attempt to become one with Him (*immerse ourselves in Him*) He will pull us up and beyond this little world of fear.

'A feeling of expectancy had grown among the people'. This year, as individuals and a community, shall we join in that feeling of expectancy and let Christ guide us into His own wonderful light?

Heartfelt thanks to you all from myself and Fr Jonathan for your Christmas offerings and for the many cards and gifts received. Your kindness is much appreciated. Thank you.



PASTORAL TEAM

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Parish Office

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OUR CHURCHES

St Osmund
95 Exeter Street SP1 2SF

St Gregory & the English Martyrs
St Gregory's Ave SP2 7JP

Most Holy Redeemer
Fotherby Crescent SP1 3EG

Chapel of the Good Shepherd
Barford Lane, Downton SP5 3QA

Chapel of the Holy Family
Southampton Rd, Whaddon SP5 3EB

NEW TO THE PARISH?
We wish you a very warm welcome.
Please register online at:
<https://salisburycatholics.org>
click "Registration/update"

**REGISTERED PARISHIONERS
TO DATE : 2859**

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This Sunday's Feast marks the conclusion of the Christmas Season and the beginning of Ordinary Time. It's a feast of transition from Jesus' hidden life to that of His public ministry. It also echoes the theme of the Epiphany in that the Baptism of the Lord is another manifestation announcing Jesus' divinity to all of His first followers and to the disciples of John the Baptist. For more on this feast with a video reflection, click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Baptism Preparation If you have a child that you would like to be baptised in one of our churches, you will need to attend a parents' preparation course. For baptisms at St Osmund or Holy Redeemer please contact Deacon John Proctor on 07802 631968 or email: john.proctor@cliffondiocese.com and at St Gregory contact Deacon Stephen Godwin by email stephen.godwin@cliffondiocese.com

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) are holding their White Flower appeal next weekend 15/16 January. Please give generously as we were unable to collect last year due to COVID.

Franciscans serving the community at Christmas As part of their work of 'making all things new in Christ', the friars at the St Fidelis Friary provide material and spiritual care to the poor and vulnerable at Friar Benet's Kitchen. Please watch this inspiring short video, click the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

Salisbury Foodbank. During January we are collecting tinned fruit for the Foodbank. Please put donated items into the box which can be found in each church. Thank you for your generosity with our November collection. The total donated weighed over 120kg.

St Gregory's Pastoral Parish Council meets this Monday 10 January at 6.30pm via Zoom, invitations with the link have been sent to all Council Members. All Parishioners are welcome join. To get your invitation email Deacon Stephen at stephen.godwin@cliffondiocese.com. Please [click here](#) for the agenda.

The Nicodemus Group continues next Wednesday 12 January at 7pm in the Parish Rooms. Please contact us to register to attend: nicodemus@salisburycatholics.org. For more information click the 'Explore Your Faith' item on our website main menu bar or [click here](#).

Art Group meets on Mondays between 10.30am - 12.30pm in St Osmund's Parish Rooms starts again this Monday 10 January. All are welcome, whether you have painted or drawn before or never. Contact John and Elizabeth on 01725 510310.

Date for the diary: A parish get-together will be held at St Gregory's Hall on Sunday 23 January after the 9am Mass. Everyone is welcome; if you have joined us in the last couple of years you are especially welcome to come and meet the community. This is a good opportunity for us all to meet new people and catch up with friends you may not have seen for a while.

Bible Book Club meets on Tuesdays in the Parish Rooms 10:45am - 12:30pm and reconvenes this Tuesday 11 January. Please join us as we read and study the Psalms. For further details contact John Lester 07899 244072.

Salisbury Catholics Parishioner Lunch will not occur this month (Jan) or February. The next lunch will take place after the midday Mass on **Thursday 10 March** in St Osmund's Parish Rooms.

My Generation meetings will recommence on Wednesday 19 January and thereafter on the 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 2pm in St Gregory's Hall. For information please contact Chris on 321109.

Rosary Group meets again to pray the Rosary via Zoom on the Wednesday 12 January. Please contact Josephine on 01722 328410 for information. Everyone is welcome to join.

FOR A SYNODAL CHURCH: COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION, MISSION

Synodal Conversations - As part of the Pope's request that everyone become involved in these conversations the three Salisbury parishes with Christ The King Amesbury will combine to run some open sessions. The sessions are planned for varied times and days to allow everyone to attend:

Thursday 20 Jan 10.30am to 12.30pm	All these sessions will take place in St Osmund's Parish Rooms. Different (already established) groups within the parishes will also be organising additional sessions for their attendees.
Saturday 22 Jan 3pm to 6pm	
Wednesday 26 Jan 2pm to 4pm	
Sunday 30 January 3pm to 6pm	
Monday 31 Jan 7pm to 9pm	

Consideration is also being given to holding a virtual meeting via Zoom during January. If you are interested, please contact Deacon John Proctor by email: john.proctor@clifftondiocese.com

Today we are seeking Facilitators and Notetakers for these meetings. If you can help please contact the office as soon as possible. The Diocese are offering a further preparation session next Wednesday 12 January on how to facilitate for those facilitating Synod Listening Conversations in the parish. This and all of the information on the Synod including explanatory videos are on our website by clicking the 'Synodal Church' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Christmas Vigil Mass with Pope Francis. We have the full recording of the Vigil Mass celebrated by Pope Francis on our 'Church TV' page just click on the button 'Christmas Mass 2021 Pope Francis' or [click here](#).

Bishop Declan's Pastoral Letter for the Feast of the Holy Family. The video and the text can be viewed by clicking on 'Pastoral Letter' on our website's main menu or by [clicking here](#).

Fr Nicholas King and St John's Gospel. Tisbury Catholic Church with Tisbury Christian Council invite you to a talk in the comfort of Tisbury Methodist Church (High Street, Tisbury SP3 6HE). Just before Covid, popular speaker Nicholas King SJ gave a series of talks on the Gospels.. He delivered a hour plus on each of Matthew, Mark and Luke before large groups of listeners. Then Covid struck! His final talk on St John's Gospel had to wait. At last we have a date: 19 February at 11.30am. There is no charge, but a basket for donations to cover expenses will be available. For further information call Fr Robert on 01747 870 228.

A chance for Catechists to share ideas and good practice across our Diocese. There are a series of four online meetings in January starting this Monday 10 January. For all the details please see our 'Blog' or [click here](#)

Dies Domini to promote the vital, indispensable and irreplaceable place of the Eucharist in our lives, the Bishops' Conference have produced a series of conversations for Advent called 'Dies Domini – Keeping the Lord's Day Holy'. The fourth and final discussion in the series 'Mass – Do not be afraid to give your time to Christ' is with Elliot Vanstone, Mission Adviser at the Bishops' Conference and Natalie Orefice, Advisor for Parish Evangelisation for the Archdiocese of Birmingham. To listen click on the image in the 'Top News' box or [click here](#).

The God Who Speaks We have a 3 minute reflection by Fr (now Bishop) Jim Golka on this Sunday's feast 'The Baptism of the Lord'. Just click on 'The God Who Speaks' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Sunday Homily by Bishop Robert Barron. Friends, when we are baptised, we are grafted onto Christ, who has anointed us all as priests, prophets, and kings. Let's live out that identity. To listen, click on the 'Sunday Homily' button on our homepage or [click here](#).

Children's Liturgy from Catholic Kids Media: 'The Baptism of the Lord'. A fun Catholic reflection for children based on the readings for this Sunday's feast. Click on 'Church TV' then select 'Children's Liturgy' or [click here](#).

LITURGY THIS WEEK

Year C-2 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday 8 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Deceased members of the
Dobson and Wilkinson families

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

SUNDAY 9 January THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

09:00 St Osmund MASS Lynnette Fitcher RIP
Birthday Remembrance

09:00 St Gregory MASS

11:00 St Osmund MASS Susan Crane RIP

12:15 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

16:00 St Osmund Polish MASS

18:00 St Osmund MASS June Wilson RIP

Monday 10 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS James Johnston RIP

Tuesday 11 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS In thanksgiving for the work of
Richard Sanderson in our
Schools

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 Benediction

Wednesday 12 January

10:00 Holy Redeemer MASS All relatives & friends RIP of Mary
Fleming

19:00 St Osmund Ordinariate MASS

Thursday 13 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS Josephine Kohlhofer RIP

All Day Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

18:00 St Osmund Benediction

Friday 14 January

10:00 St Gregory MASS

19:00 St Osmund MASS Margot Wilson RIP

Saturday 15 January

10:00 St Osmund MASS In Thanksgiving

15:00 Holy Redeemer Syro-Malabar MASS

First Mass of Sunday

18:00 Holy Redeemer MASS

RECONCILIATION

St Gregory Fridays After the 10:00 Mass

St Osmund Saturdays 10:30 to 11:00

Holy Redeemer Saturdays 17:30 until Mass

PRAYER & SCRIPTURE

POPE FRANCIS INTENTION FOR JANUARY

For true human fraternity

We pray for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognised, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family. [Click here](#).

CLIFTON DIOCESE

We pray this week for St Ambrose / Diocesan Curia / Diocesan Services.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

All those who have died recently: Sr Eileen Healey, Peter Phillips, Simon Mostyn, Elizabeth Grundy, Agnes Pace, Margaret Safe, Michael McStravick, Heather Voce, Paddy Hartigan, Kath Quinn and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7

Psalms 28

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Acts 10:34-38

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded:

'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him'.

Alleluia!

Luke 3:15-16. 21-22

SACRAMENTS

MARRIAGES Please speak to the priest for guidance.

FUNERALS Do your family know your wishes with regards to your funeral? If you (or they) find this difficult to talk about, why not provide the details to the parish office? 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 Caroline for more details: caroline.williams@cliftondiocese.com

BAPTISMS For our next parents' preparation course, please contact Deacon John Proctor by email john.proctor@cliftondiocese.com or on 07802 631968 to register for the next course.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION If you have a child in Year 3 or above, please use our online form to apply to join our next preparation programme which will begin in 2022 [Click here](#)

CONFIRMATION If you have a child in Year 9 or above, please use our online form to apply to join our next preparation programme [Click here](#)