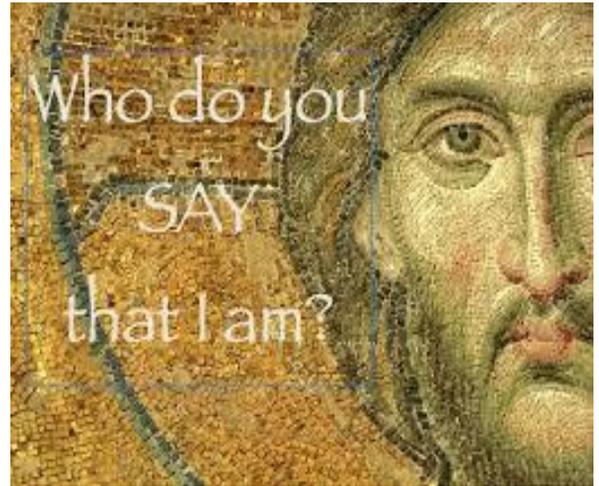


# SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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## LATEST NEWS

12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021  
24<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN O.T. (YEAR B)  
5pm Eucharistic Adoration  
5.30pm Vigil Mass (Sat)  
10.30am Sung Mass (Pro Populo)

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Sept - Saint John  
Chrysostom, Bp, Dr of the Church

Tue 14<sup>th</sup> Sept - Feast of the  
Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Sept - Our Lady of Sorrows  
11.30am Eucharistic Adoration  
12noon Mass

Thur 16<sup>th</sup> Sept - Saints Cornelius,  
Pope, & Cyprian, Bp, Martyrs

Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Sept - St Edith of Wilton

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> Sept - Weekday in OT

19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021  
25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN O.T. (YEAR B)  
5pm Eucharistic Adoration  
5.30pm Vigil Mass (Sat)  
10.30am Sung Mass (Pro Populo)

### THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

*(Sunday Readings are available at the end of this bulletin)*

**Isaiah 50: 5-9:** The middle part of the book of the prophet Isaiah contains four poems that we now call the songs of the suffering servant. Here the prophet meditates on his sufferings and the price of fidelity to God. Jesus meditated on these passages; today they prepare us to hear Jesus' prediction of his passion.

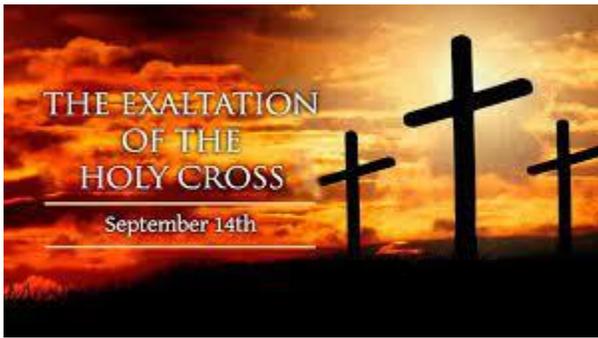
**James 2: 14-18:** In the early church, controversies were not as settled as they are now, and customs that we take for granted had yet to be established. Here the apostle James tries to resolve another early dispute.

**Mark: 8:27-35:** In Saint Mark's gospel, Jesus is always concerned that his followers get the whole picture, including the inevitability of his passion, death and resurrection.

**SONG GROUP / CANTORS** Psalm 150 proclaims '...let everything that has breath give praise to the Lord!' Music can inspire people to change, to forgive, to live a joyful life, to love more and to pray better. It expresses things that we are unable to express in words alone. We are hoping to re gather singers to assist in singing the Sunday Masses as we move from recorded to live singing. If you would like to join, all you need is a love of singing and be able to give some time to practice. All ages and experiences are welcome. Do you play an instrument such as the organ, keyboard, flute, violin or trumpet and want to contribute? Instruments have been used to praise God since before the scriptures were written. If you play an

instrument, you could add beauty to our music and enhance our worship. Please have a word with Fr Michael if you are able to help and we will schedule an initial get together to determine the way forward.

**TIME TO START SCHOOL?** If you have a child born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018, then now is the time to apply for a place at a Catholic primary school in the Diocese, including St Patrick's School. You must complete an application form (either online or on paper) that is available from the school admissions team of the Wiltshire Council, for admission during the 2022-23 school year. If your child has been baptised, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to your preferred school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022.



## **FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS**

The one symbol most often identified with Jesus and his Church is the cross. On Tuesday, we celebrate The Exaltation of the Holy Cross. This feast traces its beginning to Jerusalem and the dedication of the church built on the site of Mount Calvary in 335. But the meaning of the cross is deeper than any city, any celebration, any building. The cross is a sign of suffering, a sign of human cruelty at its worst. But by Christ's love shown in the Paschal Mystery, it has become the sign of triumph and victory, the sign of God, who is love itself.

Believers have always looked to the cross in times of suffering. People in concentration camps, in prisons, in hospitals, in any place of suffering and loneliness, have been known to draw, trace, or form crosses and focus their eyes and hearts on them. The cross does not explain pain and misery. It does not give us any easy answers. But it does help us to see our lives united with Christ's. We often make the Sign of the Cross over ourselves. We make it before prayer to help fix our minds and hearts on God. We make it after prayer, hoping to stay close to God. In trials and temptations, the cross is a sign of strength and protection. The cross is the sign of the fullness of life that is ours. At Baptism, too, the Sign of the Cross is used; the priest, parents, and godparents make the sign on the forehead of the child. A sign made on the forehead is a sign of belonging. By the Sign of the Cross in Baptism, Jesus takes us as his own in a unique way. Let us look to the cross often. Let us make the Sign of the Cross and realise we bring our whole selves to God—our minds, souls, bodies, wills, thoughts, hearts—everything we are and will become. O cross, you are the glorious sign of our victory. Through your power may we share in the triumph of Christ Jesus.

**NEW HYMN BOOKS** A very big thank you to everyone who has sponsored a new hymnal. There is still time to give a hymn book (£6.25 per copy) These can be given in memory of a departed loved one(s) and RIP memorial plates will be placed in each copy dedicated to that person. We then invite you each week to say a little prayer for the person in whose memory the hymn book you are using was given. Tom Miller will be coordinating the collection for us, and order sheets are now available in Church.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** classes begin in preparation for our celebration on the Solemnity of Christ the King on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November. Attendance at Mass each week is an integral and the most important part of preparation for first Holy Communion. A list of preparation dates and our first parent meeting for those who have requested first communion will be emailed to you this week. Please keep our first communion candidates in your prayers at this time.

**OPPOSING THE ASSISTED DYING BILL 2021:** Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has written an open letter inviting Catholics to pray for the defeat of the Assisted Dying Bill to be debated in the House of Lords in October. It encourages them to write to peers at the House of Lords stating the reasons why they oppose this legislation and particularly explain from personal experience the reasons why this change in the law should be opposed. It urges discussion and communication about this important matter. See [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk) for more details.

**BISHOP'S NEW VIDEO FOR SCHOOL GOVERNORS** There are 62 maintained schools in Clifton Diocese, educating 21,673 pupils. They are supported by a 'volunteer army' of school governors, including 350 Foundation Governors appointed by Bishop Declan. The Bishop wishes to recruit new candidates to join the governing bodies, to help grow and sustain Catholic education in the Diocese for current and future generations, and so has produced a new promotional video <https://vimeo.com/592918008> where the Bishop and current governors and Headteachers, talk about the importance and value of school governors. Please watch the video to discover some of what being a school governor is about. If you would like to support catholic education and so would like to apply to be a governor, please complete the online application form <https://schools.cliftondiocese.com/form-2> or contact Bill McEntee, Governance Officer via [bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com) or call 07710094976 for more information – he would love to hear from you!



**RENEW, REFRESH, RE-ENGAGE: BUILDING OUR PARISHES AFTER LOCKDOWN.** This is a new world we are moving into, full of uncertainties. We don't know what resources we will have, who will come back to church, or how things will unfold over the next year. It's looking as if a return to church will be a trickle-back rather than a flood, and we need to make the most of opportunities along the way. We have two

different needs facing us: to re-establish our existing communities and ministry groups; – to reach out to those who have not yet returned and to new people. We are joining with Northampton Diocese to offer webinars to support these resources through September: 6th September: Fr. Nicholas King SJ will reflect with us on Christian Hospitality as we find it in the Gospel of Luke. 20th September (tbc) Jo Boyce will inspire us to refresh our music ministry with lots of new ideas to help us get going again. 27th September: Avril Baigent and Sarah Adams reflect on the practical steps to help re-build our communities. To book, go to [https://refresh\\_renew.eventbrite.co.uk](https://refresh_renew.eventbrite.co.uk)

**CLIFTON CLIMATE LITURGY** - 11am SATURDAY 23RD OCTOBER, CLIFTON CATHEDRAL - You are invited to join Bishop Declan to celebrate the glory of God's creation and to bring us all together in supporting and encouraging each other in the campaign to save our earth, Come to the liturgy and meet Clifton charities involved in mobilising towards COP26 and the ongoing campaign to save Our Common Home. There are helpful resources at Home Interest – [www.seasonofcreation.org/ofCreation](http://www.seasonofcreation.org/ofCreation).

**STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?** Retrouvaille is a programme for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This programme has helped 6,000 couples who were experiencing difficulties in their marriage in the past year. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the programme commencing with a 'Virtual weekend' on 21<sup>st</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021. Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443 - or Email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**CLIFTON DIOCESE ADMIN** Schools & Colleges Department Administrator Term-time – 25 hours per week. The Schools & Colleges Department are recruiting for a vacancy to join the team as the Department Administrator. Based in Alexander House, Pennywell Road, Bristol, the role supports the department with various administrative activities and hours of work are 9.30 am to 2.30 pm Monday to Friday. The successful applicant will need to have office administration experience and be well organised. For the job description, personal specification and application form please visit [www.cliftondiocese.com/diocese/working-for-us](http://www.cliftondiocese.com/diocese/working-for-us) Closing Date is midday on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

**SUMMARY OF THE HOLY FATHER'S GENERAL AUDIENCE** Wednesday 8th September 2021 Dear brothers and sisters, in our continuing catechesis on the Letter to the Galatians, we now consider Paul's teaching on the radical newness of our life in Jesus Christ. By his incarnation, death and resurrection, the Son of God has reconciled us with the Father, given us birth to new life and bestowed on us a share in his divine sonship. Through faith and baptism, we have been interiorly transformed; now, having "put on Christ", we have become a new creation. This new identity transcends all other ethnic, social and religious differences: in Christ, "there is no longer Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female" (Gal 3:28). We Christians can often take for granted this newness of life bestowed at our baptism. Conscious of our dignity as sons and daughters of the Father, may we resolve to reconcile every division, to embrace fully our oneness in Christ and our vocation to be convincing witnesses of the unity to which, in God's saving plan, the entire human family is called.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION** We are seeing a gradual rise in enquiries for infant baptism in the parish and would like to form a small parish baptism preparation team. This will involve giving a presentation to parents ahead of the baptism and offering support as they introduce their child to the Mass. All course materials and

DVD's etc will be provide. This ministry might suit younger parishioners with children of their own. Please see Fr Michael if you are interested in helping.

**SERVING AT MASS** As we move towards restoring our serving teams at Mass, we welcome any who might like to take up this ministry - men, women and children, all are welcome. Please have a word with Fr Michael, Frank Harvey or Christine Haggerty.

**FIND OUT ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH** Are you interested to know more about the Catholic Faith? Do you wish to be baptized? Do you want to enter into full communion with the Catholic Church? Do you know anyone who would like to know how to become a Catholic? If so, Journey in Faith or RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) might be just the thing. During these sessions we explore different aspects of the Catholic faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church. We listen to God's word in Scripture, and we pray together. For more information, please contact us with a view to starting a journey in the autumn.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** It is a very hopeful sign of the new "springtime of holiness" for the Church that, in ever more places, people are participating in regular adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament. Early in his pontificate, St John Paul II established adoration chapels in the major patriarchal basilicas in Rome, realising that the holy Eucharist is the source and summit of life in the Church. Pope Francis has also continued to encourage us in Eucharistic Adoration. When there is faith, devotion and reverence for the Eucharist, the faithful grow in charity and holiness, and the community is blessed with a variety of vocations that serve the Church and all souls with joy and simplicity. The Eucharist is the source of life for the Church. We now have the wonderful opportunity to come before the Lord in quietness and in peace twice a week, Wednesday at 11.30am and Saturday at 5pm before Mass. Come and rest with the Lord a while in his healing presence in the Eucharist.

**STAYING SAFE** As we have several clinically extremely vulnerable people in our Church family, we ask that you continue to sanitise your hands on entering the Church, wear a mask, socially distance and observe our one-way system. Communion will be given in one kind only. Thank you.

**RUH** If you or a loved one is going into the Royal United Hospital, please let the RUH Chaplaincy know on 01225 428331 or email [ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net)

## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

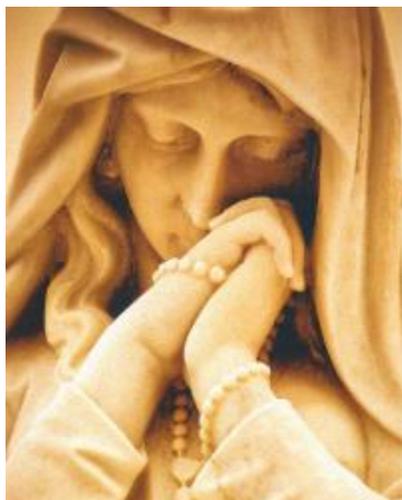
**The Sick:** Peter Power: Ann Saba: Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**The Holy Father's September Prayer Intention:** An Environmentally Sustainable Lifestyle: We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** St Thomas More, Marlborough with Pewsey

**Christians in Corsham Prayer Link:** The Anglican Communities

## September – Month of Our Lady of Sorrows



For Catholics, September is the month of Our Lady of Sorrows, immediately following August's devotion to the Immaculate Heart, and preceding October's devotion to Our Lady of the Rosary. September is an ideal time to strengthen our connection to Our Lady. Devotion to the sorrows of the Virgin Mary dates from the twelfth century, when it made its appearance in monastic circles under the influence of St Anselm and St Bernard. The Seven Sorrows devotion involves praying seven Hail Mary's a day, each one while meditating on one of Our Lady's seven sorrows, which are:

- The prophecy of Simeon.
  - The flight into Egypt.
  - The loss of the Child Jesus in the temple.
  - The meeting of Jesus and Mary on the Way of the Cross.
- The Crucifixion and Death of Jesus.
  - The taking down of the Body of Jesus from the Cross and preparation for burial.
  - The burial of Jesus.

And the Seven Sorrows Rosary involves dwelling upon each of the seven sorrows as you would one of the mysteries of the rosary, with seven Hail Marys instead of a decade. Begin each sorrow with an Our Father.

### Prayer to Our Lady of Sorrows

Our mother of sorrows, with strength from above you stood by the cross, sharing in the sufferings of Jesus, and with tender care you bore him in your arms, mourning and weeping. We praise you for your faith, which accepted the life God planned for you. We praise you for your hope, which trusted that God would do great things in you. We praise you for your love in bearing with Jesus the sorrows of his passion.

Holy Mary, may we follow your example, and stand by all your children who need comfort and love.

Mother of God, stand by us in our trials and care for us in our many needs.

Pray for us now and at the hour of our death. Amen!



## A Prayer of Spiritual Communion



My Jesus, I believe that You are really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. As I cannot receive you sacramentally now, come at least spiritually into my heart. And, as You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You. Let me never be separated from You.

## An Act of Contrition



O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you: and I detest my sins most sincerely because they displease You, my God, who are so deserving of all my love for Your infinite goodness and most amiable perfections: and I firmly purpose by Your holy grace never more to offend You, to avoid all occasions of sin and amend my life. Amen.  
I further resolve and promise to go to sacramental confession as soon as practicably possible.

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## The Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Also available to download in 13 different languages at [www.virc.at](http://www.virc.at)



### First reading

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.

The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.

My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me?  
Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who will dare to condemn me?

The word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 114(116):1-6,8-9

*I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.*

I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him.

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord, my God, deliver me!

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me.

He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living.

### **Second reading**

**James 2:14-18**

*A reading from the letter of St James*

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The word of the Lord.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

**Jn14:6**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
No one can come to the Father except through me.  
Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

**Mark 8:27-35**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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