

SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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LATEST NEWS

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

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

Isaiah 53: 10-11: The middle part of the book of the prophet Isaiah contains four poems that we now call the songs of the suffering servant. His suffering wasn't punishment for sin. It mysteriously offered justification to others. Jesus, and the gospel writers, meditated on these passages.

Hebrews 4: 14-16: The author of the Letter to the Hebrews writes to Jewish converts who had been cut off from the comforts of their historic roots. Today he explains why Jesus is a greater priest than the priests they had lost in Judaism.

Mark 10: 35-45: In two related sayings, Jesus asks his disciples to think differently about their status and ambition, and to choose their place in light of his own coming suffering and death.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 24th October - World Mission Sunday is celebrated in every Catholic community in the world. Every parish, school and community is invited to join this special event, and every penny, pound and prayer you give to Missio helps missionaries everywhere. To see the Pope's Mission Sunday message and to donate please go to <https://missio.org.uk/>

DIOCESAN YOUTH COUNCIL

Bishop Declan is looking for people to join our diocesan youth council, to support the work of those

involved in Youth Ministry across the diocese and to encourage and enable others to feel more confident about engaging in the work. To apply, or for more information please email: www.youth@cliftondiocese.com by 25th October.





PREPARING FOR SYNOD For the first time, the Synod Office in Rome has produced a comprehensive process which encompasses the stated aim of the Holy Father that the Church in today's world should have a vision of missionary communion orientated to evangelisation. Pope Francis has highlighted the importance of 'mutual listening' and this will be at the heart of the synodal process throughout the Church. The process begins in the Local Church and then moves to the level of

the Bishops' Conference. From there, discernment takes place in the Regional Area – for England and Wales, it will be steered by the European Council of Bishops' Conferences (CCEE) – before moving to the Universal Church with the final Synod Gathering of Bishops in 2023, sub et cum Petro. Pope Francis invites us to participate in a world-wide Synod - every person in the Church is invited to respond. So that we can fully understand what Pope Francis is asking the diocese is offering information sessions to give everyone an opportunity to find out more and so be able to fully engage with the process. If you would like to participate in one of the online Teams sessions, please let us know at synod@cliftondiocese.com, so that we can send you an invite. If you plan to attend one of the sessions around the diocese, please also let us know so that we have an idea of numbers.

Our local session is on 6th November, 10am -12noon: St John's Centre, Trowbridge www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trowbridge-synod-information-sessions-tickets-190920838367

MASS FOR LGBT+ community, family, friends. St Nicholas of Tolentino, Bristol. 17th October @ 3pm. All are welcome.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND Bishop Declan is set to lead the Holy Land pilgrimage in 2022 (26th September to 4th October) staying two nights in Bethlehem, three nights in Jerusalem and three nights in Galilee. If you are interested in the pilgrimage and would like further information, please contact adult.education@cliftondiocese.com

MUSIC GROUP A big thank you to all who have responded to our request for singers and musicians. We are meeting at 4.30pm on Wednesdays each week in Church to begin our preparation. All are most welcome to join if you love to sing.

CLIFTON CLIMATE LITURGY Saturday October 23rd, 11.00am – led by Bishop Declan. As Christians, we the stewards of God's creation, have responsibility for our planet's future. We have a unique opportunity very soon to prepare spiritually for the challenges and opportunities COP26 in November offers our world. The Climate Liturgy being led by Bishop Declan on Saturday October 23 in the Cathedral in Bristol, offers the chance to engage with the issues facing our planet through prayer and worship. The Liturgy will be both a recognition of the work of organisations involved in the Climate Change Campaign in the Clifton Diocese, and an ongoing call and blessing by Bishop Declan for all to continue the action to protect God's world. Tackling climate change is literally a life-and-death issue, and the Liturgy also offers the opportunity to pray together that leaders at COP26 will have the courage to act before it is too late. To safeguard Creation and the lives of Brothers and Sisters who are already experiencing the very real cost of climate change, our UK Government needs to commit to, and see through bold targets at COP26, enabling both global and local change to be made. Representatives from the organisations involved in the Campaign will be holding stalls after the Liturgy as an opportunity for engagement, dialogue and action. Come along on October 23rd and be part of the mobilisation. Contact Liz Baldwin at CAFOD Clifton for any further details – ebaldwin@cafod.org.uk

ST MARY'S CHIPPENHAM Bishop Declan has appointed Fr Michael as the new Parish Priest of St Mary's Chippenham following the death of Canon Millett. Many parishes throughout our diocese are now sharing one priest. This will sadly mean a reduction in the number of masses that priests are able to offer in any one parish. In consultation with the Bishop Declan and our area Dean, as from 24th October, Fr Michael will celebrate one

Sunday Mass at Corsham at 9am. Mass will be celebrated at Chippenham at 5pm (Sat Vigil Mass) and 11am on Sunday. Midweek masses will be shared between the two churches (details to follow). St Patrick's Parish partly grew out of the St Mary's Parish, mass being celebrated by visiting priests from Chippenham until 1957. It is hoped that our two parishes which are very much historically interconnected will be able to flourish together as partners in mission to our area, announcing the message of the Gospel to those in the Chippenham and Corsham area. Please pray for Fr Michael as he takes up this new post.

MAINTAINING & IMPROVING ST PATRICK'S CHURCH Our church was built as a Victorian charity school in 1848, is grade 2 listed and has been a church for approximately 75 years. The original building was modified for industrial use (first as a glove factory and then, during the war, producing gas masks) in the 1940s and then into a church between 1950 and 1965. The church originally consisted of the current main part of the church in front of the altar with 2 additional rooms on the carpark side. It was extended in the 1960s by partial opening up of the internal walls and building the extension that is now the flower sacristy beside the car park door. While the church space was increased the internal layout was not changed as the altar has remained directly under the aesthetically attractive gothic style main window. As a result, many parts of the church have poor sight lines to the altar. These various modifications have, unfortunately, compromised the structural integrity of the original Victorian building. The roof drainage has been disrupted and leaks into the building, the fire escape and associated door are aesthetically disappointing and have caused structural damage to that part of the church, the upper floor is poorly attached to the walls and has been ordered out of use because of structural and fire safety concerns, and the flower sacristy is falling away from the main building and has severe rainwater leaks. There is also a need to increase Mass capacity due to the reduction in weekend masses that will be caused fewer priests in the diocese. The Parish Finance Committee is working with the Diocese to appoint an architect to establish the current state of the building and to identify how it can be improved to increase capacity, improve the liturgical layout, and to prepare it for another 75 years of church use. Tender responses from architects invited to carry out a design study are between £10,000 to £15,000. These early discussions with architects have led to the realisation that the total bill for refurbishment of the church could be in the order of £500,000.

We have been advised that the Diocesan Finance Committee and the trustees would be unlikely to support a request to spend tens of thousands of pounds on a design study without addressing how the full building cost can be met. We would potentially be wasting a large sum of charitable money if the full project could not proceed. We have therefore asked our potential architects to amend their proposals to reduce the level of detail in their plans and to include an investment appraisal looking at the whole of the current church site. In the meantime, we have a legal obligation to preserve this listed building but are struggling to achieve that due to a reduction in our income resulting from the pandemic. There is a backlog of urgent weatherproofing repairs to the roof and the window which need to be funded from our weekly offertory giving which still falls far below pre pandemic levels, partly due to a move away from cash and our inability to hold a cash collection each week. We will therefore be making appeals to you all in forthcoming weeks to recover our level of income using standing orders, card payments in the church, gift aid, and to ask for an increase in the level of giving. (Vic Steadman – Parish Treasurer)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION Application forms for the 2022 FHC of children who are baptised Catholics and in Yr 3 or above are now available in Church. Please return asap to Fr Michael if you wish your child to begin preparation in January. The closing date for receipt of completed forms is Sunday November 14th, 2021.

NEW HYMN BOOKS A very big thank you to everyone who has sponsored a new hymnal in memory of a loved one. The response has been wonderful. You can pay for your hymnals via the parish web site online or with card/cash at Mass. We look forward to being able to sing from them very soon.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Each week, we have a wonderful opportunity to come into Our Lord's presence in the Holy Eucharist. The Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration and quiet prayer before midweek mass. Come into the peace and stillness of the Lord. Come and rest with the Lord a while in his healing presence. The gift of the Eucharist is at the very heart of our Catholic faith.

BAPTISMAL PREP TEAM Thank you to Tom Martin who has offered to help with our new baptismal preparation ministry. We need just one more person who would be able to assist with this important ministry. 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. Please see Fr Michael if you are interested in helping.

PRAYER GROUP Thursday October 14th Zoom Prayers at 9.30. Friday October 22nd Prayer Group in the Church at 9.30 followed by coffee in the Hall. Thursday October 28th Zoom Prayers at 9.30. Friday November 5th Prayer Group in the Church at 9.30 followed by coffee in the hall.

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. 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

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 October Prayer Intention: Missionary Disciples. That every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

Diocesan Prayer Link: Holy Family, Swindon & St Josph, Wroughton

Christians in Corsham Prayer Link: St Aldhelm's Methodist and United Reformed Community

October – Month of the Holy Rosary



“With the Rosary, the Christian people sit at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty of the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love. Through the Rosary the faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer.”
—Pope Saint John Paul II

The Rosary is a traditional devotion which encourages prayerful meditation, through repetition of the prayers 'Our Father', 'Hail Mary' and 'Glory Be' while at the same time reflecting in turn on different episodes from the life of Christ (known as the 'mysteries'). Rosary beads are used to count off the prayers. The Rosary brings us closer to Jesus Christ by allowing us to see the events of his life through the eyes of his blessed mother, Mary. It is a simple yet profound form of prayer, accessible to all.

Pope Francis has invited Catholics to rediscover the beauty of the rosary prayer this month, encouraging people to carry a rosary with them in their pockets. "I invite everyone to rediscover, especially during this month of October, the beauty of the prayer of the rosary, which has nourished the faith of the Christian people through the centuries." "I invite you to pray the rosary, and to carry it in your hands or in your pockets. The recitation of the rosary is the most beautiful prayer we can offer to the Virgin Mary; it is a contemplation on the stages of the life of Jesus the Saviour with his Mother Mary and is a weapon that protects us from evils and temptations." The pope said that the Blessed Virgin Mary has urged the recitation of the rosary in her apparitions, "especially in the face of the threats looming over the world."

O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal salvation. Grant, we beseech Thee, that while meditating on these mysteries of the most holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, that we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through Christ our Lord. 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 Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Also available to download in 13 different languages at www.virc.at



First reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 53:10-11

The Lord has been pleased to crush his servant with suffering.
If he offers his life in atonement,
he shall see his heirs, he shall have a long life
and through him what the Lord wishes will be done.

His soul's anguish over,
he shall see the light and be content.
By his sufferings shall my servant justify many,
taking their faults on himself.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

*May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.*

Psalm 32(33):4-5,18-20,22

The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

Second reading

Hebrews

4:14-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Since in Jesus, the Son of God, we have the supreme high priest who has gone through to the highest heaven, we must never let go of the faith that we have professed. For it is not as if we had a high priest who was incapable of feeling our weaknesses with us; but we have one who has been tempted in every way that we are, though he is without sin. Let us be confident, then, in approaching the throne of grace, that we shall have mercy from him and find grace when we are in need of help.

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 10:35-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. 'Master,' they said to him 'we want you to do us a favour.' He said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' They said to him, 'Allow us to sit one at your right hand and the other at your left in your glory.' 'You do not know what you are asking' Jesus said to them. 'Can you drink the cup that I must drink, or be baptised with the baptism with which I must be baptised?' They replied, 'We can.' Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I must drink you shall drink, and with the baptism with which I must be baptised you shall be baptised, but as for seats at my right hand or my left, these are not mine to grant; they belong to those to whom they have been allotted.'

When the other ten heard this they began to feel indignant with James and John, so Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that among the pagans their so-called rulers lord it over them, and their great men make their authority felt. This is not to happen among you. No; anyone who wants to become great among you must be your servant, and anyone who wants to be first among you must be slave to all. For the Son of Man himself did not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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