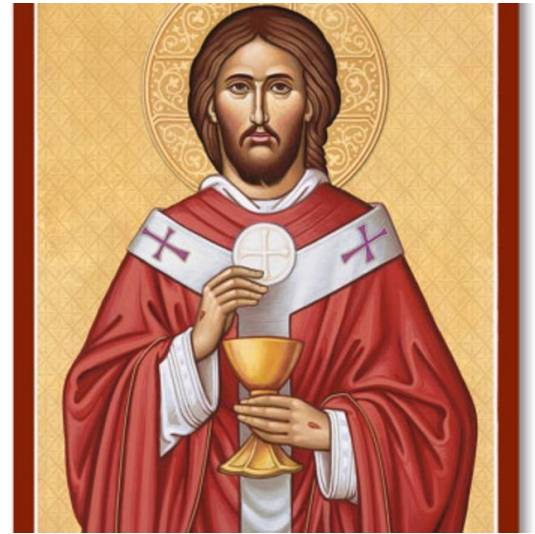


# SAINT PATRICK'S CHURCH

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## LATEST NEWS

### THE WORD THIS SUNDAY

**Joshua 24: 1-2, 15-18** Written during Israel's late exile, the book of Joshua gives a somewhat idealized recollection of Israel's early exodus. This story describes early Israel's loyal choice of God as if that was an instant, wholehearted decision, with no struggle or doubt.

**Ephesians 5: 21-32** In this instruction, Saint Paul affirms some social arrangements common in his day, but revolutionizes others, and grounds them all in our relationship with Christ.

**John 6: 60-69** In prior verses from John 6, Jesus has said some things that not all can accept. His words today put that rejection in its proper context.

**AFGHANISTAN** The Chair of the Bishops' Conference Department of International Affairs has urged Catholics to pray for the people of Afghanistan, while pointing to the work of humanitarian organisations, and efforts to welcome refugees, as signs of hope. Bishop Declan said: "As Christians, we are called to be people of hope, even when a situation may appear hopeless. Today our hope can be placed in those who are working tirelessly for dialogue, justice, and peace in their country. Our hope can be placed in the humanitarian organisations that are continuing to offer their assistance, and the efforts to welcome and protect refugees fleeing their homes. Above all we place our hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, to whom we pray in the knowledge that he will never abandon the people of Afghanistan." After the Angelus on Wednesday Pope Francis called for dialogue in the country: "I ask all of you to pray with me to the God of peace so that the clamour of weapons might cease and solutions can be found

at the table of dialogue. Only thus can the battered population of that country – men, women, elderly and children – return to their own homes, and live in peace and security, in total mutual respect.

**REQUIEM MASS FOR JOHN HUNT** Due to a reduction in the number of seats available due to ongoing social distancing, many members of the parish were unable to attend John's Funeral Mass on Friday. A Requiem Mass will be offered for John at 12noon on Wednesday of this week for those who might like to come and remember John and pray for the repose of his soul. The music and readings chosen by the family for the Funeral will once again be used.

22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2021

TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME (B)

5pm Eucharistic Adoration

5.30pm Vigil Mass (Sat.)

10.30am Sung Mass (Pro Populo)

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug - St Rose of Lima, V

Tue 24<sup>th</sup> Aug - FEAST OF ST  
BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Aug - Weekday in OT

11.30am am Eucharistic Adoration.

12noon Requiem Mass (John Hunt)

Thur 26<sup>th</sup> Aug - Blessed Dominic  
of the Mother of God (Barberi) Pr

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Aug - St Monica

Sat 28<sup>th</sup> Aug - St Augustine, Bp Dr

29<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2021

TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME (B)

5pm Eucharistic Adoration

5.30pm Vigil Mass (Sat.)

10.30am Sung Mass (Pro Populo)



**HALL BOOKINGS** We are now beginning to resume hall bookings. Please see the Parish Web site for full booking details.

**SPONSOR A 'MEMORIAL' HYMN BOOK** We are looking forward to singing from our hymn books again soon. Our hymnals, however, have seen better days and are rather dirty and many of the spines are broken. Also, the present hymn books do not reflect the changes made to the translation of the Mass made in 2010. We are hoping to purchase the updated

version of 'Laudate' our present hymn book. We are inviting parishioners to 'sponsor' a hymn book at the cost of £6.25 per copy. These may 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 will be available in Church. We are hoping to purchase 100 copies and some music editions too.

**FROM VERONICA HUNT TO THE PEOPLE OF ST PATRICK'S** I would like to thank you for all the love and kindness you have shown John over the past years. It was a difficult move for John when he came to Corsham (on the advice of a special French friend). He was very much part of the community of Christ the King, Knowle West, Bristol, and you all enabled to feel quickly that he belonged here, not just to the Church but the community. As you may remember he was a great talker but also interested in what was going on around him. In turn, he would any newcomer to St Patrick's and make them feel at home. I can see Fr John now, patiently waiting for John to stop chatting so that he could turn out the lights! John was kind and caring, loved to talk and listen to people and with a strong faith, which helped him to manage these last years. His three children have been fantastic in being here with him during these last months, with frequent trips to London for a burger or fish and chips to cheer him! They have done everything he wanted, making him feel special. It was good that we were all there as he passed slowly from this world, into the safety of the next.

**CAFOD** is responding to significant crises across the world this week. We are working with local Church organisations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, we are working to ensure the safety of our local partners and their communities. We are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times. Thank you.

**SCHOOLS AND 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.

**CONTACTLESS GIVING REMINDER** The use of cash has been in decline for many years and, since the pandemic began and the use of cash was discouraged, many of us no longer carry cash. We rely instead on contactless payment in shops, on public transport and many other places. Because of this, we have set up a contactless card reader for donations at St Patrick's Church. This is located to the left of the entrance to the church. The new card machine has the ability to add Gift Aid to your donation (if you are an eligible taxpayer and wish to do so). The first time you use the machine and wish to add Gift Aid, you will need to input your details but thereafter, once your payment card is registered, the card reader will recognise it the next time you make a payment. Please do make use of it as it also puts less pressure on our weekly cash counters.

**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.

**SUMMARY OF HE HOLY FATHER'S WEEKLY GENERAL AUDIENCE** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021  
Dear Brothers and Sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the Letter to the Galatians, we have seen how Saint Paul teaches that faith in Jesus Christ brings a spiritual freedom that liberates believers from the demands of the Mosaic Law. For the Apostle, the Law served a “pedagogical” function; as a merciful gift of God, it demanded obedience to his commandments, while at the same time pointing to the reality of our sinfulness and need for salvation. With the coming of Christ and his redeeming grace, the Law finds its fulfilment in the Gospel message of new life and freedom in the Spirit.

**CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE 2<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER** - Bishop Declan is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 2 October (12 noon) and is inviting all married couples to join him. He sends a personal invitation to those couples who are celebrating significant anniversaries during 2021 or those who will marry this year. If there are any marriages in our parish this year or any couple celebrating significant anniversaries ie 25<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup> or 70<sup>th</sup> anniversaries during 2021. The names of these couples – engaged and anniversaries – need to be sent to this email: (adult.education@clifftondiocese.com) so that personal invitations can be sent to them.

**SINGING AT MASS** is gradually being reintroduced, albeit through our masks. We begin with the most important parts of the Mass, the Gloria, Psalm, Holy, holy, Lamb of God and acclamations. Thus, we sing the Mass, not simply sing at Mass. Hymns which may take the place of the Antiphons within the Roman rite, will be reintroduced after the summer break.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (Confession)** As we gradually make a return to the Sacraments, we may wish to celebrate this sacrament of God's mercy. Confessions are heard after each Mass or by appointment. It is good to see people returning to this beautiful sacrament of God's love. If you haven't been for some time and have forgotten the words, don't worry. There are some cards at the entrance to assist you or the priest will gently guide you through. There is great rejoicing in heaven when we return to this amazing sacrament!

**PIANIST/ORGANIST NEEDED** As we return gradually to a sung liturgy, we are in need of someone to lead our song, accompanying the Mass setting, Psalm and Hymns at Sunday Mass. Please see Fr Michael for more details. As with many parishes today this may need to become a salaried post. We will also begin to regather our group of Cantors to lead worship. If you sing and would like to help, please do come forward. Other musical instrumentalists are also very welcome. We need your talents!

**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 Fr Michael 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.

**KEEPING 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](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net)

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

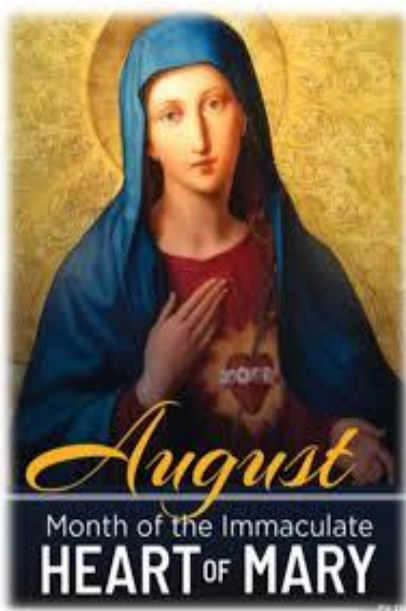
**The Sick:** Peter Power: Ann Saba: Coleen Milne, Tony Tredgett, Richard Keat, Karen Lucas, Sheila Taylor, Christopher Brawl, Julia Wright, Pauline Feeney, Margaret Brown, Lindsay Price. Pray for all suffering with Coronavirus, all in our hospitals, nursing homes and those who care for them.

**The Holy Father's August Prayer Intention:** Evangelisation: For the Church, that she may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** St Augustine of Canterbury, Matson, English Martyrs, Tuffley, Gloucester

**Christians in Corsham Prayer Link:** Baptist Community

## August - Month of the Immaculate Heart of Mary



Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (and not adored as the Sacred Heart of Jesus is) because it is united to her person and is the seat of her love (especially for her divine Son), virtue, and inner life. Such devotion is an incentive to a similar love and virtue.

On 31<sup>st</sup> October 1942, Pope Pius XII made a solemn Act of Consecration of the Church and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart. On 25<sup>th</sup> March 1984, St Pope John Paul II also made the solemn act of consecration of the world, particularly Russia, to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Let us remember this devotion year-round, but particularly through the month of August. We entrust to the intercession of Mary our hopes, fears, and the challenges of our daily lives.



## **Prayer to the Immaculate Heart of Mary**

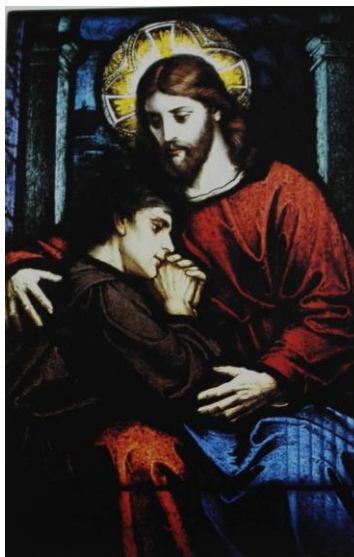
O Immaculate Heart of Mary,  
full of goodness,  
show your love towards us.  
Let the flame of your heart,  
O Mary, descend on all people.  
We love you immensely.  
Impress true love in our hearts  
so that we have a continuous desire for you.  
O Mary, gentle and humble of heart, remember us when we are in sin.  
You know that all men sin.  
Give us, by means of your Immaculate Heart, spiritual health.  
Let us always see the goodness of your motherly heart  
and may we be converted by means of the flame of your heart.  
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 First 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 book of Joshua*

Joshua 24:1-2,15-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people, 'If you will not serve the Lord, choose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord.'

The people answered, 'We have no intention of deserting the Lord and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among all the peoples through whom we journeyed? What is more, the Lord drove all those peoples out before us, as well as the Amorites who used to live in this country. We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

The word of the Lord.

**Responsorial Psalm**

Psalm 33(34):2-3,16-23

*Taste and see that the Lord is good.*

I will bless the Lord at all times,  
his praise always on my lips;  
in the Lord my soul shall make its boast.  
The humble shall hear and be glad.

The Lord turns his face against the wicked  
to destroy their remembrance from the earth.  
The Lord turns his eyes to the just  
and his ears to their appeal.

They call and the Lord hears  
and rescues them in all their distress.  
The Lord is close to the broken-hearted;  
those whose spirit is crushed he will save.

Many are the trials of the just man  
but from them all the Lord will rescue him.  
He will keep guard over all his bones,  
not one of his bones shall be broken.

Evil brings death to the wicked;  
those who hate the good are doomed.  
The Lord ransoms the souls of his servants.  
Those who hide in him shall not be condemned.

**Second reading**

Ephesians 5:21-32

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians*

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the Church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the Church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the Church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the Church, because it is his body – and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation**

cf. Jn6:63,68

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

## Gospel

John 6:60-69

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to John*

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, 'This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?' Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, 'Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before?'

'It is the spirit that gives life,  
the flesh has nothing to offer.  
The words I have spoken to you are spirit  
and they are life.'

'But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, 'This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him.' After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him.

Then Jesus said to the Twelve, 'What about you, do you want to go away too?' Simon Peter answered, 'Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

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