

Cathedral Church of SS Peter & Paul

Cathedral House, Clifton Park, Bristol, BS8 3BX
0117 9738411 cliftoncathedral.org @clifton_cath



Cathedral House Office Hours: 9am to 1pm, Monday to Friday
Out of Hours – *Emergency Sick Calls Only*: 07757 677710

Cathedral Dean Canon Bosco MacDonald
clifton.cathedral@cliftondiocese.com

Assistant Priest for Pastoral Care Fr Cavan McElligott
cavan.mcelligott@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Deacon Kevin Moloney – kevin.moloney@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Deacon James Patrick – james.patrick@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Deacon Paul Brandon – paul.brandon01@cliftondiocese.com

Administrator Mary Manners – mary.manners@cliftondiocese.com

Bookings Robert Newton – robert.newton@cliftondiocese.com

R. C. I. A. Knowing the Faith – clifton.cathedral@cliftondiocese.com

Children's Liturgy of the Word – mary.manners@cliftondiocese.com

Director of Music Richard Jeffrey-Gray – music@cliftondiocese.com

Choral Director John Gibbons **Organist & Junior Choir** Stephen Bryant

Chaplaincy www.bris cathchap.org.uk **Safeguarding** 0117 954 0993

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Today's readings can be found at universalis.com/mass or by scanning this Quick Response Code with a QR-capable device. Please set your device to silent mode during Mass.

PRAYER MATTERS

Please pray for the sick of our parish and for all who are unwell:

Edmund Richardson, Gabriele Green, Mary Peacock, Jane Cooper, Ann Fletcher, William Gregory, Clem Cox, Jess Cox, Judy Haworth, Eliza James, Clare Coyle, Lorretto Coyle, Jenny Coyle, Ken Wright, Adam Walker, Sheila Daly, Andy Dawes, Chris Vigers, Pat Kissane, Dolores Kennedy, Sylvia Hambidge, Allan Liversedge, Julia Cross, John Hunt and all in our hospitals, residential and nursing homes.

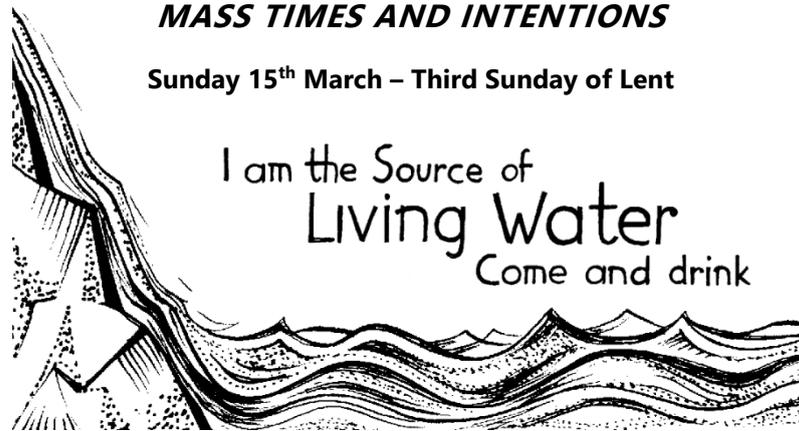
And for all those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Marie McMahan, Nikos Anestis, Mary Corrigan, William Johnson, Nikki Carlton, Irene Jones, Yvette Seeley, Tony Daws, Phyllis Gallop, Dennis Goldsworthy, Charles King, John Renton, Teresa Bortolotto.

Dementia Prayer Week: Please also remember in your prayers those suffering with dementia and those who care for them. Resources can be found and donations made at www.pastoralcareproject.org.uk.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Sunday 15th March – Third Sunday of Lent



I am the Source of
Living Water
Come and drink

6pm	Vigil Mass	John Myrvold RIP
8am	Mass	People of the Parish
9.30am	Family Mass	Private Intention
11.15am	Solemn Mass	Alan & Anne Govier RIP
6pm	Mass	Private Intention

Monday 16th March

7.30am	Mass	Hanz de Vrind RIP
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Tuesday 17th March – St Patrick

7.30am	Mass	Lorraine & Roger Manning
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Wednesday 18th March

7.30am	Mass	Marthe RIP
7pm	Stations of the Cross	

Thursday 19th March – St Joseph

7.30am	Mass	Monique Jamois RIP
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Friday 20th March

7.30am	Mass	Elisabeth & Jim Creamer
5.15pm	Vespers (Junior Choir)	

Saturday 21st March

10.30am	Mass	Yolanda RIP
<i>Sacrament of Reconciliation: 11.15am – 12.15pm; 5pm – 5.30pm</i>		
6pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parish

Sunday 22nd March – Fourth Sunday of Lent

8am	Mass	Francis van Neste RIP
9.30am	Family Mass	Brian Cross RIP
11.15am	Solemn Mass	Private Intention
6pm	Mass	Private Intention

St Joseph's Home. Monday to Saturday: Daily Mass at 10.30am. Sunday: Mass at 11am; Exposition at 4.30pm; Evening Prayer at 5pm. Please note: Mass at St Joseph's is currently open to residents only.



CLIFTON CATHEDRAL NEWSLETTER

Sunday 15th March 2020
Third Sunday of Lent, Year A

Working Up A Thirst. We expect to hear about water in Lent. After all, Lent is a period of preparation for baptism. Throughout the world are many thousands of people for whom Lent is the final stage in a journey to becoming Christians. It's a forty-day retreat for them before they take the plunge. But John's account of Jesus and the woman at the well takes a different turn. Instead of talking about washing, it talks about thirst.

Jesus tells the Samaritan woman what she already knows: she's had so many affairs and been through so much, but deep down she's not happy. She lacks what today we would call 'fulfilment'. Drinking the well water is like dabbling in so many different interests, trying this latest fad or being part of the 'in thing'. We've all done it. We've searched around for something to catch our interest. We look for a 'drink' that will refresh the parts that others don't reach. We make designer water our tippie.

If you drink the water that I give you, says Jesus, you'll never want anything else; you'll find fulfilment in God. A good test of our faith is to ask just how much do we thirst for God. How much do we yearn for God? If God were to disappear from our lives, would we simply change to another philosophy of life, or would we feel spiritually parched? Jesus's question is simple: How thirsty are you?



Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

1st Reading: Exodus 17: 3-7

Responsorial Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice: harden not your hearts.

2nd Reading: Romans 5: 1-2, 5-8

Gospel Acclamation: Lord, you are really the saviour of the world; give me living water, so that I may never get thirsty.

Gospel: John 4: 5-42

Communion Antiphon: For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord, the water I shall give will become in him a spring welling up to eternal life.

PARISH MATTERS

TRAIDCRAFT AND FOODBANK: Fairly traded goods will be on sale after all our Masses this weekend (14th and 15th March). Food can be purchased from the stall for donation to the Foodbank – supporting communities here in Bristol and helping those in need in developing countries to transform their lives by fighting poverty through trade. Donations of any other non-perishable items are also very welcome of course, and the Foodbank is currently in particular need of: pesto; cooking sauces; olive oil; tinned fish; tinned meat; rice; pasta; coffee; biscuits; chocolate; jam; sponge puddings; toilet rolls; and nappies.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Throughout Lent, we will be praying the Stations of the Cross here at the Cathedral on Wednesdays at 7pm. There will also be Stations of the Cross at 12 noon on Friday 10th April. Stations will be prayed at St Joseph's for residents at 5pm on Fridays of Lent. Please do come and walk the way of sorrows with the Lord.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: Next Sunday will be the Fourth Sunday of Lent, which is also known as Laetare Sunday. This is a day of relaxation from normal Lenten rigours; a day of hope with Easter at last within sight. It is also the day that is traditionally celebrated as Mothering Sunday. As well as celebrating Laetare Sunday at all of our Masses next Sunday, we will also celebrate Mothering Sunday at the 9.30am Mass only.

WEEKLY GIFT AID: Boxes of weekly gift aid envelopes for the next tax year are available for collection from Cathedral House on weekdays from 9am to 1pm. Any uncollected boxes will be sent out by post.

FINANCE: The offertory collection for last week came to £1236.63, comprising £907.76 in loose cash and £328.87 in weekly envelopes. The collection taken after CAFOD Lenten Fast Day raised £1621.44. Thank you for your generosity and donations throughout the year.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

FAITH AND LIGHT: The Bridge Community (Bristol & North Somerset), under the guidance of Fr Tom Dubois, will meet at St Joseph's (West Hill, Portishead, Somerset, BS20 6LN) on Sunday 15th March at 2pm. Faith and Light is a Christian association that includes people with learning disabilities or learning difficulties, their families and friends. For further information, please call Chris Brennan on 0117 9687322.

CAKE AND CONVERSATION: On Tuesday 17th March, at 11am, there will be an event for separated, divorced and re-married Catholics at St John the Evangelist (South Parade, Bath, BA2 4AF), for friendship and support, and to explore how the Church can meet the needs of Catholics who have experienced separation, divorce or re-marriage.

CHRISTIANS IN SCIENCE: The Bristol branch of 'Christians in Science' is pleased to present a talk by Professor Keith Fox, who will speak on 'Genes, Free Will and Human Identity' at Redland Church Hall (Redland Green Road, BS6 7HE) on Friday 20th March. The doors will open at 7pm for free tea and cake before the hour-long talk, which will start at 7.30pm and will be followed by an extended question time. Admission is free, but donations of £5 (to help cover costs) will be most welcome.

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

The ongoing concern regarding the spread of COVID-19 has led to the introduction of a number of safeguards throughout the country. We would ask parishioners to bear with us during this difficult time, and to observe the restrictions that have been put in place, which are there in order to protect the most vulnerable in our community.

STAYING AT HOME: Anybody with cold or flu symptoms, as well as those who are most vulnerable – the elderly, those with weakened immune systems, and those with long-term illnesses – are advised to refrain from attending large gatherings (including Mass) and instead to stay at home. The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays does not apply to those who are ill, especially those who have a contagious disease. Parishioners who are unable to attend Mass may like instead to visit www.churchservices.tv, which features live broadcasts of Mass from a number of churches around the United Kingdom and Ireland.

PAPER: Cathedral newsletters and hymn sheets will continue to be made available, but parishioners are asked to either retain or bin their copies at the end of Mass (i.e. copies should not be returned for re-use). Parishioners are reminded that the newsletter is always available on the Cathedral website at www.cliftoncathedral.org, and parishioners may prefer to rely on this version of the newsletter for the time being. Copies of 'The Order of Mass' will temporarily not be available.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: In order to avoid passing collection bags from person to person, the offertory collection will not be taken during the Preparation of the Gifts. Instead, parishioners are asked to make their weekly offering as they leave the Cathedral at the end of Mass, in the manner that second collections would usually be taken.

SIGN OF PEACE: In order to minimise physical contact, the exchanging of the Sign of Peace during the Communion Rite will be omitted.

HOLY COMMUNION: The provision of the Chalice at Communion has been suspended, and thus Holy Communion is only being offered in the form of the Host, which will be distributed in the hand, rather than being placed on the tongue. Those not receiving Holy Communion are still welcome to come forwards to receive a blessing, which will be given without any physical contact being made.

ST JOSEPH'S HOME: The Little Sisters of the Poor have been advised not to allow anybody to come into St Joseph's Home to attend Mass, so as to minimise the risk of the coronavirus being brought into the Home, where many elderly and vulnerable individuals are resident. Therefore please do not go to St Joseph's for Mass until further notice.

UPDATES: As the national situation develops, it may of course become necessary to make further changes. Any new information will be added to the 'Newsletters' page of the Cathedral website. Parishioners may also wish to keep abreast of updates posted by the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales on their website: www.cbcew.org.uk. The website of Clifton Diocese will also be posting regular updates on the news page at www.cliftondiocese.com/news. Parishioners can also visit this page to find up-to-date coronavirus guidance and advice, as well as a small selection of prayers that have been supplied by the Liturgy Office of the Bishops Conference for use in a time of illness.

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

A number of events that regularly take place or that had previously been mentioned in the newsletter have been postponed or cancelled:

TEA AND COFFEE: Tea and coffee will not be served in the Apostle Room after the 9.30am Mass on Sundays until further notice.

UCM COFFEE MORNING: The Coffee Morning planned by the Union of Catholic Mothers for Saturday 21st March has been cancelled.

PARENT AND TODDLER GROUP: Meetings of the Parent and Toddler Group have been suspended until after the Easter holidays.

LENTEN CONVERSATIONS: The final talks in the series from Churches Together in Clifton, Cotham and Redland have both been cancelled.

LENT TALKS

Clifton Diocese is celebrating a Year of Communion. In the words of Bishop Declan Lang, Bishop of Clifton, "Our Parishes and Communities should be places where Christ is celebrated, shared, proclaimed and lived, where everyone is welcomed and valued and where all have a sense of responsibility for the life of the community and the world."

We are using the theme of Communion for this year's Lent Talks, which take place on Tuesday evenings in the Apostle Room. Each evening will open with tea and coffee from 7pm, followed at 7.30pm by the talk, which will start with a short liturgy. An opportunity for discussion will follow the talk, and the evening will finish by 9pm.

Tuesday 17th March – Ian Knowles, Catholic Iconographer
The Trinity Icon: Theosis through Communion

Tuesday 24th March – Phil McCarthy, Caritas Social Action Network
Social Action and the Eucharist

Tuesday 31st March – Bishop Declan Lang, Bishop of Clifton
Laudato Si' – Care for our Common World
This talk will end with sung night prayer in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

All are welcome. Please do join us for what we hope will be a series of interesting and thought-provoking talks, with the opportunity to meet and share with people from throughout our parish community.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO NORTHERN SPAIN

As part of our diocesan Year of Communion, Bishop Declan will lead a pilgrimage to Northern Spain from Thursday 22nd October to Thursday 29th October. This will also be a celebration of the forthcoming five-hundredth anniversary (in 2022) of St Ignatius at Manresa writing his Spiritual Exercises. Locations to be visited during the pilgrimage will include San Sebastian, Loyola, Pamplona, Montserrat, Manresa (City of the Jesuit Order) and the City of Barcelona. The full package price is £1088 per person (based on two people sharing), and a total of forty places are available. For further information, please contact Sarah Adams at adult.education@cliftondiocese.com or on 0117 9025595.