



St Gregory the Great Catholic Church

A parish in the Catholic Diocese of Clifton

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The parish office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am till 1:00pm

Visit our website: stgregorys.org.uk

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/ParishStGregoryCheltenham

Parish Priest: Rev. Canon David Mills *VF* **Permanent Deacon:** Rev. John Andrews

Parish Administrator: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week Lent – Week 5	
Sunday, 22nd March <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Collection: Catholic Communications Network</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Paul Mason RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Private Intention</i> 5:00pm <i>Hilda Buckley RIP</i>
Monday, 23rd March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Dr Francisco Ramos Jnr. RIP</i>
Tuesday, 24th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Wednesday, 25th March <i>Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord</i>	9:30am <i>Sarah McKenna RIP</i>
Thursday, 26th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	12:00noon <i>Requiem Mass for Mary McNamee</i>
Friday, 27th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am - Whole School Mass <i>Private Intention</i> 12:00noon <i>Funeral Service for Julie O'Reilly</i> 3:00pm <i>Requiem Mass for Michael McClafferty</i> 6:00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday, 28th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Sunday, 29th March <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i> <i>Collection: Easter Flowers</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Deceased of the Cody Family</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Mary Moore RIP</i> 5:00pm <i>The O'Hanlon Family</i>
Our sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of: Sanctuary: Deceased family and friends of the Teesdale family Our Lady Chapel: Margaret McDonald RIP	



Donate Here

Scan the code to support our parish. If you can add gift aid your donation it can mean more to us

Holy Rosary

The holy rosary is prayed in Church each Friday evening at 5:00pm

Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Each Saturday morning after Mass from 10:00am - 10:30am

Arranging a Baptism

Congratulations on the birth of your baby.

In the first instance you will need to speak with Canon Mills after Mass. Parents need to attend a preparation session prior to the Baptism.

Arranging a Wedding

Congratulations on your engagement.

To arrange a wedding speak with Canon Mills after Mass. Couples need to give at least six months' notice of their intention to get married.

Safeguarding

Our parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance, and both National and Diocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Owen Holbrook** and, can be contacted at: psr.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com.

St Gregory's is a *Drive simply* Parish

Newsletter Sponsor
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FUNERAL SERVICE

Second Collection – Catholic Communications

This Sunday, 22 March a second collection will take place at all Masses for the Catholic Communications Network. This fund delivers the bishops' message to the media and to the wider world. It is the media office of the Bishops' Conference and exists primarily to serve the various departments, offices, agencies and consultative bodies of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. ***Please note: The planned collection for the Priests Retirement Fund this Sunday has been rescheduled to a later date.***

Missionary Society of St Paul

Fr Joseph MSP sends his heartfelt thanks for all the donations received for the Annual Mission appeal last Sunday. **£1,346.51** was collected and has been passed over to them to support their work.

Chrism Mass 2026

A coach has been booked for the Annual Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral on **Wednesday, 1 April**. The cost will be just £10 per seat. To add your name to the list and make your payment contact either Sacred Hearts' or St Gregory's parish office. The coach will depart from **Sacred Hearts at 9:15am, St Gregory the Great at 9:30am and St Thomas More at 9:45am** and then proceed to the Cathedral for Mass at 11:00am. The coach will return after the Mass.

Tenebrae Service

This special office (literally meaning 'shadows') will be sung on the **Wednesday of Holy Week ('Spy Wednesday'), 1 April at 7pm**. The service, about an hour's duration, is a meditation on the betrayal, arrest and crucifixion of Christ, with the gradual extinguishing of candles marking darkness's incursion into the world, darkness which is finally conquered by the Light which darkness could not overpower.

Lent Study - "We Dare to Ask"

We continue during Lent to study and pray together using the wonderful new resource book *We Dare to Ask*. The group meets in the Old Priory at **7.00pm each Monday**. *"The rediscovery of the value of one's baptism is the basis of the missionary commitment of every Christian... those who let themselves be fascinated by Christ cannot do without witnessing the joy of following in His footsteps."* — **Benedict XVI**

Passion Sunday Liturgy

This Sunday, the fifth Sunday of Lent, also known as Passion Sunday, marks the beginning of Passiontide. During the 11:15am Mass, our choir will sing the Victoria Miserere in place of the Homily, with Peccatem me Quotidie serving as the communion motet.

Easter Offering

Traditionally the Easter collection, along with that at Christmas, are the only collections given to the priest during the year and is an important way in which the parishes support the unsalaried priests of the Diocese. Envelopes, into which offerings may be placed, are on the tables at the back of church. Donations can also be made via the Dona machines.

CYAN – Young Adults Social (18-35yrs)

Join CYAN for our March social: a Lenten Soup Night on **Saturday 28 March at 6:30 pm**, held at St Thomas More, Princess Elizabeth Way. Meet other young Catholics, enjoy a simple meal, and take part in our faith discussion on "The Cross." Parking and public transport access available. To help with catering, please message us @cyan_glos or send us an email to cyangloucestershire@gmail.com and include any dietary requirements. We look forward to seeing you!

Stations of the Cross

As we journey through Lent, we gather **each Friday at 6:00pm** in the church for the Stations of the Cross. Come spend time in prayer, reflection, and quiet with the Lord as we remember His Passion and great love for us.

Retiring Collection - Christmas Flowers

Help us make the church beautiful for Easter!

A retiring collection will be taken at all Masses today **Sunday, 29 March** towards the Easter flowers. Thank you for your generosity in helping us create a joyful and welcoming space for everyone this Easter season.

Stitch and Pray

Join us on **Saturday, 28 March** in The Old Priory from **1pm to 4pm**. Feel free to bring along your own crafting project to show and share—we're always delighted to discover new ideas. Come and enjoy a peaceful afternoon of friendly conversation as we stitch more prayers into the growing HugRug panels. Everyone is welcome!

CAFOD Good Friday Soup Lunch

Parishioners are warmly invited to join us for a simple soup lunch on **Good Friday, from 12 noon till 1:30pm** in the Old Priory. All donations will go to CAFOD, supporting their vital work with communities around the world. You can learn more about their mission here:

<https://www.cafod.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do>

Diocesan Day - The Joy of Love

Bishop Bosco warmly invites everyone to join him on **Saturday 4 July** for our Diocesan Day celebration, *The Joy of Love*, at Downside School & Abbey. Our keynote speaker will be Patti Boulaye OBE, and there will also be a full programme for children and young people. Arrivals and refreshments begin from 10am. A hot lunch will be provided (with lunch boxes for children). The celebration of Mass will take place in the Abbey Church at 3.30pm, and the day will conclude around 4.30pm. Attendance is limited to 400 tickets. Booking is essential for catering and safeguarding purposes. The closing date for tickets is 24 June, unless capacity is reached earlier. To take part, please register for your free ticket via Eventbrite: <https://joyoflove.eventbrite.co.uk>

St Gregory's School: Foodbank Donations Needed

St Gregory's School is reaching out to our community for support. Our food supplies are running low, and we are asking for donations to help ensure that we can continue to provide some of our families with food parcels. Any contribution big or small makes a real difference. Items such as Pasta sauces, Coffee, Pasta, Biscuits, Lunch box items like cereal bars, Washing Powder, Long life juices, Toiletries such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shower gel, shampoo, Jam, Spreads, Crisps, Crackers and long-life goods are especially appreciated. If you are able to donate, please drop items off at the school reception.

Weekly Gift Aid Envelopes 2026/2027

For those parishioners who give by weekly envelope, these are now available for the tax year 2026/2027 at the back of the church for collection. If you are a taxpayer and would like to donate by weekly envelope or set up a regular standing order, then please contact the parish office.

Cheltenham Laudato Si'

The Circle's next meeting is via zoom on **Wednesday, 25 March 7:00pm - 8.15pm**. Ellen Teague, one of our best-known Catholic journalists, will be discussing 'Laudato Si' in the World'. All welcome. Link to join:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86006435477?pwd=R0Z5a3BsZkxMVFN0NUsyNzV0QzZ2UT09>

Of your Charity, pray for the repose of the soul of Raymond Palmer who has recently died. May he rest in peace.

Remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur this week: Daphne Keeling, Patricia Bonehill, Margaret Anderson, Janet Bonnar, Barbara Williams, Johannah Bailey and Monika Moore.

A Gentle Reminder

If your little ones become unsettled, need a moment to calm and to avoid the disturbance of others, please feel free to take them to the Narthex at the back of the church, where you can still follow the Mass in comfort. ***Thank you***

THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God
the Father almighty
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
***(Bow) who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,***
suffered under Pontius Pilot,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES 2026

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - 29 March

9:30am Family Mass

11:15am Solemn Sung Mass

5:00pm Evening Mass

Monday of Holy Week - 30 March

9:30am Daily Mass

Tuesday of Holy Week - 31 March

9:30am Daily Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week - 1 April

11:00am Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral

7:00pm Tenebrae Service

The Sacred Paschal Triduum

Holy Thursday - 2 April

7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by stripping of the Altars and watching until 9:00pm
9:00pm Compline

Good Friday - 3 April

11:30am Family Stations of the Cross

3:00pm Liturgy of the Passion

Holy Saturday - 4 April

8:00pm The Great Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection- 5 April

9:30am Family Mass

11:15am Solemn Sung Mass

No evening Mass

Easter Monday - 6 April

No Mass

Sunday, 22 March 2026

Fifth Sunday of Lent (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

Collect

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First reading

Ezekiel 37:12-14

Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 130(129)

*℟: With the LORD there is mercy,
in him is plentiful redemption.*

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
Lord, hear my voice!
O let your ears be attentive
to the sound of my pleadings. *℟*

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
that you may be revered. *℟*

I long for you, O LORD,
my soul longs for his word.
My soul awaits the Lord
more than watchmen for daybreak. *℟*

More than watchmen for daybreak,
let Israel hope for the LORD.
For with the LORD there is mercy,
in him is plentiful redemption.
It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities. *℟*

Second reading

Romans 8:8-11

Brothers and Sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God. I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord. Everyone who believes in me shall never die. Glory to you, O Christ, Son of the living God.

Gospel

John 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

At that time: The sisters of Lazarus sent to Jesus, saying, 'Lord, he whom you love is ill.' But when Jesus heard it he said, 'This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.'

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judea again.'

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.' Jesus said to her, 'Your brother will rise again.' Martha said to him, 'I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?' She said to him, 'Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.'

Jesus was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept. So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?'

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, by this time there will be a smell, for he has been dead four days.' Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, 'Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.' When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out.' The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.' Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

Prayer over the Offerings

Hear us, almighty God, and, having instilled in your servants the teachings of the Christian faith, graciously purify them by the working of this sacrifice. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Everyone who lives and believes in me will not die for ever, says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

We pray, almighty God, that we may always be counted among the members of Christ, in whose Body and Blood we have communion. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.