



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 *vr* **Permanent Deacon:** Rev. John Andrews

Parish Administrator: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week

Lent – Week 4

Sunday, 15th March <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> Laetare Sunday <i>Collection: Annual Mission Appeal</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Malcolm Vicary RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Intentions of Jasmine Wolfe</i> 5:00pm <i>Private Intention</i>
Monday, 16th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Tuesday, 17th March <i>Feast of St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland</i>	<i>No Morning Mass</i> 7:00pm <i>Reconciliation Service at St Joseph's, Tewkesbury</i>
Wednesday, 18th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<i>No Morning Mass</i> 9:30am <i>Liturgy of the word, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction</i>
Thursday, 19th March <i>Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	<i>No Morning Mass</i> 9:30am <i>Liturgy of the word, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction</i>
Friday, 20th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Joan Wren RIP</i> 6:00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday, 21st March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Sunday, 22nd March <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Collection: Priests Retirement Fund</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>
Our Sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of: Sanctuary: Deceased Brothers, family & friends of the Catenians Our Lady Chapel: Deceased family & friends of the Teesdale family	



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 *live simply* parish

Newsletter Sponsor
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 FUNERAL SERVICE

Annual Mission Appeal

This Sunday, we Fr. Joseph Kolade MSP of the Missionary Society of St. Paul, who will be making the annual mission appeal. The MSP is a religious congregation serving in various parts of the world, dedicated to spreading the Gospel and advancing the saving mission of God through the Holy Spirit. Your generous support of their appeal is gratefully encouraged. A second collection will be taken at all Masses. Fr Joseph will be the celebrant all Masses this Sunday.

A note of Thanks.....

The visit of the relics of St Carlo Acutis was a great success, and I would like to thank all those in the parish and the wider pastoral area for the excellent work done as volunteers. The event demonstrated, in particular, the cohesive and supportive nature of our parish. I would especially like to single out Deacon John for all his hard work, and the altar servers who ensured that the various liturgies were celebrated in a seamless fashion. *Canon David Mills*

55 Club

Join us on **Thursday, 19 March** as Diane Rollason shares her love of Jane Austen, whose much-loved novels continue to inspire readers and audiences today. Coffee, cake and chat from 10am. Illustrated talk "Jane Austen and Me": 10.45–11.30am. New members and visitors warmly welcome. Contact Stella: 07824 427400.

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!

St Gregorys School – Celebrates 90 Years!

Past pupils, families, and staff are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate 90 years of St Gregory's School. Come along to the school on **Wednesday, 18 March**, from **6:00pm to 8:00pm** for light refreshments, a tour of the school and, an opportunity to share memories together.

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.

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.

Second Collection – Priests Retirement Fund

Next Sunday, 22 March a second collection will take place at all Masses for the Priests Retirement Fund. This fund provides retirement grants and housing, including care home accommodation, to the priests who have served our Diocese faithfully during their years of active priestly ministry. This money supports them in their retirement and offers them security in their later years. Our gift to them through this fund shows them something of our gratitude and our support.

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.

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!

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.

Clifton Evangelist – Edition 17

The latest newsletter is now available. You can view this via the Clifton Evangelist Icon on the home page of the parish website.

Our Parish School – Places Available

St Gregory the Great Catholic Primary is a warm and nurturing community where children feel safe, supported, and inspired to thrive. With dedicated staff and an engaging curriculum, we are proud of the happy, confident learners in our care. We currently have limited spaces available in several year groups and would be delighted to welcome new families. For admissions information, please contact the school office on **01242 513659**.

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

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.

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>

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.

Of your Charity, pray for the repose of the souls of Martin Gill, Adrian Blay, Carol While, Mary McNamee, Julie O'Reilly, Raymond Palmer & Michael McClafferty who have recently died. May they rest in peace.

Remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur this week: Peter Burnard, Gertrude Deeks, Shirley Margaret Ayers, Brian Drumm, Emily Cousins, Janet Holt and Peter Wixey.

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 Chrim 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, 15 March 2026
Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Collect

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.'

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23(22)

℟: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul. ℟

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. ℟

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. ℟

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending.
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. ℟

Second reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Gospel

John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him.

Prayer over the Offerings

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.