

St Gregory the Great Catholic Church



A parish in the Catholic Diocese of Clifton

10 St James' Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PR

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

Visit our website: stgregorys.org.uk

facebook.com/ParishStGregoryCheltenham

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

Parish Administrator: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week

Lent - Week 3

Sunday, 8th March <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Relics of St Carlo Acutis</i>	9:30am <i>Tim and Dinah Horan RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Private Intention</i> 6:00pm <i>Celebrant: Bishop Bosco MacDonald</i> <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 9th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i> <i>Relics of St Carlo Acutis</i>	9:30am <i>Brendan Sweeney RIP</i> 6:00pm <i>Cynthia Orji RIP</i>
Tuesday, 10th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i> <i>Relics of St Carlo Acutis</i>	10:00am <i>Private Intention</i>
Wednesday, 11th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Pauline Jones RIP</i>
Thursday, 12th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	10:00am <i>Deceased of the Wood family</i>
Friday, 13th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Our priests and vocations</i> 6:00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday, 14th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Sunday, 15th March <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Laetare Sunday</i> <i>Collection: Annual Mission Appeal</i>	9:30am <i>Malcolm Vicary RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Intentions of Jasmine Wolfe</i> 5:00pm <i>Private Intention</i>
Our Sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of: Sanctuary: <i>Fr David McDonald RIP</i> Our Lady Chapel: <i>Deceased family & friends of the Teesdale family</i>	



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.

Please note: There will be **no** Tea and Coffee after the 9:30am or 11:15am Mass this Sunday, 8 March

St Gregory's is a *Drive simply* Parish

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Annual Mission Appeal

Next Sunday, we welcome Fr. Lawrence Danladi MSP and Fr. Peter Akor 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.

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 email cyangloucestershire@gmail.com or message us on Instagram @cyan_glos, including any dietary requirements. We look forward to seeing you!

Headteacher Vacancy - St Joseph's Primary

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, part of the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust in the Clifton Diocese, is seeking to appoint a committed, faith-filled and inspirational Headteacher following the retirement of our current Head. At St Joseph's, our Catholic mission is central to all we do. We strive to form children who know they are created in God's image, are loved unconditionally, and are called to grow in faith, wisdom and service. Our school is a joyful and nurturing community where prayer, Gospel values and high aspirations shape daily life. This is a rare and wonderful opportunity to lead a thriving Catholic school and continue its strong tradition of faith and excellence, supported by the Trust and the retiring Headteacher during transition. For further information, please view online at: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/150343/EDV-2026-SJCPS-02942>

Gold Cup Day Mass

A Gold Cup Day Mass will be celebrated at the Ellenborough Park Hotel chapel on **Friday 13 March at 9:00am**. Celebrant Canon David Ryan. All are welcome to join the Cheltenham racegoers!

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 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.

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**.

Parish Vacancy – Administration Assistant

We are seeking a friendly, organised person to support the office at St Gregory's parish and that of Sacred Hearts, Charlton Kings, from May 2026. Duties include welcoming visitors, handling enquiries, and general admin. Applicants should be confident with Microsoft Office and have a warm manner. This is a 2-year fixed-term role, starting at 6 hours per week and increasing to 18 hours from May 2026. **To apply, collect an application form from the parish office or email michael.burnell@cliftondiocese.com**. Closing date for applications is Friday, 13 March 2026.

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*

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.

Thank you

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March

Let us pray that nations move to an effective disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament and that world leaders choose the path of dialogue and diplomacy instead of violence.

Relics of St Carlo Acutis

Visit Schedule

Sunday, 8 March 2026	
9:30am	Family Mass – <i>No Music</i>
11:15am	Solemn Mass – <i>No Music</i>
2:00pm	Introduction to the relics
2:30pm	Procession & Exposition of the relics
2:45pm	Adoration & Private Prayer
4:30pm	Vespers
6:00pm	Full Solemn Sung Mass <i>Celebrated by Bishop Bosco</i>
7:30pm	Talk: St Carlo Acutis: Saint of the Young, Saint of Families
8:00pm	Adoration & Private Prayer
9:00pm	Compline
10:00pm	Church Closes
Monday, 9 March 2026	
8:00am	Morning Prayer
8:15am	Adoration
8:45am	Benediction
9:00am	Talk: St Carlo Acutis: Apostle of the Eucharist
9:30am	Morning Mass followed by Veneration & confessions
11:00am	St Carlo Talk for Schools ONLY
11:15am	Mass for Schools ONLY
1:00pm	Veneration of Relics
5:30pm	Vespers and Benediction
6:00pm	Mass
7:00pm	Talk: St Carlo Acutis: A Saint needed today
7:30pm	Adoration & Veneration
9:00pm	Compline and Benediction
10:00pm	Church Closes
Tuesday, 10 March 2026	
8:00am	Morning Prayer
8:15am	Adoration
9:45am	St Carlo Talk for Schools ONLY
10:00am	Mass
11:00am	<i>Relics transferred to Gloucester Deanery</i>

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

Remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur this week: Malcolm Vicary, Philip John Tartaglia, Marilena Meigh, John Egan, Bruce Francis, Mario Maselli, James Hart and Anne Maria Jones

*Events and Masses for the duration of the St Carlo Acutis Relics visit are open to all with the exception of those that state **for schools only**.*

Chrism Mass 2026

A coach has been booked for the Annual Chrism Mass at Clifton Cathedral on **Wednesday, 1 April**. The cost will be £10 per seat. To add your name to the list and make your payment contact either at 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.

Liturgies of Reconciliation – Lent 2026

Bishop Bosco warmly invites you to take part in this year's Lenten journey by celebrating God's abundant mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. As part of your Lenten Pilgrimage, you are encouraged to join him at one of the five liturgy venues across our diocese:

- **Tuesday 17 March** – *St Joseph, Tewkesbury*
 - **Tuesday 24 March** – *Christ the King, Thornbury*
- All liturgies begin at 7.00pm.*** Priests will be available at every venue for sacramental reconciliation.

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

Sunday, 8 March 2026

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

Entrance Antiphon

When I prove my holiness among you, I will gather you from all the foreign lands; and I will pour clean water upon you and cleanse you from all your impurities, and I will give you a new spirit, says the Lord.

Collect

O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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

Exodus 17:3-7

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' And the Lord said to Moses, 'Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.' And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33(32)

R: O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Come, let us ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise. **R**

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the Lord who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand. **R**

O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.' **R**

Second reading

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God. Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world; give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel

John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water. Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming — he who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am he.'

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him. So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.

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.

Prayer after Communion

As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion. Through Christ our Lord.