

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

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

Parish Administrator: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week

Lent - Week 1

Sunday, 22nd February <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Ludwina Furczon RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Maureen McCabe RIP</i> 5:00pm <i>Private Intention</i>
Monday, 23rd February <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Tuesday, 24th February <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Margaret & John Gibbons RIP</i>
Wednesday, 25th February <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Intentions of Jackie Maynard</i>
Thursday, 26th February <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Moirra Jones RIP</i>
Friday, 27th February <i>Weekday of Lent</i> <i>Lent Fast Day</i>	9:30am (School Class Mass) <i>Sandra McEvoy RIP</i> 6:00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Saturday, 28th February <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Sunday, 29th February <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Collection: CAFOD Lent Fast Day</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Bridget Garvey RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Michael Gompertz RIP</i> 5:00pm <i>Steven Anthony Thorn RIP</i>
Our Sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of: Sanctuary: Ben McDonald RIP 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 10:00 - 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.

The production of this newsletter is kindly sponsored by:

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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

Stations of the Cross

Deacon John will lead the stations of the cross in church at **6:00pm each Friday evening during Lent.**

Lent Study - "We dare to Ask"

This year for Lent we shall be studying and praying together using a wonderful new resource book "We Dare to Ask". Meet in the Old Priory at 7.00pm for the five Mondays of Lent, starting on **Monday, 23 February.** *'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]

Newman Association Talk

A talk will take place on Tuesday 3 March at 2.30pm in the lounge of Sacred Hearts' Hall, Moorend Road, Charlton Kings. Chris Hawkins, a Prison Officer with 26 years' experience, began his career in a high-security prison and now works in an open prison—a very different setting with its own challenges. He will give a talk entitled "Prisons Today." All are warmly invited. Admission: £3 in cash (members and students free). Enquiries: Stephanie Jamison, 01242 539810.

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 24 February** – St Mary, Glastonbury
- **Thursday 5 March** – Sacred Heart, Tisbury
- **Tuesday 10 March** – Immaculate Conception, Devizes
- **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 Newman Association

A representative of the Newman Association will be in the Old Priory after both morning Masses on **Sunday 22 February 2026.** The North Gloucestershire circle of the association meet on the first Tuesday of the month in the lounge of Sacred Hearts church hall. Please come and hear more about this group.

SVP Coffee Morning

We warmly invite you to join us for the next coffee morning hosted by the St Vincent de Paul Society on **Thursday, 26 February** at 10:00am. Come along for a friendly cup of tea or coffee and discover more about the work we do and the support we offer within the community.

CYAN – Young Adults Social (18–35)

Join CYAN for our February **"Bring and Share Meal"** on **Saturday 28 February, 6:30pm onwards** at **St Thomas More's Parish Hall**, Parking available; easy by public transport. Meet other young Catholics, socialise, and take part in this month's faith discussion on **"Lent."** To attend, email **cyangloucestershire@gmail.com** or message us on Instagram: **@cyan_glos.**

Of your Charity, pray for the repose of the souls of Martin Gill, Carol Wilde & Michael Byrne who have recently died. May they rest in peace.

Remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur this week: Annie Doswell, Maria Roures, Margaret Clemens, Bob Williams, Kevin Dunne, Margaret Davis, Mary Cooper, Deirdre Brady, Edmund O'Riordan, Frank Hill, John Stack, Mary Lombard, Pauline Molony & Patricia Lodge.

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

Relics of St Carlos Acutis

On Sunday 8 March, Monday 9 March and Tuesday 10 March, we will host the relics of St Carlo Acutis at our church during which time we will welcome schools, parishioners and people from our Diocese for veneration. Born in 1991, Carlo is the first millennial saint, and he is celebrated for his profound faith and use of the internet to log Eucharistic miracles from around the world. At just 7 years old, he wished to receive his First Holy Communion and told his parents, "This is my programme of life." Alongside his digital Evangelism, Carlo is revered for his charitable work and great desire to help others. He gave his time towards helping those experiencing homelessness and hunger in Milan, even purchasing sleeping bags and food for them using his own money. Carlo was passionate about spreading the teachings of the Catholic Church up until his death from leukaemia at the age of 15.

About the Relics: Relics consist of physical remains of a saint that are venerated after their death, or they could be objects that have been in contact with a saint. We use the relics as a reminder of the saint's life, to inspire our own path to sainthood, and to give praise and glory to God.

St Carlo Acutis: This First-Class pilgrim relic is a section of the Saint's pericardium, the membrane that surrounds the heart. This is a sac filled with water that encloses the heart and the great vessels, holding them in place and protecting the body's most important organ. The relic, therefore, is of major importance physiologically. The pericardium is preserved in a reliquary and is carried worldwide by the Diocese of Assisi, as custodian of the relics

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

To obtain tickets for all 'ticketed' events please go to our website and visit the Relics of St Carlo Acutis page

Sunday, 22 February 2026

First Sunday of Lent (A)

Entrance Antiphon

When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.

Collect

Grant, almighty God, through the yearly observances of holy Lent, that we may grow in understanding of the riches hidden in Christ and by worthy conduct pursue their effects. 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

Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7

The Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God actually say, "You shall not eat of any tree in the garden"?' And the woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die."' But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 51(50)

R: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your merciful love;
according to your great compassion,
blot out my transgressions.
Wash me completely from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin. R

My transgressions, truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done. R

Create a pure heart for me, O God;
renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence;
take not your holy spirit from me. R

Restore in me the joy of your salvation;
sustain in me a willing spirit.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. R

Second reading

Romans 5:12, 17-19

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned. For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man; much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ. Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ. One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

And the tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But he answered, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the Temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone."' Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."'

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."' Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Prayer over the Offerings

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray, to make these offerings, for with them we celebrate the beginning of this venerable and sacred time. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

Or:

The Lord will conceal you with his pinions, and under his wings you will trust.

Prayer after Communion

Renewed now with heavenly bread, by which faith is nourished, hope increased, and charity strengthened, we pray, O Lord, that we may learn to hunger for Christ, the true and living Bread, and strive to live by every word which proceeds from your mouth. Through Christ our Lord.