

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

Permanent Deacon: Rev. John Andrews

Parish Administrator: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week Ordinary Time - Week 6	
Sunday, 15th February <i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Carlos Camacho RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Private Intention</i> 5:00pm <i>Sarah McKenna RIP</i>
Monday, 16th February <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Intentions of Dariusz Szymanek</i>
Tuesday, 17th February <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Wednesday, 18th February <i>Ash Wednesday</i> <i>Day of Fasting and Abstinence</i>	9:30am <i>Deceased of the Cody Family</i> 7:00pm <i>Anne & Jerry Sammon RIP</i>
Thursday, 19th February <i>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</i>	9:30am <i>Private Intention</i>
Friday, 20th February <i>Friday after Ash Wednesday</i>	9:30am <i>Patricia & David Wilde RIP</i>
Saturday, 21st February <i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i>	9:30am <i>George Henry & Elizabeth John RIP</i> 11:00am <i>Rite of Election at Clifton Cathedral</i>
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>
Our Sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of: <i>Sanctuary: Deceased family & friends of the Teesdale family.</i> <i>Our Lady Chapel: David and Cathy Andrews RIP</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 10:00 - 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.

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Relics of St Carlos Acutis

In March, we will host the relics of St Carlo Acutis at our church over 2 days, 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 of Carlo Acutis, and respecting Church guidelines.*

Please take an itinerary for these events from the table at the entrance to the Church

Volunteer Thank you Event

We thank all those who volunteer their time and gifts to the parish and we welcome you to a celebration this **Sunday, 15 February at 12:30pm** in The Old Priory.

Ash Wednesday

This falls on **Wednesday, 18 February** marking the start of Lent, a 40-day period of fasting, prayer, and almsgiving. Mass will be celebrated at **9:30am and 7:00pm** with the distribution of Ashes at both Masses. A special collection will be taken for parish projects during Masses at St Gregory's on this day. **Please note:** Mass will also be celebrated at St Thomas More at 12:30pm.

Stations of the Cross

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

Rite of Election 2026

The Rite of Election of Catechumens and the Call to Continuing Conversion will be celebrated by Bishop Bosco in **Clifton Cathedral** on the first Saturday of Lent, **Saturday 21 February, at 11.00am.** Please keep all of our candidates in your prayers. We have 18 from our RCIA group going and we would love to see Parishioners there with them to support them on their journey of faith. Places on the coach can be reserved at £10 per person by contacting Deacon John. Bring a Packed Lunch!

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]

Faith in Action with the SVP

This Sunday, a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), John Ciereszko, will be speaking briefly at all Masses to invite new members to join our parish SVP group. The SVP is a lay Catholic organisation dedicated to putting faith into action by offering practical help and support to anyone in need. If you would like to learn more following the appeal, you are warmly invited to a short follow-up meeting in The Old Priory with refreshments provided, on **Tuesday 17 February at 6:00pm.**

Diocesan Day 2026

Bishop Bosco invites you to our Diocesan Day, *"The Joy of Love,"* on **Saturday 4 July at Downside School & Abbey.** Patti Boulaye OBE will be our keynote speaker, with a children's and young people's programme also available. Refreshments begin at 10am, with lunch provided. Mass will be celebrated at 3:30pm, finishing around 4:30pm. Tickets are limited to 400. Please register via <https://joyoflove.eventbrite.co.uk>. Booking is essential, with the deadline on 24 June unless places fill earlier.

Faithful Fellowship

Our next meeting will this evening, **Sunday 22 February,** following the 5:00pm Mass. Sixth-form, college, and university students are warmly invited

to join us for fellowship, faith conversations, and Catholic social action.

Children's Knitwear Sale

Thank you to all who purchased the hand-knitted items last weekend. **£116.18** was raised. Please keep Martyn in your prayers as he continues his formation in Rome.

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.

55 Club

Come along to the Old Priory on **Thursday, 19 February at 10am**, when Leigh Watson, a much loved and well-respected parishioner, will give a talk entitled "Should you trust these people with your Life?". Leigh is an excellent raconteur with a sparkling wit. Meeting opens with coffee, cake and chat. £2 entry. New members and guest's welcome. Tel: Stella on 01242 511371.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Worldwide Marriage Encounter has spent 50 years helping couples deepen their relationships and enrich their understanding of the Sacrament of Marriage. Their retreats offer time to reflect and grow together, no matter how long you've been married. Thousands of UK couples have taken part. The next weekend retreat is from 27 February to 1 March 2026. Find out more at wwme.org.uk.

Next Cheltenham Laudato Si' Circle meeting

On **Monday 23 February**, we shall be exploring the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform: All welcome, 7:15pm -8.30pm at Newcourt, Lansdown Rd, GL50 2JG. Enquiries, Martin Davis, 01242 244182 or cheltlaudatosicircle@gmail.com

Remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur this week: Mary Vick, Mary Webb, Natalie Gale, Shirley McNulty, Jean Spicer, Grace Roberts, Nuala Elliott, Brian Morris, John Lordan, Margaret Chapman, John Griffiths, Joannah Dorman, George Henry John, Michael Taylor and Moira Jones

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Nicene Creed

Solemn Mass
Credo III - No 503

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down
from heaven, **(bow)** and **by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen

Sunday, 15 February 2026
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Entrance Antiphon

Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me,
for the sake of your name.

Collect

O God, who teach us that you abide in hearts that are just and true, grant that we may be so fashioned by your grace as to become a dwelling pleasing to you. 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

Sirach 15:15-20

If you desire, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of choice. He has placed before you fire and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Life and death are in front of people, and whichever one chooses will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those who fear him, and he knows a person's every deed. He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly, and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 119(118)

℟: *Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!*

Blessed are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the Lord!
Blessed are those who keep his decrees!
With all their hearts they seek him. **℟**

You have laid down your precepts
to be carefully kept.
May my ways be firm
in keeping your statutes. **℟**

Deal bountifully with your servant,
that I may live and keep your word.
Open my eyes, that I may see
the wonders of your law. **℟**

Lord, teach me the way of your statutes,
and I will keep them to the end.
Grant me insight that I may keep your law,
and observe it wholeheartedly. **℟**

Second reading

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

Brothers and Sisters: Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, 'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him' — these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

'You have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement." But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement.

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery." But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

'Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn." But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all. Let what you say be simply "Yes" or "No"; anything more than this comes from evil.'

Prayer over the Offerings

May this oblation, O Lord, we pray, cleanse and renew us and may it become for those who do your will the source of eternal reward. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

Or:

God so loved the world that he gave his Only Begotten Son, so that all who believe in him may not perish, but may have eternal life.

Prayer after Communion

Having fed upon these heavenly delights, we pray, O Lord, that we may always long for that food by which we truly live. Through Christ our Lord.