

St Gregory the Great Catholic Church

A parish in the Catholic Diocese of Clifton

10 St James' Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PR

☎ 01242 523737 ✉ cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com

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

Visit our website: stgregorys.org.uk



Parish Priest: Rev. David Mills

Permanent Deacon: Rev. John Andrews

Parish Administrator: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week Ordinary Time Week 34

Sunday, 23rd November <i>Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i> <i>Youth Sunday</i> <i>Collection: Catholic Youth</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Holy Souls</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Holy Souls</i> 5:00pm <i>Holy Souls</i>
Monday, 24th November <i>Memorial of Ss Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest & Companions, Martyrs</i>	9:30am <i>Holy Souls</i>
Tuesday, 25th November <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Holy Souls</i>
Wednesday, 26th November <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	1:30pm <i>Requiem Mass for Angela Woulfe</i>
Thursday, 27th November <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Holy Souls</i>
Friday, 28th November <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am (<i>School Class Mass</i>) <i>Holy Souls</i>
Saturday, 29th November <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Holy Souls</i>
Sunday, 30th November <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> Year A	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Holy Souls</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Holy Souls</i> 5:00pm <i>Holy Souls</i>

Our Sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of:

Sanctuary: Deceased family & friends of the Teesdale family

Lady Chapel: Philomena Gillespie 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 10:00 - 10:30am

Arranging a Baptism

Congratulations on the birth of your baby.

In the first instance you will need to speak with Fr David 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 Fr David 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:

Mason & Stokes
FUNERAL SERVICE

RCIA – A Journey in Faith

The next meeting of the Journey in Faith group will take place on **Thursday, 27 November at 7:00pm** in The Old Priory. We are pleased to welcome John Huntriss, who will speak to the group about how to read the Old Testament. Journey in Faith is a process of exploration and discernment for adults considering joining the Church at Easter next year. If you're interested in taking part, please fill out the contact form available on the Parish website.

St Gregory's School – Food Bank

The school provides food parcels to support some of our families in need. We are currently running low on several essential items and would be very grateful for any donations of the following: Pasta sauces, Coffee, Rice & Pasta, Biscuits, Lunchbox items, Washing liquid/powder, Toiletries, Jam & spreads, Crisps & snacks. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Advent Series: Exploring Laudato Si'

Beginning **Monday 1 December**, join us for a four-week evening series at the Old Priory, running from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. This mini-series offers an introduction to the Catholic Church's teaching on Laudato Si': ***On Care for Our Common Home***.

Together, we'll reflect on key questions:

- *What is happening to our planet?*
- *How does Catholic Social Teaching guide our response?*
- *What is ecological conversion?*
- *How can we live out our faith through action?*

To learn more or to register, please contact cheltlaudatosicircle@gmail.com or call 01242 244182. Facilitated by Martin Davis, Laudato Si' Coordinator.

Confirmation 2026

The Confirmation programme is for those at Secondary school, who wish to explore their faith and who may want to go on to formally accept their baptismal promises in the Sacrament of Confirmation with the Bishop visiting us on Saturday, 23 May 2026 at 11:00am. The group will meet on Sundays after 9:30am Mass beginning in January. **Please read more and then register for this using the 'Confirmation' button on the website.**

Clifton Diocese Liturgical Diary & Directory 2026

These are now available to purchase via the Clifton Diocese website. **Please note that we do not hold a stock of these in the parish office.**

Stitch & Pray

Our next meeting will be in The Old Priory on **Saturday, 29 November from 1pm to 4pm**. All are welcome to join us for quiet conversation and peaceful prayer as we stitch away the afternoon.

November – Month of Holy Souls

Mass offering envelopes

During the month of November, we pray for the Holy Souls in purgatory. We also remember those dear to us who have died, family and friends, and the deceased of our parish. Remember that purgatory is on the threshold of heaven, it is where we encounter the healing fire of God's boundless love and mercy. It prepares us for the fullness of life with God. Holy Souls envelopes are available in the church. Please place the names of your deceased relatives or friends as well as the Mass offering you might wish to make and return to the Presbytery. Alternatively, place your envelope in the Sunday collection. ***Please do not leave your envelope in church.*** Intentions will be prayed for at all Masses throughout the month of November.

Handmade Christmas Card Sale

We welcome back Rachel of Carousel Cards who will be selling handmade Christmas cards after the morning Masses on **Sunday, 30 November**. Rachel kindly donates to the Jericho Appeal with the proceeds of the sale.

Advent Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Join us for a beautiful service of Nine Lessons and Carols at **7:00pm on Friday, 19 December**. This cherished tradition offers a chance to reflect on the Advent season through Scripture readings, beloved carols, and inspiring music from the choir and organ—a perfect way to prepare for Christmas.

CYAN – Young Adults Social 18–35yrs

Are you between 18 and 35? CYAN invites you to connect, share, and deepen your faith with fellow young adults. After a short pause, we're excited to kick off the new Liturgical Year with a relaxed social lunch. Join us on **Sunday, 7 December 2025 after the 11:15am Mass**. We'll gather in The Old Priory and then head together to a nearby café for good food and great conversation. To help us book ahead, please let us know by 30th November if you'd like to come along. We'd love to see you there! You can RSVP by emailing cyan_gloucestershire@gmail.com or sending us a DM on Instagram: @cyan_glos.

St Gregory's School – Vacancy

The Little Way Catholic Educational Trust are pleased to be able to invite applications for the Deputy Headteacher role at St Gregory's Primary School. **The closing date for applications is 9:00am on Wednesday 26 November 2025.** If you would like further information about the role, please

contact Charlotte Blanch, CEO of the Trust at c.blanch@lwcet.co.uk. We would also encourage you to visit the school and see what a super place it is! Details and the recruitment pack can be found here: <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/150345/EDV-2025-CSSGG-71004>

Newman Association Talk

Join us on **Tuesday, 2 December at 2:30pm in the lounge at Sacred Hearts' Hall**, Charlton Kings, for an engaging presentation by Dr Margaret Cooling. Dr Cooling is an accomplished author and trainer who specializes in communicating Christianity through creative arts. Her work spans collaborations with major publishers, including the BBC and the National Gallery, and she regularly delivers talks on the intersection of art and faith. This session, titled: ***"The Nativity in Art: Focusing on Jesus, Mary, and Joseph"*** will explore how artists across different eras and cultures have portrayed the meaning of the Nativity. All are welcome, Admission £3.00 (members & Students Free) Enquiries: S Jamison 01242 539810

Mary's Yes – Advent Day of Reflection

Join us on Saturday, **6 December at the Apostle Room, Clifton Cathedral** for a day of prayer and reflection on Mary's response to God. Starts 10:15am (after 9:30am Mass) and ends 3:30pm. Please bring a packed lunch; refreshments provided. There are limited places available so please email to book: adult.education@cliftondiocese.com

Sacred Hearts' Christmas Fair

The annual Christmas fair will take place next **Saturday, 29 November, from 12noon until 3:00pm**. This is the Annual Parish Fair to support those less fortunate than ourselves. Moneys raised will be shared between Maggie's, The Holy Family Sisters of the Needy and St Elizabeth Hospice

Clothing Collection

The Faithful Fellowship Youth group are collecting and sorting good quality clothing (especially young mens, children's clothes, and toys) for local distribution to the SVP, and to Cheltenham Welcomes Refugees. **Please bring items in bags and leave them in the Narthex after Sunday Masses on 30 November.**

Of your charity, pray for the soul of Paul Jones who has recently died. May he rest in Peace

Remember in your prayers those whose Anniversaries occur this week: David Kelly, Catherine Bayliss, Margaret Didcote, Thomas O'Neill, Clotide Meigh, Mary McAlary, Francis Burke, James Connolly & Mark Sheridan.

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

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, 23 November 2025
Solemnity of Christ the King (C)

Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe, grant, we pray, that the whole creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise. 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

2 Samuel 5:1-3

In those days: All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron and said, 'Behold, we are your bone and flesh. In times past, when Saul was king over us, it was you who led out and brought in Israel. And the Lord said to you, "You shall be shepherd of my people Israel, and you shall be prince over Israel." ' So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron, and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 122(121)

R. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R**

Jerusalem is built as a city
bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord. **R**

As it is decreed for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the Lord.
There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David. **R**

Second reading

Colossians 1:12-20

Brothers and Sisters: Let us give thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities — all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the Church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be pre-eminent. For in

him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Gospel Acclamation

Mark 11:9, 10

Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 23:35-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

At that time: The rulers scoffed at Jesus, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there railed at Jesus, saying, 'Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.' And he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' And he said to him, 'Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise.'

Prayer over the Offerings

As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice by which the human race is reconciled to you, we humbly pray, that your Son himself may bestow on all nations the gifts of unity and peace. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Prayer after Communion

Having received the food of immortality, we ask, O Lord, that, glorying in obedience to the commands of Christ, the King of the universe, we may live with him eternally in his heavenly kingdom. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

