

# 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](mailto:cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com)

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

Visit our website: [stgregorys.org.uk](http://stgregorys.org.uk)



**Parish Priest:** Rev. David Mills

**Permanent Deacon:** Rev. John Andrews

**Parish Administrator:** Michael Burnell

## Liturgy this Week Ordinary Time Week 27

|                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</i><br><br><i>CAFOD Fast Day Collection</i> | <b>9:30am</b><br><i>Family Mass</i><br><i>Eric Baldwin RIP</i><br><b>11:15am</b><br><i>Solemn Sung Mass</i><br><i>Cynthia Orji RIP</i><br><b>5:00pm</b><br><i>Private Intention</i>        |
| <b>Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>                                                       | <b>12:00noon</b><br><i>Requiem Mass for George Martin</i>                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary</i>                                            | <b>9:30am</b><br><i>Private Intention</i>                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>                                                    | <b>9:30am</b><br><i>Michael Macfarlane RIP</i>                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Feast of St John Henry Newman</i>                                                | <b>9:30am</b><br><i>Our priests and new vocations</i>                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>                                                      | <b>9:30am</b> ( <i>School Class Mass</i> )<br><i>For the intentions of Joel De Figueiredo</i>                                                                                              |
| <b>Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>                                                        | <b>9:30am</b><br><i>George Henry &amp; Elizabeth John RIP</i>                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> October</b><br><i>Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>                                          | <b>9:30am</b><br><i>Family Mass</i><br><i>Reginaldo Abilla RIP</i><br><b>11:15am</b><br><i>Solemn Sung Mass</i><br><i>Private Intention</i><br><b>5:00pm</b><br><i>Brendan Glennon RIP</i> |

### Our Sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of:

**Sanctuary:** Fr David McDonald RIP

**Lady Chapel:** Deceased family & friends of the Teesdale family

**High Altar:** Deceased members & beneficiaries of the SVP



### 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](mailto:psr.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com).

The production of this newsletter is kindly sponsored by:

**Mason & Stokes**  
FUNERAL SERVICE

### **Second Collection – CAFOD Harvest Fast Appeal**

This **Sunday, 5 October** a second collection will be taken at all Masses to support the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day appeal. CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is the official overseas development and relief agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

### **Annual Mass Attendance Count**

Please note: This Sunday, the annual Mass attendance count will be conducted during the Homily at all Masses. The data collected is required by all parishes and will be included in our yearly statistical report.

### **Harvest Festival Food Collection**

**During the 9:30am Mass this Sunday, 5 October**, the Children's Liturgy group will be gathering food donations at the church entrance. If you're able to contribute, please consider bringing non-perishable items such as tins, jars, rice, or dried pasta. All donations will be distributed locally by the parish's Saint Vincent de Paul Society to support those in need.

### **The Book Club**

The club meets on the first Monday evening each month for Lectio Divina and on the third Monday for study of the writings of the Popes, in the Old Priory at 7:00pm. October's Lectio Text is 2 Timothy Chapter 1, The Popes' writings is Pope Leos' [Homily for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time](#). The upcoming dates are this **Monday, 6 October and Monday, 20 October**. All are welcome.

### **Newman Association Talk**

Join us for a special talk hosted by the Newman Association on **Tuesday, 7 October at 2:30pm**, taking place in the lounge at **Sacred Hearts' Hall**, Moorend Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 9AU. Our guest speaker will be Hope Price, who served as a Marie Curie nurse for 35 years and continues to care for terminally ill patients in their homes. Hope is also a published author, known for her writings on angels. She was featured on *Songs of Praise* last December, with the BBC filming at her home church in Fairford. Her talk will focus on the theme: Angels.

### **St Thomas More Fish & Chip Supper & Quiz Night**

Join us for an evening of fun, food, and friendly competition! **Friday 24 October from 7:00pm at St Thomas More Hall**. Enjoy a delicious fish & chip supper followed by a lively quiz — all for just £12. Tickets are available after STM Mass or by contacting Helen on 01242 582394. Bring your friends and test your trivia skills — we would love to see you there!

## **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.

### **Invitation to Catechists**

All catechists within our pastoral area who are involved in Sacramental preparation or the Children's Liturgy of the Word are warmly invited to a Day of Reflection at **Sacred Hearts Church, Charlton Kings**. The event will take place on **Saturday 18 October**, beginning with Mass at 9:15am and concluding by 3:15pm. The day will include a talk by Fr David on the Eucharist. For more information contact: [pastoral.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:pastoral.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com)

### **First Holy Communion Programme 2025-2026**

Children in school year 3 or above who wish to make their First Holy Communion in June 2026 are invited to join the parish preparation programme starting in early November 2025. The parent information meeting will be on **Tuesday, 21 October at 6:00pm at St Gregory's School**. Parents/guardians are invited to register their child using the online form available on the parish website. For further information about the programme email: [pastoral.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:pastoral.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com)

### **Thinking of Becoming a Catechist?**

The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph are offering a series of three weekly online sessions exploring the foundations of catechesis:

- *What is catechesis?*
- *What sources should we use in catechesis?*
- *How can we prepare an effective catechetical session?*

These sessions begin on **Saturday 6 December**, running from **9:00am to 12:00pm**. [Register Here!](#)

### **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 Sunday's after 9:30am Mass beginning in January. **Please read more and then register for this using the 'Confirmation' button on the website.**

### **Marriage Preparation Weekend – January 2026**

***Are you engaged and preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage?*** The Christian Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst offers a Residential Marriage Preparation Weekend each January, designed for couples who are committed to their faith and eager to explore the Church's vision for marriage. Rooted in Scripture and Tradition, this enriching weekend includes thoughtful reflection and learning, time for prayer and spiritual growth, opportunities to connect with other like-minded couples, and a peaceful retreat setting to deepen your relationship. More information is here:

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/marriage-preparation>

### **Quinquennial Survey**

The Church, Presbytery and Old Priory have had their 5-yearly inspections, and the surveyor has reported his findings. Happily, he didn't find much that we weren't aware of, and identified defects are already mainly in the mix for our programme of ongoing maintenance. One issue which did come up was active woodworm in the floors of the upper parts of the tower and spire. Contractors attended last week and applied an appropriate treatment which will ensure that the beetles cause no further lasting damage.

### **Parking outside of the Church**

***Please note that parking is not permitted in St James Square, except for Blue Badge holders.*** Several parishioners have recently received parking tickets while attending Mass. For convenience, free parking for up to 3 hours is available at Waitrose, just a five-minute walk from the church.

**Of your charity,** pray for repose of the souls of *Samuel Murphy, Margaret Allen, Eric Baldwin, Marlene Huber, George Martin, Doreen Kirby and Thomas Dolan* who have recently died. **May they rest in peace.**

**Remember in your prayers those whose Anniversaries occur this week:** *Anthony Gardner, Roderic Brewer, Nancy Harrington and Collette Evans.*

**Would you like to receive a copy of the parish newsletter by email?** Register your email address via the link on the home page of the parish website.

### **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, 5 October 2025**

**Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

**Entrance Antiphon**

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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**

**Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4**

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise.

And the Lord answered me: 'Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it. For still the vision awaits its appointed time; it hastens to the end — it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay.

'Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him, but the righteous shall live by his faith.'

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps 95(94)**

***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**

**2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14**

Beloved: I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear, but of power and love and self-control. Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia. The word of the Lord remains for ever and this word is the good news that was preached to you. Alleluia.

**Gospel**

**Luke 17:8-10**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

At that time: The Apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' And the Lord said, 'If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and planted in the sea", and it would obey you.

'Will any one of you who has a servant ploughing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, "Come at once and recline at table"? Will he not rather say to him, "Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterwards you will eat and drink"? Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, "We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty."

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the sacrifices instituted by your commands and, through the sacred mysteries, which we celebrate with dutiful service, graciously complete the sanctifying work by which you are pleased to redeem us. Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon**

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

**Or:**

Though many, we are one bread, one body, for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.

**Prayer after Communion**

Grant us, almighty God, that we may be refreshed and nourished by the Sacrament which we have received, so as to be transformed into what we consume. Through Christ our Lord.