

Catholic Community in Cheltenham

Served by the Diocese of Clifton Registered Charity Number 1170168

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Psalter 5 and Proper of Season

Page 169

18th March 2018

Readings: Jeremiah 31: 31-34; Hebrews 5: 7-9

Gospel: "If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest" (John 12 20-30)



www.40daysforlife.com
 Seeking God's help this Lent
 To end abortion through
 *Daily Prayer*Fasting*Witness
 Join us for peaceful prayers out-
 side
 Cheltenham General Hospital
 Every Friday 8am-1pm

St Gregory the Great 10 St James Square, GL50 3PR ☎01242 523737

Parish Office Hours: Monday-Friday: 10.00am-1.00pm

Parish Priest: Fr David Mills

Attached Priest: Fr David McDonald

Deacon: Rev. Robin Littlewood

Parish Website: www.stgregorys.org.uk

Email Address: cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliffondiocese.com

St Thomas More Princess Elizabeth Way, GL51 7RA ☎01242 573128

Priest in Charge: Fr Frank Wainwright **Website:** www.stthomasmorechurch.org.uk

Schools: St Gregory's RC Primary School, St James Square GL50 3QG

St Thomas More RC Primary School, Lewis Road, Hesters Way GL51 OHZ

All Saints' Academy, Blaisdon Way, Cheltenham GL51 OWH

Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary - Parish Priest: Fr Mark Moran

Parish Website: www.sacredhearts.org.uk

Moorend Road, Charlton Kings, GL53 9AU ☎01242 524932

Mass Times This Week - FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Day of Special Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments

Day	Time	Parish	Special Prayer
18th Sunday	5.00pm (Sat)	St Thomas More	Mary Newman RIP
	5.30pm (Sat)	Sacred Hearts	Eileen Morrissey RIP
	8.15am	Sacred Hearts	Edwardo Cruz RIP
	9.30am	St Gregory	Maureen Henderson RIP
	10.30am	Sacred Hearts	Belle Brooks RIP
	11.15am	St Gregory	People of the Parish
19th Monday	6.00pm	St Gregory	Kate Durkan RIP
	Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary		
	9.15am	Sacred Hearts	Intention of Tommy Kelly
20th Tuesday	9.30am	St Gregory	In Thanksgiving
	Weekday of Lent		
21st Wednesday	9.30am	St Gregory	Mary Wixey RIP
	7.00pm	Sacred Hearts	John & Janet Priest RIP
22nd Thursday	Weekday of Lent		
	9.30am	St Gregory	Joe Evans RIP
	10.00am	Sacred Hearts	St Edward's Prep School Mass
23rd Friday	9.15am	Sacred Hearts	John Smith (Thanksgiving 90th b'd)
	1.00pm	St Gregory	Marie Croft RIP
24th Saturday	9.30am	St Gregory	Ian Costelloe RIP
	7.00pm	Sacred Hearts	John Priest RIP
24th Saturday	Weekday of Lent		
	9.15am	Sacred Hearts	People of the Parish
	9.30am	St Gregory	Mary O'Reilly RIP

Sacrament of Reconciliation

St Gregory's Saturdays 10.00-11.00am

St Thomas More 4.30-4.45pm.

Sacred Hearts Tuesdays 7.30pm (after Evening Mass) and Saturdays 9.15-9.45am

Prayers for Vocations

St Gregory's: Saturdays 10-11.00am.

Baptisms

By arrangement with the Parish Office.

Cheltenham Young Catholic Adults

Meet every 3rd Saturday of the month: 6-8pm downstairs, Old Priory. Contact Margaret 07515 805015 or Damian 07908 105787.

Legion of Mary

Mondays at 5.00-6pm in the Old Priory Library. For info. ring Lucy Costelloe on 261441 or Mick Slevin on 513453.

SVP

Tuesday evenings in the Old Priory. New members welcome. For info. email: svpchelt@gmail.com

Bingo

Every Thursday evening at St Thomas More Hall, 8pm; in support of STM Development Fund

55 Club

After 9.30am Mass, Old Priory (alternate Thursdays). Next meeting: 22nd March.

Choir Practice

In Church, Fridays 6.30pm. New members welcome.

Music Group Practice

In the Old Priory or St Thomas More, every other Saturday, 10.00am. New members welcome.

CHRISM MASS: Clifton Cathedral on Wednesday, 28th March @ 11.00am

Please complete form for travel via Coach (**Block Capitals**), and return to the Parish Office. Correct money: £10.00 per person) by Friday, 23rd March.

Name Number of Seats

Contact Number

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 attached to the Palm Sunday edition of the newsletter (25th March), and are on the tables at the back of Church.

Finance

Last week's offertory collection came to £1,118.95 (SG); £369.02, which includes £66.30 from the Kerala Community (STM); Bingo £130.00 (STM); Jericho £1,985.00 of which £1,550 was Gift Aid generating a further £387.50 in tax relief (SG). Thank you for your generosity & continued support.

Lenten Alms

During the season of Lent, Lenten Alms are offered for distribution by the Bishop. Please place your offerings in the box marked Lenten Alms.

Stations of the Cross

This will be celebrated every Sunday during Lent, at 5pm at St Gregory's Church.

Swim for Diabetes Research

Jo Johnston has taken on a challenge to swim the equivalent of the English Channel for Junior Type 1 Diabetic Research. The JDRF "Make a Splash Channel Swim" challenge began in January and is due to finish at the beginning of April. Jo has currently managed 11 miles with 10 to go. In a similar challenge she swam 1224 lengths, but this pales in comparison to the number of injections and testing her son Peter and other young people with Type 1 Diabetes have to do. In the 12-week challenge Peter will have done 1680 injections and tests. In 1 year this would be equivalent to 4 Channel Swims. Please help find a cure by donating at the following 'Just Giving' link <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Josephine-Johnston1>

Chrism Mass: Wednesday, 28th March at 11.00am

Will be celebrated in Clifton Cathedral by Bishop Declan. at 11.00 am on Wednesday, 28th March. The Mass is a great gathering of the whole diocesan family. A coach has been booked, leaving Sacred Hearts at 8.45am, picking up at St Gregory's at 9.00am. We will return to Cheltenham at approximately 3.00pm. Please bring a packed lunch (weather permitting we will stop on the Downs to eat our lunch.) If you would like to attend this Mass, please complete the form below and return to the Parish office together with the correct money £10 person, in an envelope marked "Chrism Mass", by Wednesday, 21st March.

Mission Team

St Gregory's School are proud to be welcoming a mission team from the Sion Community 17th-19th April. Please keep the school in your prayers as they prepare for this mission that is aiming to bridge the year of 'mission' to the year of 'prayer' following the end of our 'making a difference' project that saw the school community doing a 365 day relay of good deeds to live out our faith. This relay ended last Wednesday on 28th February. Thank you to all parishioners who took part in the relay and carried the virtual baton for the day. We would love parishioners to join us for parts of the mission in April and will let you know more nearer the time.

APF Red Boxes

Please hand in to St Gregory's Sacristy or Presbytery (to Mary Flood at St Thomas More), by Sunday, 18th March. Please ensure your name is on the box. Thank you.

Clocks "Spring" Forward

A gentle reminder to adjust your clocks next Saturday night, **24th March** to GMT time, 1 hour forward.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Covenant is renewed in this Sunday's first reading. You could say that the Covenant is re-written and re-inscribed but not in a way that God's People had imagined. Remember that image from two Sundays ago and the gift of Law on Mount Sinai. There the Law was written on those two tablets of stone; now it is to be written on the human heart. God plants his law deep within us writing it upon the very core of our being. In doing so God shows mercy, compassion and forgiveness towards his people in giving them a new start. But maybe during this *Year of Mission* we need to take note of the request made to Philip in the Gospel, '*We want to see Jesus*'. It may not be articulated in such a way, but is that the request of today? Are there people *looking* for Jesus, wanting to find him and come near to him? The answer is 'yes'. As disciples, we are the ones who can point people to the Lord; we can enable people to find him and encounter him in us if our lives are centred on the law of love planted within us. We mustn't be afraid of allowing others who search to encounter the Lord through us!

Fish and Chip Supper & Quiz

Friday, 23rd March at 7.30pm in St Thomas More Hall. A Fish & Chip supper and quiz for £7.50. Tickets on sale after STM Mass or from Helen on 582394.

Clerk to the Governing Board: St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

Applications are invited for this position. Please email Cathy Hipkiss, Acting Chair at chipkissgov@st-thomasmore.gloucs.sch.uk for a Job Description about the main duties, qualifications and experience of the role. For an initial conversation, please phone 07733 005959.

Good Friday: CAFOD SOUP Lunch

There will be a Soup Lunch provided in the Old Priory on Good Friday, 30th March from 12-2pm, between the Children's Stations of the Cross and the 3pm Liturgy of the Passion. All donations will go to CAFOD. All Welcome.

Stations of the Cross for Families

This service will take place on Good Friday, 30th March at 11:30am and everyone is invited to attend. Children are welcome to come along in a costume from biblical times. If you would like more information, please ring Anne Holbrook on 01242 352033. There will be a Good Friday collection for the Holy Places at this service.

Our Prayers are asked for:-

Sick: Claire Young, Helen and Lawrence Gorry, Christopher Browne, Baby Ezra Cooper, Barbara Sims, Rey Lluisma, Helen Stanbury, Mary Costello, Lisa Partridge, Dan Perry, Teresa Deneher, Pauline Butler, Cecilia McKenna, Pat Murphy, Maria Brown, David Blake, Patricia Hamilton, Anne Guppy, Daisy Ward, Elizabeth Davies, John & Patricia Thorley.

Deceased: Winifred Walsh & Patricia Lodge RIP.

Anniversaries: Jill Hanger, Emily Cousins, Maria Smotryckyj, Janet Bonnar, Daphne Keeling, Nora Fitzgerald, Marta Wegrzyn, Philomena Palmer.