

St Gregory the Great Catholic Church



S. GREGORY
THE GREAT

10 St James' Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PR

Tel: 01242 523737

Web: www.stgregorys.org.uk

Email: cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com

The parish office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am till 12 Noon

Parish Priest: Rev. David Mills

Permanent Deacon: Rev. John Andrews

Parish Secretary: Mary Challis

Parish Finance Administrator: Michael Burnell

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday, 17th March <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments</i>	9.30am <i>Private Intention</i> 11.15am <i>People of the Parish</i> 4.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 5.00pm <i>Intentions of the Hopewell Family</i>
Monday, 18th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	2.30pm <i>Funeral Service for Mary Lombard RIP</i>
Tuesday, 19th March <i>Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of The Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30am <i>Sarah McKenna RIP</i>
Wednesday, 20th March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	No Mass
Thursday, 21st March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.30am <i>Philomena Quinn RIP</i>
Friday, 22nd March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.30am (Whole School Mass) <i>Gerard (Gerry) Millar RIP</i>
Saturday, 23rd March <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.30am <i>Kahlid & Madelaine Ayar RIP</i>
Sunday, 24th March <i>Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord</i>	9.30am <i>Moir Jones RIP</i> 11.15am <i>Michael Gompertz RIP</i> 4.00pm <i>Stations of the Cross</i> 5.00pm <i>People of the Parish</i>
Saturday Mornings Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10:00 - 10:30am	

Readings for today's Mass



Scan the code on your smart phone or tablet and this will take you to the readings. This works for any day, not just Sundays.

Page: 169 in the Parish Mass Book

ARRANGING A WEDDING

Congratulations on your engagement!

To arrange a wedding, an initial meeting with Fr David is necessary so that the canonical and civil processes can be explained and correctly followed. Couples need to give at least six months' notice.

ARRANGING A BAPTISM

Congratulations on the birth of your baby!

First, parents must begin the process by seeing Fr David in person at a Sunday Mass. He can check a few simple facts. After this an appointment can be made to fill in a baptism application form. We do not deal with initial arrangements by phone, email or through other members of the family, but in person with the parents. They need to attend a preparation session before the baptism can take place.



Donate Here

Scan the code to support our parish. If you can add gift aid your donation it can mean more to us

Our Sanctuary lamps this week are burning in memory of:

Main Altar: David McDonald RIP

Lady Chapel: Deceased Family & Friends of the Teesdale Family

The production of this newsletter is kindly sponsored by:

Mason & Stokes

FUNERAL SERVICE

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 located on the tables at the exits of the Church. Donations can also be made via the dona machines or the parish website. Thank you.

About Today's Music at 11.15am

Today we conclude our series of Eucharistic texts written by St Thomas Aquinas (ca1225-74), the 750th anniversary of whose death we observe this year. The very last poem he wrote (and some scholars dispute that it was indeed written by Thomas) begins *Adoro te, devote*; an English translation, by the late Victorian Jesuit poet Gerard Manley Hopkins, can be found in the Laudate hymnal, No. 660. We will sing this hymn together during Communion today, but one of the verses of Thomas's poem was omitted, and the choir will sing that in a setting by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (ca1525-94): *O memoriale mortis Domini! Panis vivus vitam praestans homini! Praesta meae menti de te vivere et te illi semper dulce sapere. Pie Pellicane, Jesu Domine, me immundum munda tuo sanguine.* (O memorial of the death of the Lord, Living bread that conveys life to humanity. Give this life to me that I may always taste thy sweetness. O pious Pelican, Jesus Lord, cleanse me by thy blood).

St Kenelm Pastoral Area Penitential Service – St Thomas more Church: Tuesday, 19 March @ 7pm

The Church asks that everybody participates in the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Lent period to prepare for their Easter Communion. This is a golden opportunity to fulfil this requirement in the context of a communal celebration. 5 or 6 priests will be available on the night to hear confessions.

Tenebrae at St Gregory's

This special office (literally meaning 'shadows') will be sung on the Wednesday of Holy Week ('Spy Wednesday'), **27 March at 7pm**. The ecumenical service, about an hour's duration, is a meditation on the betrayal, arrest and crucifixion of Christ, with the gradual extinguishing of candles marking darkness's incursion into the world, darkness which is finally conquered by the Light which darkness could not overpower.

Stations of the Cross for Families

This Service will take place on **Good Friday, 29 March at 10.30am**, and families are invited to attend. Children are welcome to come along in a costume from biblical times. If your child would like to read a part, please email Anne Holbrook on annemholbrook@hotmail.com

Good Friday Soup Lunch: 11.45am-1.30pm

In the Old Priory after the Children's Stations of the Cross in aid of the work of CAFOD.

Away Day Focussing on The Eucharist for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Volunteers

If you are an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, a Catechist of any description, an adult altar server or anybody who requires a DBS check to function as a volunteer in the parish, you are warmly invited, and indeed encouraged, to attend an away day at **Sacred Hearts Parish, Saturday, 27 April**. The morning will commence with Mass at 10.a.m in the Church. This will be followed by two 45-minute sessions in the hall presented by Fr David on Jesus, the Passover, and the Eucharist, followed by a lunch break. Please bring your own lunch; tea and coffee will be provided. In the afternoon Janice Pearson, the Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator will give a 45-minute training session on Safeguarding. The Catholic Church, as part of its serious commitment to safeguarding, has made it a requirement that all volunteers in parishes receive some safeguarding training. Janice's session will fulfil this requirement for anybody who requires a DBS check to function in a parish and would be a great opportunity to do this training with other volunteers on a face-to-face basis. The day will end shortly after 2pm. Please attend both the retreat day on the Eucharist and the safeguarding session.

Easter Flowers – Retiring Collection

There will be a retiring collection for donations towards Easter Flowers **this Sunday**. Please give as generously as you can. Our flower teams really appreciate your donations to ensure our church looks beautiful over the Easter season. Donations can also be made via the Dona machine at the back of the church, or via our website.

300 Club – Prize Draw, February 2024

Congratulations to the following winners of the February draw. 1st Prize £100 Littlewood (25), 2nd Prize £50 Garthwaite (70), 3rd Prize £25 Silvanus-Davis (68). Your prize cheques are on their way.

Your prayers are asked for those who have recently died: Mary Webb RIP.

Remember those whose Anniversaries occur at this time: Gertrude Deeks, Jill Hanger, Shirley Ayres, Emily Cousins, Maria Smatryckyj, Peter Wixey, Daphne Keeling, Marta Wegrzyn, Philomena Palmer.