



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

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/ParishStGregoryCheltenham

Parish Priest: Rev. Canon David Mills VF

Permanent Deacon: Rev. John Andrews

Parish Administrator: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week Ordinary Time - Week 25	
Sunday, 20th September <i>Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>Home Mission Sunday</i> <i>Second Collection: Home Missions</i>	9:30am (<i>Children's Mass</i>) <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Wallace & Kelly families RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Brian Gilbert RIP</i> 5:00pm <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday, 21st September <i>Feast of St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist</i>	9:30am <i>Neil Hext RIP</i>
Tuesday, 22nd September <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Richard Partington RIP</i>
Wednesday, 23rd September <i>Memorial of St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest</i>	9:30am <i>Vincent Gillen RIP</i>
Thursday, 24th September <i>Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham</i>	9:30am <i>Joseph Sheen RIP</i>
Friday, 25th September <i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Mary Wren RIP</i> 11:00am <i>Funeral Service for Daniel Warren</i> 3:00pm <i>Marriage of Stephanie Pugh & Jonathan Wakefield</i>
Saturday, 26th September <i>Our Lady on Saturday</i>	9:30am <i>Deceased of the Cody Family</i>
Sunday, 27th September <i>Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30am <i>Family Mass</i> <i>Wallace & Aston families RIP</i> 11:15am <i>Solemn Sung Mass</i> <i>Intentions of Lee-Anne Lloyd</i> 5:00pm <i>Liam Kilbride RIP</i>
Our sanctuary lamps are burning this week in memory of: <i>Sanctuary: Ben McDonald RIP</i> <i>Our Lady Chapel: Deceased family and friends of the Teesdale family</i>	

Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Each Saturday morning after Mass from 10:00am - 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 course prior to the Baptism.

Holy Rosary

The holy rosary is prayed in Church each Friday evening at 5:00pm

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.

Sacrament of the Sick

Hospital Visits: If you or a loved one is admitted to either Cheltenham General, or Gloucester Royal hospital and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please ask for the hospital chaplaincy team on 0300 422 2222. The Sacrament of the Sick brings strength, peace and comfort, making present Christ's healing love for those who are unwell.

St Gregory's is a *drive simply* Parish

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Second Collection this Sunday – Home Missions

A second collection will be taken this **Sunday, 20 September**, for the Home Mission Appeal. On Home Mission Sunday we pray for the work of evangelisation in our countries and reflect on our response to the Lord's invitation to share our faith. Parishes are invited to have a second collection for the work of the Home Mission desk of the Catholic Bishops' Conference which exists to support evangelisation nationally. The staff advise dioceses, parishes, movements, and Catholic organisations and offer a range of resources.

Farewell Deacon Martyn

This weekend marks the end of Deacon Martyn's placement in the parish, as he returns to Rome on Monday to continue his studies. We would like to thank Martyn for his ministry with us over the summer and assure him of our prayers and very best wishes as he begins his final year at the Seminary. We wish you every blessing for the year ahead.

The Faithful Fellowship (16-18Yrs)

Our Faithful Fellowship group welcomes A-level, college, and university students who want to pray together, explore meaningful conversations, and occasionally take part in charitable projects. Join us for our next bring-and-share gathering of food, prayer, and conversation on **Sunday, 20 September**. We begin with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Church at 5:45pm with the meeting finishing at 7:30pm.

Magnifica Humanitas

Magnifica Humanitas is the first encyclical letter of Pope Leo. There will be a day exploring Magnifica Humanitas on **Saturday, 24 October at St Brendan's College, Brislington**. Speakers will be Bishop Bosco, Dr Austen Ivereigh and Professor Carmody Grey (tbc). The day starts at 10:00am (refreshments from 9:30am) and finishes at 4:00pm - please take a packed lunch. You can register for the day on this link:

<https://magnificahumanitas.eventbrite.co.uk>

Essential Training for Catechists

Starting **Saturday, 5 December**, from **9:00am-12:00 midday**, this short online course offers three morning sessions exploring the foundations of catechesis. *Together, we will discover: the essential nature and key principles of catechesis; the different sources of catechesis; practical ways to prepare and deliver effective catechesis.* The course is open to everyone involved or interested in catechesis, whether working with adults, young people or children. Register here: [Zoom Registration](#) Come and deepen your understanding, confidence and skills as a catechist.

Parish Project 2027

The parish is now inviting nominations for a project or charity to support in 2027. Parishioners may nominate a charity by submitting a short-written application setting out why it should be chosen. The Parish Pastoral Council will select a shortlist of two or three charities. Nominators will then be invited to give a brief presentation after Mass and may also promote their charity from a table in The Old Priory. The congregation will vote on the shortlist, with details of the voting process to follow. The charity with the most support will become the parish charity for the next calendar year. Its sponsor will also be invited to suggest fundraising events and activities. The chosen project/charity will be required to report back to the parish on how the donations are being used. ***To make a nomination, please use the link on the parish website home page.*** Nominations close on **Sunday, 11 October 2026.**

Relics of Saints Jacinta and Francisco

On **Saturday and Sunday, 26 and 27 September**, the National Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, together with the relics of St Jacinta and St Francisco, will be visiting **Clifton Cathedral**. All are warmly invited to take part in this special opportunity for prayer and devotion. Please see the poster in the Narthex for more information.

Confirmation 2027

Registration for the 2027 confirmation program is now open. Confirmation is a sacrament in which we choose to accept the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives and begin to make adult decisions about how we live out our faith in the world. Our program is designed for young people at school in year 9 or above. If you are interested, please follow the link on the website for more information and for the registration form.

First Holy Communion Programme 2026/2027

Parents of children in school year 3 who would like them to join the First Holy Communion programme are invited to a meeting on **Tuesday, 13 October at 6:30pm in St Gregory's school**. To register your child and see further details of the programme please follow this link: [First Holy Communion 2026 – 27 – St Gregory's Church](#) If you have any questions about the programme please contact:

pastoral.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@Cliftondiocese.com

RCIA – A Journey in Faith

Our RCIA programme is open to adults from sixth form age upwards who are exploring the Catholic faith or looking to deepen their relationship with God. The next session will be on **Thursday, 1 October at 6:30pm in The Old Priory**. All are welcome!

The Study Group

At our next meeting on **Monday, 21 September**, we will reflect on Pope Leo's prayer intention for September, "**For the Care of Water**", using a short video message as the basis for our discussion and prayer. Watch the video here: [Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for September](#)

From Seed to plant – the Theological Life Journey

Join us for a day for catechists and anyone interested in becoming a catechist, led by Sr Hyacinthe Defos du Rau OP. The day will also include Mass celebrated by Bishop Bosco and the commissioning of those who have successfully completed the two-year *Light of Truth* catechist formation programme. The event will be held on **Saturday 17 October** at St John the Evangelist, Bath. Refreshments will be available from **9.30am** for a **10.00am** start, and the day will conclude at approximately **4.00pm**. Please bring a packed lunch. The church is conveniently located near Bath railway station. Those travelling by car are asked to use the Park & Ride, as on-site parking is limited. To book your place, visit:

fromseedtoplant.eventbrite.co.uk

Caritas Clifton Administration Support

We have had a Caritas initiative in the Diocese as part of the Catholic Social Action Network for many years. (www.csan.org.uk). The bishop is now keen that this is developed into a practical resource for parishes. We are looking for volunteers to assist in the setting up, and administration, of the initiative. This could be for a few hours per week or days. For more information, please contact Deacon Robert von Hawrylak on caritasclifton@cliftondiocese.com.

Sacred Hearts' Christmas Fayre

The annual Sacred Hearts' Christmas Fayre will take place on **Saturday, 28 November**, from 12 noon to 3.00pm in the Sacred Hearts Parish Hall. All proceeds from the fayre will be donated to charitable causes.

The Season of Creation Reflection

A reflection retreat will take place from **24 to 27 September at Brownhill Monastery, Stroud**, exploring the theme Loving God, Living simply, Living deeply. Residential and daytime-only bookings are available; contact Sr Hilda at: bookings_brownhill@yahoo.co.uk.

Of your charity, pray for the souls of Neil Hext, Mona Connor, Dave Bunting and Catherine Parker who have recently died. May they rest in Peace.

Remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur this week: Patrick Holland, Patricia Meyrick, Mary Palmer, Wilfred McGreal, Malachy Ballantine, Anthony Cassidy, Alison McAlary and Richard Ford.

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

Solemn Mass
Credo III - No 503

CCTV operates 24 hours a day for public safety,
property protection and crime prevention.
For enquiries, call 01242 523737.

An induction loop system is available in Church.
Please switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Entrance Antiphon

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Collect

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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

Isaiah 55:6-9

Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 145(144)

R: The Lord is close to all who call him.

*I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
The Lord is great and highly to be praised;
his greatness cannot be measured. R*

*The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. R*

*The Lord is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth.
The Lord is close to all who call him. R*

Second reading

Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your Son. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too."

'And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

Or:

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me

Prayer after Communion

Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. Through Christ our Lord.

