



# A WARM WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Beeches Green • STROUD • GL5 4AA • (01453) 762442

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## Thirtieth Week of Ordinary Time Sunday Cycle Year B, Weekday Cycle Year 1, Psalter Week 2

Date	Mass Times	Celebrations	Intentions
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6:30pm ( <i>Saturday</i> ) 8:30am ( <i>Painswick</i> ) 10:00am	<b>Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	Mervyn (R.I.P.) & Maggie Ind and family & friends People of the Parishes Maria McClarkin R.I.P.
<b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	10:00am ( <i>Stonehouse</i> )	Weekday	Elizabeth de Salles R.I.P.
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> October</b>	6:00pm	Weekday	Florentino Pagazaurtundua R.I.P.
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	1:15pm ( <i>Woodchester</i> )	<b>Funeral Mass</b>	Roy Ford
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October</b>	10:00am	<b>Feast of Saints Simon and Jude</b>	Missionary Activity of the Church
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>	9:00am ( <i>Woodchester</i> )	Weekday	Father Vincent Curtis
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	No Morning Mass	Weekday	
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	6:30pm ( <i>Saturday</i> ) 8:30am ( <i>Painswick</i> ) 10:00am	<b>Solemnity of All Saints</b>	Special Intention People of the Parishes Jermyn Family.

**Diocesan Prayer Link:** We pray for the parish of: **Holy Rood**, Swindon.

**The public celebration of Mass continues this week.  
The Sunday Obligation has not been reintroduced.**

We pray for all those within our parish and their intentions including: the communities at the Monastery of Our Lady and Saint Bernard, Brownhill and More Hall, Randwick; and all those connected with our schools.

### Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

'Proclaim! Praise! Shout!', the Lord says through the prophet Jeremiah, in our first reading, exhorting his people to recognise that he has saved them. We need to rejoice in the Lord, making our own the words we say or sing in our psalm: 'What the marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.' The Lord does intervene in our lives and he assures us that in him we have the light of life. The man who was blind at the beginning of our gospel, has sight given to him, and we are told that he followed Jesus along the road. As we follow Jesus along the road of life we need to bear witness to him, helping others to also follow his way. The theme for this year's World Mission Sunday celebrated this weekend, reminds us that like the apostles, 'we cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard'.

### **YOUR PRAYERS** *are asked for those who are housebound, in nursing homes, in hospital or sick including:*

Maggie Ind, Stephen Hassall, Conrad Newman, Jo Curtan, Dermot Mullen, Agnes Willis, Maggie Kieron, Tony Allsopp, Mary Paul, Virginia Couchman, Edward Johnson, Janet Strong, Maria Capicotto, Antonietta Lazdans, Vivienne Tarn, Sarah Williams, Gisele Smart, Helen Hursthouse, Gerardo Capaldo, Michael Flint, Clare McDermott, Pat King, Margot Williams, June & John Privett, Olivia Bouzyk, Raphael Moore, Brian O'Donoghue, Kitty McCoy, Finley, Pilar, Ursula Kyne, Imelda Kucharzyszyn, Lisa Knight, Francis Kerrigan, Monika Smit, Rebecca Frazier, Bevan, Lucia Mirkovic, Joan O'Donoghue, Sister Quentin, Peter Ollis, Peter McCombie, Anne Allen, Sister Catherine, Daryl Jackson, Lola Long, Grace Harper, Jamie Watt, Maggie, Woody, Thea Gregson, Peter Tay, Ann Enright, Jill Chapman, Janie Wilmot, Kevin Sivell, Theresa Finneran, Niall Walker, Murray Dolan, Cecilia Redgrave, Christopher & Clifford Browne, Victor Vincent, Stephen Carden, John Stephens, Phyllis Bruton, Marilyn Anderson, Chris Strong, Kate Thorley, Amanda Mullins, Paul O'Keith, Simon Terry, John Cibulskas, Anna Dowdeswell, Stephen & Paul Coupe, Anthea Van Venroy, Maisie McGinley and all their carers.

**To add a name to this list please contact the parish office – please ensure you have the agreement of the sick person.**

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for October** concerns missionary disciples. We pray that every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavour of the Gospel.

**World Mission Sunday** is this weekend. This is a special day that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, celebration and care for the family of the Church. Thanks to the sacrifice and witness of missionaries, the Catholic Church is growing; many Churches can now take care of themselves. However, over 40% of the Church across the world still needs our help. By supporting Missio we directly help over 1,000 dioceses in these young Churches, bringing hope and new life to people thirsting to hear of God's love for them. Through Missio, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection this Sunday. All donations may be gift-aided by using the envelopes which were distributed last weekend. For more information about this special day please visit <https://missio.org.uk/world-mission-sunday/wms2021/>. On our diocesan website there is also information including a podcast with contribution from Father Gary who is diocesan director for Missio: <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/world-mission-sunday-with-fr-gary-brassington/>.

**Holy Hour on World Mission Sunday**, 24<sup>th</sup> October at 4:00pm at Saint Joseph's Church, Stonehouse. There will be tea and coffee in the parish hall afterwards.

**Christmas Draw 2021:** Tickets are available from our churches or from the parish office, for our Grand Christmas Draw which includes some superb prizes. Ticket stubs and money can be returned in the envelopes provided to the parish office or at weekend Masses. If you can take tickets for people who are shielding or too frail to come to Mass, please do so and spread the word. The draw will take place during the Christmas Fayre on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November. **Tickets are £1 each and £5 for a book of 5. The prizes are: 1. A 6ft Nordmann fir Christmas Tree; 2. A family visit to meet two of Santa's reindeer; 3. Christmas Hamper donated by Executive Energy; 4. Dinner for two with wine donated by the Stirrup Cup, Bisley; 5. Afternoon tea for two donated by the Kitchen, Minchinhampton; and a number of other prizes.**

**First Holy Communion:** Application forms for the First Holy Communion programme due to commence at the beginning of November are available. Please return these to Father Gary, Deacon Steve or the parish office by 31<sup>st</sup> October. Full timetables are also available.

**Dare to Dream:** Our diocesan series continues. Please visit <https://cliftondiocese.com/dare-to-dream/> for this week's reflection featuring Father Richard Elson, parish priest in Portishead and Nailsea.

**Synod 2023:** Following the launch of the Synod preparations in our diocese last weekend there are a number of information sessions taking place around the diocese, as well as a couple of online sessions during November. For more information please visit <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/synod-information-sessions/>.

**Cafod:** Thank you to all who contributed to the Cafod Harvest Collection. The Soup lunch raised £184.00 and a very happy time was enjoyed by all. We were delighted to welcome a group from our Rosary Primary School. Many thanks to the staff who brought them along and shared in the lunch. The weekend collection from the Parish was £691.59 so the total, including the soup money, was **£875.59**.

**Health Centre Parking:** The health centre is due to be used for vaccination clinics most Saturdays and some Sundays (including 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> October) until at least the end of the year. When the clinics are taking place there is no parking at the health centre for those using the church. The Saturday clinics are due to continue until 8:30pm. The car park at Saint Rose's School may be used for parking by those coming to the church for Saturday evening Mass and Sunday morning Mass (it must not be used on other days/times).

**Dates for your Diaries:** Our **Christmas Fayre** is planned for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November (9:30am – 1:00pm). Christmas Draw tickets are available. Also we hope to have the **Carols by Candlelight** service on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 6:30pm. Please put these dates in your diaries – both events are lovely parts of our parish life.

**Newman Association:** There will be a talk on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 2.30pm in the lounge of Sacred Hearts' Hall (Moorend Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham GL53 9AU). John Price will be giving a talk on the Guild of Saint Joseph & Saint Dominic at Ditchling. All are welcome. Admission is £3.00 (members and students free). Enquires to Stephanie Jamison (01242 539810).

**Parish Information during Covid-19:** There is a separate sheet available with information regarding the celebration of Mass and other aspects of parish and sacramental life during this time (it is included as pages three and four of the version of the newsletter available from our website).

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## SITUATION REGARDING SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES

In common with the other bishops of England and Wales, Bishop Declan has issued a decree in light of the Covid-19 situation. Within this decree it is clear that:

- The obligation of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday or Holy Day of Obligation is removed until further notice.
- The faithful may choose one of the following alternatives to attending Sunday Mass:
  - Taking part may include watching a Sunday Mass online, or on television, and so receive Holy Communion spiritually; OR
  - Reflecting on the Sunday Liturgical text, reading the Bible or saying the Rosary

Public Mass continues in our churches. Some of the restrictions hitherto in place are slowly being relaxed, although this relaxation may be paused or reversed if national or local conditions warrant this. All measures are intended to enable people to confidently and safely participate in the celebration of Mass:

- The obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation is **not** being reintroduced at this time. Those who prefer not to come to the church for Mass at this time are not obliged to do so.
- Hand sanitiser will be available upon entering and leaving the church.
- It is strongly recommended that face coverings/masks are worn (unless exempt).
- An area of the church continues to be marked for social-distancing. Those seated in those areas should wear face coverings/masks.
- When moving around the church appropriate social-distancing should be maintained.
- Singing will be slowly reintroduced, whether by the whole congregation or by the choir alone. When singing it is particularly recommended that face coverings/masks are worn by members of the congregation until infection levels reduce. Initially the Gospel Acclamation and Great Amen will be sung.
- The Mass continues to be adapted in various ways including the omission of the sign of peace and the distribution of Holy Communion will be under one kind.
- Those wishing to receive Holy Communion or a blessing should come forward in a considerate way, enabling those who wish to observe social-distancing.
- While it is recommended that Holy Communion should currently be received on the hand, those choosing to receive Holy Communion on the tongue and/or kneeling may do so. It may be preferable that those receiving on the tongue or kneeling should receive last. At Stroud they are welcome to wait in the Lady Chapel, and after the priest has distributed Holy Communion to those receiving on the hand and those receiving at their seats, he will come to the Lady Chapel to distribute Holy Communion.
- The collection will be taken at the end of Mass, although people are encouraged to use standing orders or online methods.
- The parish hall facilities are not currently available, but a phased reopening of these facilities should be possible in the coming weeks.
- Directions from the priest, deacon and stewards must be followed.

A possible form of prayer for use when Mass cannot be publicly celebrated can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/03/No-Mass-A4.pdf>.

Sunday and daily Mass readings can be found at <https://www.universalis.com/mass.htm>. Sunday Mass and weekday Mass from Clifton Cathedral is available every day at 9:30am on our diocesan website [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com). Celebrations from Rome can be found on 'Vatican Media Live' on YouTube. Our Bishops' Conference website [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk) is a source for details of celebrations in our country and beyond.

### **Spiritual Communion: Prayer of Saint Alphonsus**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.  
I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul  
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.*

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

While the parish administration continues, access to the parish office is restricted to appointment only. For those matters normally dealt with by the parish office please use the parish email or telephone 0784 249 5988 (Tuesday to Friday 10:00am – 3:00pm). The normal parish telephone number should be used to contact Father Gary.

**There will continue to be a weekly newsletter available on the parish website.** Please make the details of the newsletter known to those who may not access the website.

**Prayer is always important.** Even when we cannot be physically close, prayer unites us. As well as traditional prayers known to us there are also resources online: [www.prayasyougo.org](http://www.prayasyougo.org) offers daily meditative prayer which some may find useful.

**First Holy Communion and Confirmation:** Preparation for these sacraments should resume in the Autumn. If any parent or young person is particularly concerned about receiving these sacraments, they are welcome to discuss the situation with Father Gary.

**Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals** can be arranged. For more information contact the Father Gary, Deacon Steve or the parish office.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)** is available in the church by appointment. It may not be possible to celebrate the sacrament before or after Mass as Father Gary has extra responsibilities in preparing for Mass which he cannot delegate at this time.

**Pastoral Visits** by clergy or lay people can take place, but with certain guidelines regarding frequency and safety. Contact Father Gary to arrange visits, and he is also happy to speak with people by telephone. Please contact Father Gary to request the Sacrament of the Sick.

**Parish Finances:** Although public Masses have resumed, and there is a collection at the end of the weekend Masses, we are encouraged to use methods which avoid physical cash if possible. Those who currently do not contribute via standing order may like to consider the following:

- Set up a standing order via online banking. Please contact the parish for the necessary details.
- Donate via the 'Paypal' button on the parish website. Donations can be gift-aided if applicable. You do not need your own paypal account to use this service. We believe that the cost to the parish for donating in this way is 1.4% and 20p per donation.

Some second collections are being taken at the end of Mass.

**Please speak with Father Gary regarding these or other aspects of parish life or sacramental celebration.**