



St Mary's Catholic Church

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TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A (SEPTEMBER 3, 2023)

Entrance Antiphon: **Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.**

Response to the Psalm: **For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.**

Gospel Acclamation: **May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.**

Communion Antiphon: **How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.**

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

6.00pm (Sat) 9.00am, 10.30am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 9.30am – 10am and 5pm - 5.30pm

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Valanka Alvares & Jonathan Estibeiro (Intentions) Vellan Albuquerque (Intentions)
	09.00am	Mass – Thanksgiving for Gonsalves family
	10.30am	Mass – James & Margaret Evans (RIP) Wayne Armstrong (RIP) Kevin De Choisey (RIP)
Monday		NO MASS
Tuesday	09.00am	Mass - Violante Cabral (RIP) Mark Crasto (Intentions) Bernardo Fernandes (Intentions)
Wednesday	10.30am	REQUIEM MASS – JOSIE DYSON
Thursday	09.00am	Mass - Fernandes (Thanksgiving)
Friday	09.00am	Mass - Eion Vas (Intentions)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (SEPTEMBER 10, 2023)

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Malucha Rosario (Intentions) Malcolm & Tania Fernandes (Intentions)
	09.00am	Mass – Santana Dias (Anniversary) Cipriano Pereira (Intentions)
	10.30am	Mass – John & Roman Kahan (RIP) Jessica Fernandes & Newton Fernandes (Intentions)

Church cleaning every Friday, after the Morning Mass. Your help would be much appreciated

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOU PRAYERS all those who are sick especially: Anna Tickner, Peadar Heffron, Sheila Hughes, Christopher and Cath Brown, Julia Harrison, Lena Watson, Cheryl Dawson, Louise Stacey, Irena Fliska, John Ruck, Ruth Sellars, Lucy Murray, Bill O'Donnell, Elizabeth McGill, Andrew McCarthy, Marie Lowe, Gill Young, Connor McLaughlin, Peggy Notley, Peter Hazel, Dawn Connolly-Williams, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Breda Brown, Caroline Borg

PASTORAL LETTER from Bishop Declan

The Bishop has sent us a pastoral letter about the future of the Diocese and copies are available at the back of the Church.

OUR LADY'S BIRTHDAY

The Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Health, Vailankanni is in Chennai a famous pilgrim centre. The Novenas started on 29th September. On Friday 8th September is the feast of our Lady's birthday and is our Parish Feast day too. There will be cake and drinks after 9am Mass to celebrate the occasion.

ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICE

Altar Servers practice will be on 9th September at 10am in the Church for all those who wish to become an altar server and also for all those who joined recently.

BAPTISM

We welcome into the Church Cole Lakem who is being baptised here at St Mary's this week.

WEDDING

We congratulate Kelly Waugh and Lee Davis who are married here at St Mary's this weekend.

RECENTLY DIED

Please remember in your prayers the repose of the soul of Josie Dyson who has died recently. Her Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday, 6th September at 10.30am.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024

Bishop Declan will be coming to St Marys for confirmation on April 23rd 2024. Application forms for confirmation will be available at the beginning on October 2023.

Candidates for Confirmation must be in year 10 or above.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST COMMUNION 2024

Application forms for First Communion will be available from the beginning of November. Any child wishing to make their First Holy Communion must be in year 3 or above.

MISSIO

The Mission Today Magazines are not being distributed to people's homes at the moment. They are available on the shelf at the back of the Church.

GIFT AID DONATIONS

Anyone who wishes to start donating weekly/ monthly either through Gift Aid envelopes or direct debit/ Standing order/ through offertory envelope donations, may ask for a form or speak to Fr. Michael or contact the Parish Office.

SWINDON FOOD COLLECTIVE

Many thanks to all those who contribute to Swindon food bank. Any donations can be left in the basket at the back of the Church.

PARISH OFFERTORY

Last week the offertory collection came to £1353 and £500 in standing orders. Many thanks for your generosity.

***OUR LADY OF FATIMA:** The Parish statue of our Lady of Fatima is available for people to take to their home for prayer and for special occasions. For booking contact: **Natasha Vas** on Mobile 07720982226 after 4.30pm until 8pm.*

Gospel Reflection

'In today's Gospel Jesus: "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me"...the task of "taking up the cross" becomes participating with Christ in the salvation of the world. Considering this, let us make sure that the cross hanging on the wall at home, or that little one that we wear around our neck, is a sign of our wish to be united with Christ in lovingly serving our brothers and sisters, especially the littlest and most fragile. The cross is the holy sign of God's Love, it is a sign of Jesus' Sacrifice, and is not to be reduced to a superstitious object or an ornamental necklace. Each time we fix our gaze on the image of Christ crucified, let us contemplate that he, as the true Servant of the Lord, has accomplished his mission, giving life, spilling his blood for the pardoning of sins.....therefore, if we want to be his disciples, we are called to imitate him, expending our life unreservedly out of love of God and neighbour' **Pope Francis**

READINGS FOR SUNDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER 2023

Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First reading Jeremiah 20:7-9

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced;
you have overpowered me: you were the stronger.
I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt.
Each time I speak the word, I have to howl
and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!'
The word of the Lord has meant for me
insult, derision, all day long.
I used to say, 'I will not think about him,
I will not speak in his name any more.'
Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart,
imprisoned in my bones.
The effort to restrain it wearied me,
I could not bear it.

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 62(63):2-6,8-9

For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

So I will bless you all my life,
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Second reading

Romans 12:1-2

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

Alleluia!



Gospel

Matthew 16:21-27

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

The Gospel of the Lord