



St Mary's Catholic Church

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TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - A (SEPTEMBER 24, 2023)

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.**

Response to the Psalm: **The Lord is close to all who call him.**

Gospel Acclamation: **Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!**

Communion Antiphon: **I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.**

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 – Walt Harris (RIP) Amora Florindo (Intentions)
	09.00am	Mass – Evelyn Gonsalves (Intentions) Ruel Silveira (Intentions) Sofia Grace Coutinho (Intentions) Florinda Gonsalves (Anniversary)
	10.30am	Mass – Leanne Fernandes (Intentions) Florinda Gonsalves (Anniversary)
Monday		NO MASS
Tuesday	09.00am	Mass - Emilia Falcao (Intentions) Alex Frank Goes (Anniversary)
Wednesday	09.00am	Mass – Geraldine Guiry (Anniversary) Deceased souls of 39 Whiteman Street
Thursday	09.00am	Mass - Intentions of Bonamis family
Friday	09.00am	Mass - Deceased relatives of Coutinho family

SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (OCTOBER 1, 2023)

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Karen Gonsalves (Intentions)
	09.00am	Mass – Conceicao D'Mello (RIP)
	10.30am	Mass – Joao Francisco Rodrigues (RIP)

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR 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

BAPTISM

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

ASSISTANT PRIEST

We welcome Fr John Salter to our Parish. Fr John has been appointed Assistant Priest here at St Marys.

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/MILL HILL Masses are taking place within our Diocese during October. There will be two Masses this year: one on Tuesday 24th October at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud; and the other on Thursday 26th October at Corpus Christi, Weston-super-Mare. Both Masses will be at 7:00pm. The Masses will be followed by a time to share together our enthusiasm and experiences of supporting the mission of the Church, including short presentations from Father Gary Brassington, the Diocesan Director for Missio, Brother Eddie Slawinski, the Diocesan Organiser, and Dave Wheat, the Missio Community Fundraiser for the South of England. All are welcome to these Masses. During 2024 it is hoped that there will be celebrations in each of our new Pastoral Areas.

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.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Bishop Declan is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on **Saturday 14 October** (12 noon) and is inviting all married couples to join him. If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year (25, 40, 50, 60) please let the bishop know as he would like to invite you personally to join him with others on the day – adult.education@cliftondiocese.com.

THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL – THE JOY OF THE CATECHIST

In partnership with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph, the diocese is offering a day to explore the ministry of catechesis. As well as celebrating Mass and taking time to pray together, there is opportunity to look at the vocation of the catechist, how we integrate catechesis into the wider Church, the formation of the catechist and how to plan a catechetical session. This rich day of formation is for seasoned catechists, and anyone who feels called to this ministry but might not feel equipped. The date is **Saturday 28 October** at St John the Baptist, Trowbridge. The day will begin with prayer at 10am, refreshments from 9.15am and the day will end at 4pm. Attendees are asked to bring a packed lunch. Participants can sign up for the day via Eventbrite: eventbrite.co.uk/e/668215439367

Gospel Reflection

'In today's Sunday Gospel Jesus wants to open our hearts to the logic of the Father's love which is free and generous. It is about allowing oneself to be astonished and fascinated by the "thoughts" and the "ways" of God which, as the Prophet Isaiah recalls, are not our thoughts and not our ways. Human thoughts are often marked by selfishness and personal advantages, and our narrow and contorted paths are not comparable to the wide and straight streets of the Lord. He uses mercy, he forgives broadly, is filled with generosity and kindness which he pours forth on each of us. He opens for everyone the boundless territory of his love and his grace, which alone can give the human heart the fullness of joy.

Jesus wants to make us contemplate the gaze of that landowner: the gaze with which he looks upon each of the labourers searching for work and calls them to go to his vineyard. It is a gaze which is filled with attention, kindness. It is a gaze which calls, invites one to get up and begin a journey because he wants life for each of us; he wants a full, committed life, safe from emptiness and inertia. God excludes no one and wants each of us to achieve his or her fullness. This is the love of our God, of our God who is Father.' **Pope Francis**