



St Mary's Catholic Church

Tovey Road Swindon SN2 1LQ

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Deanery website: www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk
Diocesan website: www.cliftondiocese.com

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

(FEBRUARY 18, 2024)

Entrance Antiphon: **When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.**

Response to the Psalm: **Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.**

Gospel Acclamation: Reader: Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!
All: **Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!**

Communion Antiphon: **One does not live on bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.**

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 – Benatous family (Thanksgiving)
	09.00am	Mass – Manuel Anton Fernandes (Anniversary)
	10.30am	Mass – Toni Carelli (Anniversary)
Monday	NO MASS	
Tuesday	09.00am	Mass – Deceased members of Jose Fernandes family
WEDNESDAY	09.00am	Mass - Ciro Dias (Anniversary) Thelma Hemphill (Intentions)
Thursday	09.00am	Mass - Effie Fernandes (Intentions)
Friday	09.00am	Mass - Benicio Pereira (Anniversary)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (FEBRUARY 25, 2024)

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Inacine Rodrigues – (RIP)
	09.00am	Mass – Lourenco Fernandes (RIP) Piedade Camilo (RIP)
	10.30am	Mass – Merlyn Aguiar (Intentions)

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: Peter Hazel, Anna Tickner, Peadar Heffron, Sheila Hughes, Christopher and Cath Brown, Julia Harrison, Lena Watson, Cheryl Dawson, Louise Stacey, Irena Fliska, John Ruck, Lucy Murray, Bill O'Donnell, Elizabeth McGill, Andrew McCarthy, Marie Lowe, Gill Young, Connor McLaughlin, Peggy Notley, Dawn Connolly-Williams, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Breda Brown, Caroline Borg, Nellie Blake, Andy Cavilla

LENT FAMILY FAST: This Friday is Lent Fast Day (23RD February) is Lent Fast Day when we are asked to do without so that we can help those in need. The second collection next Sunday (24th /25th February) will be the proceeds of our Fast Day and will go towards the work of CAFOD. There are envelopes available at the back of the Church.

RECENTLY DIED:

*Please remember to pray for Jamie Donnelly who died recently. His funeral service will be at 11am on Monday 19th February. Please keep his family in your prayers.

*Please pray for the soul of Ruth Sellars who has died recently. Her funeral has not yet been arranged.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: There will be Stations of the Cross each Sunday during Lent. Starting this Sunday 18th February. Stations will begin at 4pm followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 5pm.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: During Lent there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday after morning Mass until 11am. There should always be someone present, during this time of prayer.

LITURGY OF RECONCILIATION: Bishop Declan invites you to join him during this season of lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It will be held at one of the five venues across the diocese as part of your Lenten Pilgrimage. He will lead us in prayer and spend some time hearing confessions. There will also be several Priests available to hear confession in English and in Konkani. Please make a note of this special liturgy and make it a part of your Lenten preparation for Easter. Poster at the back of the Church with all details.

ST CATHERINE'S QUIZ NIGHT- Friday 1st March 7pm at St Catherine's School, Davenwood, SN2 7LL.

Over 18's only. £3 per ticket. Enjoy licenced bar, snacks and raffle.

Go to website for tickets- <https://www.pts-events.co.uk/friendsof-stcatherines>.

SEEKING GOD: A monastic experience for men & women aged 18-35 from Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd March at Monastery of Our Lady & St Bernard Brownhill, Stroud. For details contact Sr. Hilda on 01453 883084 or email: brownhillbookings@bernardine.org - *Poster on notice board at the back of the Church.*

NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH (10-18 March 2024) at St Joseph Church, Maidenhead. Every year, the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the feast of St Joseph, with a special Novena Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessings on the work of the missionary outreach, and for intentions for all who support the work. For contact details and information see poster at the back of the Church.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2024 - 23rd August to 30th August : The Clifton Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes is taking place this year in late August with pilgrims coming from all over the Diocese to embark on this journey. Details can be found on the Diocese website Lourdes | Clifton Diocese or by contacting lourdes@cliftondiocese.com /0117 902 5590 for an information pack. Please be aware the deadline for deposits is 31st March 2024, with payment is full by 31st May 2024. See Poster at the back of the Church.

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.

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 order may ask for a form or speak to Fr. Michael or contact the Parish Office.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER: If you want to subscribe to 'The Universe Catholic' Weekly Newspaper. Contact Michelle on mobile 0743 661 7650 or email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

PARISH OFFERTORY: Last week the offertory collection came to £ 1354.25 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.*

Ten tips for Lent from Pope Francis

Do you want to fast this Lent?
Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Sunday of Lent

First reading **Genesis 9:8-15**

A reading from the book of Genesis

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'See, I establish my Covenant with you, and with your descendants after you; also with every living creature to be found with you, birds, cattle and every wild beast with you: everything that came out of the ark, everything that lives on the earth. I establish my Covenant with you: no thing of flesh shall be swept away again by the waters of the flood. There shall be no flood to destroy the earth again.'

God said, 'Here is the sign of the Covenant I make between myself and you and every living creature with you for all generations: I set my bow in the clouds and it shall be a sign of the Covenant between me and the earth. When I gather the clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will recall the Covenant between myself and you and every living creature of every kind. And so the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all things of flesh.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm **Psalm 24(25):4-6,7b-9**

*Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.*

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.

Second reading

I Peter 3:18-22

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Christ himself, innocent though he was, died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life, and, in the spirit, he went to preach to the spirits in prison. Now it was long ago, when Noah was still building that ark which saved only a small group of eight people 'by water', and when God was still waiting patiently, that these spirits refused to believe. That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has entered heaven and is at God's right hand, now that he has made the angels and Dominations and Powers his subjects.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Mt4:4

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel

Mark 1:12-15

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the wilderness and he remained there for forty days, and was tempted by Satan. He was with the wild beasts, and the angels looked after him.

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

The Gospel of the Lord