



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Parish website:

www.saintmarysswindon.co.uk

Deanery website:

www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk

Diocesan website:

www.cliftodiocese.com

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

(MARCH 17, 2024)

Entrance Antiphon: **Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.**

Response to the Psalm: **A pure heart create for me, O God.**

Gospel Acclamation: Reader: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
All: **Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me;
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!**

Communion Antiphon: **Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.**

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 – Bernard McGuinness (Anniversary)
	09.00am	Mass – Victor & Antonina Melynychuk (RIP) Crecilda Crasto (Intentions)
	10.30am	Mass – Jamie Donnelly (RIP) Thelma & Archie Hemphill (Intentions)
Monday	NO MASS	
Tuesday	09.00am	Mass - Divine Fernandes (Thanksgiving)
Wednesday	09.00am	Mass - Wolfango Moraes (Anniversary)
Thursday	09.00am	Mass - Zenyol D'Souza (Intentions) Flayden Rodrigues (Intentions)
Friday	09.00am	Mass - Damian Queenan (RIP) Rose Bridget Queenan (RIP)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (MARCH 24, 2024)

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Anthony Rodrigues (Intentions) Souls of 5, Hunters Grove
	09.00am	Mass – Michael Blake (Anniversary) (Anniversary) Margaret Bates (Anniversary) Royston Gonsalves (Intentions)
	10.30am	Mass – Valanka Coelho (Intentions) Mervyn Stephens (RIP)

Church cleaning this week will be on Thursday, 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

HOLY TRIDUUM

28th March – HOLY THURSDAY – Mass at 8pm (Watching until 10pm)

29th March – GOOD FRIDAY – 3PM - LITURGY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

30th March – 6pm EASTER VIGIL MASS

9pm Easter Mass with renewal of Easter promises

31st March – EASTER SUNDAY – Mass at 9am and 10.30am

READERS: There is a list at the back of the Church for people to sign up to read on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Masses (*Please indicate which Mass you are able to read at Easter*).

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

POVITR KHURSACHI VATT (Way of the Cross): There will be Stations of the Cross in Konkani (Goan language) on Friday 22nd March after 9am Mass in the Church. *Church Cleaning this week will be on Thursday after Morning Mass.*

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.

WEDDING: Congratulations to Andrew and Loan Russell, married during the past week here at St Marys.

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.

LOST AND FOUND: A carrier bag full of personal items has been found in the Church. Speak to one of the Deacons or Priest if it belongs to you.

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 £1544.80 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.*

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Fifth Sunday of Lent

First reading

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel (and the House of Judah), but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 50(51):3-4,12-15

A pure heart create for me, O God.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.

Second reading

Hebrews 5:7-9

A reading from the letter of to the Hebrews

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn12:26

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;
and where I am, there also will my servant be.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, 'Sir, we should like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

'Now the hour has come
for the Son of Man to be glorified.
I tell you, most solemnly,
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,
it remains only a single grain;
but if it dies, it yields a rich harvest.
Anyone who loves his life loses it;
anyone who hates his life in this world
will keep it for the eternal life.
If a man serves me, he must follow me,
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.
Now my soul is troubled.
What shall I say:
Father, save me from this hour?
But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.
Father, glorify your name!'

A voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, 'It was an angel speaking to him.' Jesus answered, 'It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

'Now sentence is being passed on this world;
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.
And when I am lifted up from the earth,
I shall draw all men to myself.'

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

The Gospel of the Lord.