



# St Mary's Catholic Church

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**Parish Priest:** Fr Michael McAndrew - Email: swindonstmarys@me.com

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**Parish website:** www.saintmarysswindon.co.uk  
**Deanery website:** www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk  
**Diocesan website:** www.cliftondiocese.com

## TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – B (SEPTEMBER 8, 2024)

Entrance Antiphon: **You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;  
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.**

Response to the Psalm: **My soul, give praise to the Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation: **Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.**

Communion Antiphon: **Like the deer that yearns for running streams,  
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;  
my soul is thirsting for God, the living 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

<b>SUNDAY (Sat)</b>	06.00pm	Mass – Malucha Rosario (Intentions) Deceased members of Pereira & Naidu family
	09.00am	Mass – Stewart and Theresa Poulter (Wedding Anniversary) Joaquim Fernandes (RIP) Augustinho Pinheiro (Intentions) Fatima Lopes (Intentions) Eion Vas (Intentions) Janizia Gonsalves (Intentions)
	10.30am	Mass – Pedro Inacio Rodrigues (RIP)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Joachim Alexio Fernandes (RIP) Francisco Riston Faleiro (Intention)
<b>Wednesday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Santana Dias (RIP) Antonietta Dias (Intention) Cipriano Pereira (Intention) Nathan Fernandes (Intention)
<b>Thursday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Micaiah Joachim Vaz (Intention)
<b>Friday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Maurice Vas (Intention) Martino Afonso (RIP)

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (SEPTEMBER 15, 2024)

<b>SUNDAY (Sat)</b>	06.00pm	Mass – Bernardo and Brazilia Fernandes (Wedding Anniversary)
	09.00am	Mass – Michael Lopis (RIP) Edward Fernandes (Intention)
	10.30am	Mass – Dominic, Priscilla and Glenn Gonsalves (Intention)

**PARISH DANCE:** Many thanks to all parishioners who worked so hard to make a success of our Parish dance at the end of August. In total £ 6698.11 was raised for our Parish development fund. This will be used to do work on the floor of the Church and to lay new carpet. A huge thanks to all who organised, donated, bought raffle tickets and those who supported with their presence at the dance.

**RAFFLE PRIZES:** Many thanks to all those who supported our Parish Raffle.

The winning ticket numbers are:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize - £500 – Raffle ticket no. 4829

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize - £300 – Raffle ticket no. 3660

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize - £200 – Raffle ticket no. 1863

**Recently Died:** Please remember in your prayer the repose of the soul of Francis Patrick Joyce who has died recently. His Requiem Mass will be here at St Marys on Thursday 19th September at 11am

**BAPTISMS:** We welcome into the Church Ellis Farrow, Freya Campbell, Finlay O'Sullivan who are being baptised here at St Marys this weekend.

### EDUCATION SUNDAY

Are you looking for a rewarding development opportunity on Education Sunday? Would you like to make a positive difference to the young people in our Catholic community? If so, St Joseph's Catholic College is looking for passionate people like you to join its school governing board.

As one of the largest secondary schools in Swindon, St Joseph's recently retained its 'Good' Ofsted rating and celebrated its best ever GCSE results just a few weeks ago. The school is looking for governors to support and challenge the school's leadership team to continue to make improvements and ensure it is operating in the best way possible. If you would like to find out more about the role please email Jessica Higgins, Chair of Governors, at: [jhiggins@stjosephscollege.net](mailto:jhiggins@stjosephscollege.net)

### HOLY FAMILY 60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Holy Family School's 60th anniversary celebration will be taking place on Sunday 15th September 11-3pm. This is the new date as it was postponed from June due to bad weather.

All are welcome, there will be live music, food, tours of the school and lots for the children to do. Activities and food and drink will have a cost. See the poster at the back of the Church. Holy Family Catholic School, Marlowe Ave. SN3 2PT Time:11am – 3pm Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

### CHRISTIAN OLIVE WOOD CARVINGS:

Next Sunday (14th and 15th September) there will be a sale of Olive Wood Carvings after Mass. This is run by the Good Shepherd Company from the Holy land (Bethlehem) and is based in Nottingham. Their goal is to support and help the Christian families in the Holyland, to stay at work as olive wood carvings is one of the most important source of income for them, and 90% of the Christians rely on this.

So by selling their produce here in their behalf, this will prevent the Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities.

**FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2025:** Many parishioners are asking about First Communion and Confirmation in 2025. Enrolment for the sacraments will be in November and December 2024 and the Catechesis will begin in January.

**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.

**PARISH OFFERTORY:** Last week the offertory collection came to £1428.65 and £500 in standing orders. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

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*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.*

**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, Bill O'Donnell, Elizabeth McGill, Andrew McCarthy, Marie Lowe, Gill Young, Peggy Notley, Dawn Connolly-Williams, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Caroline Borg, Nellie Blake

**"The Holy Scriptures were not given to us that we should enclose them in books,  
but that we should engrave them upon our hearts."**

**-St. John Chrysostom**

# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### First reading

Isaiah 35:4-7

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Say to all faint hearts,  
'Courage! Do not be afraid.

Look, your God is coming,  
vengeance is coming,  
the retribution of God;  
he is coming to save you.'

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
the ears of the deaf unsealed,  
then the lame shall leap like a deer  
and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy;

for water gushes in the desert,  
streams in the wasteland,  
the scorched earth becomes a lake,  
the parched land springs of water.

The word of the Lord.

### Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 145(146):7-10

*My soul, give praise to the Lord.*

**or**

*Alleluia!*

It is the Lord who keeps faith for ever,  
who is just to those who are oppressed.  
It is he who gives bread to the hungry,  
the Lord, who sets prisoners free.

It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind,  
who raises up those who are bowed down.  
It is the Lord who loves the just,  
the Lord, who protects the stranger.

The Lord upholds the widow and orphan  
but thwarts the path of the wicked.  
The Lord will reign for ever,  
Zion's God, from age to age.

## **Second reading**

**James 2:1-5**

*A reading from the letter of St James*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinctions between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, 'Come this way to the best seats'; then you tell the poor man, 'Stand over there' or 'You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest.' Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that?

Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

The word of the Lord.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

1S3:9, Jn6:68

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

**Or**

cf. Mt4:23

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus proclaimed the Good News of the kingdom  
and cured all kinds of sickness among the people.

Alleluia!

## **Gospel**

**Mark 7:31-37**

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

Returning from the district of Tyre, Jesus went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, right through the Decapolis region. And they brought him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they asked him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, put his fingers into the man's ears and touched his tongue with spittle. Then looking up to heaven he sighed; and he said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened and he spoke clearly. And Jesus ordered them to tell no one about it, but the more he insisted, the more widely they published it. Their admiration was unbounded. 'He has done all things well,' they said 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

The Gospel of the Lord.