



# St Mary's Catholic Church

Tovey Road Swindon SN2 1LQ  
Tel: 01793 535089



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

Fr John Salter  
Deacon Elias Fernandes  
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**Parish website:** www.saintmarysswindon.co.uk  
**Deanery website:** www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk  
**Diocesan website:** www.cliftondiocese.com

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C (DECEMBER 1, 2024)

Entrance Antiphon: **To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
And let none who hope in you be put to shame.**

Response to the Psalm: **To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

Gospel Acclamation: **Show us, O Lord, your mercy,  
And grant us your salvation.**

Communion Antiphon: **The Lord will bestow his bounty,  
and our earth shall yield its increase.**

### 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 – Dixon Vas (Intention) Alfreda Chojnaki (Anniversary)
	08.00am	Mass – Tom Campbell (RIP) Catherine Thompson (RIP)
	09.30am	Mass – People of the Parish
	11.00am	Mass - Giulio & Rosina Anello (Anniversary)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
<b>Tuesday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Lou Stief (RIP)
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>REQUIEM MASS: PHILIP O' DRISCOLL</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Moss Guiry (RIP)
<b>Thursday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Roque Fernandes (Anniversary) Joao De Souza (Intention)
	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>REQUIEM MASS : GIOVANNI CERRONI</b>
<b>Friday</b>	09.00am	Mass - Linnet Gonsalves (Intention)

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (DECEMBER 8, 2024)

<b>SUNDAY (Sat)</b>	06.00pm	Mass – Salvador Rodrigues (RIP) Ricky Gonsalves (Intention)
	08.00am	Mass – Jack Guiry (Anniversary)
	09.30am	Mass – Deceased members of Afonso family
	11.00am	Mass - Intentions of the Rodrigues family (living and deceased) John Edward O'Connor (Anniversary)

**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, Emmanuella Ruck, Elizabeth McGill, Andrew McCarthy, Marie Lowe, Gill Young, Peggy Nottley, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Caroline Borg, Nellie Blake, Martin Connolly, Colin Sobers

**RECENTLY DIED:** Please remember to pray for Philip O'Driscoll and Giovanni Cerroni who died recently. Requiem Mass for Philip will be on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at 11am and for Giovanni Cerroni will be on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January at 11am. Please also remember their families in your prayers.

**READERS ROTA** for Christmas Masses. Please sign your name on the rota stating which Mass you are able to read. List kept at the back of the Church.

**CHRISTMAS DAY:** On Christmas day there will be five Masses here at St Marys. On Christmas Eve there will be Mass at 4.30pm, 7pm and 10pm. On Christmas day there will be Mass at 9am and 10.30am.

**MASS TIMES:** Due to the increased number of people coming to St Marys we are adding one Mass on Sunday. From beginning of Advent (1st December) there will be four weekend Masses at St Marys. Saturday 6pm, Sunday 8am, 9.30am and 11am.

There will be **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** on every Wednesday after 9am Mass until 11am.

**NEW ALTAR SERVERS:** There will be a practice for all new altar servers on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am. All are welcome.

**FIRST COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2025:** The enrolment forms for children wishing to receive First Holy Communion and Confirmation in 2024 will be available to collect this weekend 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> November. Children must be in year 3 or above to make their First Communion. Young people must be in Year 10 and above to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The last date for registration is 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

**ADVENT KNITTED ITEMS:** The Knit & Natter Group have been busy knitting items with a small message of hope. We hope they may spread a little joy this season. This year we are asking for a small donation to charity Future in Our Hand <http://fiohnetwork.org/> Registered Charity Number 104795. This is charity which funds projects in India – to help abandoned street children with shelter, food and education Cameroon – to support a clinic for the disabled Sierra Leone-supporting environmental education, The items are available after Mass this weekend. Many thanks to all the knitters for our wonderful efforts

**THE NEW LECTIONARY:** The Lectionary, which is the book that contains the Scripture readings for Mass is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. The process began with the Roman Missal in 2011 and has continued with all the other liturgical texts. The new Lectionary will use the English Standard Version – Catholic Edition of the Bible and the Abbey Psalter. The changes are intended to make the biblical translations more faithful to the original languages and to provide a text for use at Mass that is easier to read. It will mean that you notice a change to the rhythm of the readings we have grown used to, a change in phrases that we are so accustomed to. If you use a Missal with the readings in it, whilst the selection of readings remain the same the translation will differ. We will begin using the New Lectionary on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA:** Fr Francis Colaco of St Peter's is leading a pilgrimage to Fatima from 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> May 2025. The cost of this pilgrimage will be £769.00 per person sharing a room. This includes 5 days and 4 nights with half board in a 3\* hotel in Fatima. If you are interested, please contact Eileen Mochan on 07469 940371 ASAP. Alternatively, you can contact All Saints Travel on 01793 881166 or 07703059009. To book online [www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/FM0987](http://www.allsaintstravel.co.uk/FM0987) Poster on the notice board.

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES:** The new Gift Aid yellow envelopes (for tax payers) for 2024/25 are ready to collect from the Sacristy. Please ensure you take your correct box as they are all numbered. Non-Gift Aiders (non-tax payers) please take a box of green envelopes.

**BIOMETRIC RESIDENCE CARD:** Follow the link below to update your passport if you got Biometric Residence Card (BRC). <https://www.gov.uk/update-uk-visas-immigration-account-details>

***“CELEBRATE THE SEASON WITH SWEET TREATS AND SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER!***

Join us at TBakes & Namaste India for our Christmas Sweets & Snacks Sale, offering a delightful selection of homemade holiday goodies! A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Church, indulge in festive flavours while giving back. Come enjoy the season's sweetest treats and help us make this holiday season brighter for all!" After each Sunday Mass.

**V-GOANIZZ** has organised a Dine & Dance to celebrate the Feast of ST Francis Xavier on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at the Punjabi Community Centre SN2 8AZ from 5pm to midnight. We Welcome all to come and celebrate together.

**V-GOANIZZ** presents their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Carol Singing 2024 on the 15<sup>th</sup> December from 2.30pm onwards at the Punjabi Community Centre SN2 8AZ. It's a free entry for everyone. Please come and enjoy the festive season. For further details please see the poster at the back of the Church.

**PILGRIMAGE WALK** carrying the Pilgrim Cross began as a Catholic student pilgrimage and has evolved into ecumenical endeavour. Which will take place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2025 from Oxford to Walsingham, 100miles. Those who would like to take part please contact by email: [studentcross.oxfordleg@gmail.com](mailto:studentcross.oxfordleg@gmail.com) Poster on the board.

**SWINDON FOOD COLLECTIVE:** Each week parishioners donate to Swindon Food Bank. We are in need of Parishioners who would go on the rota to deliver to the food bank in West Swindon. If you are able to help, please speak to Fr Michael. 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 £1117.25 and £500 in standing orders. Many thanks for your generosity.

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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.

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*“When you have ears to hear and eyes to see,  
you will recognise him at any moment of your life.  
Life is Advent; Life is recognising the coming of the Lord.”*

*Henri Nouwen*

## **Sunday Liturgy**

### **A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah**

Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,  
when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel  
and the house of Judah.

In those days and at that time

I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David,  
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely.

And this is the name by which it will be called:

‘The Lord is our righteousness.’

The word of the Lord

### **Responsorial Psalm**

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

O Lord, make me know your ways.

Teach me your paths.

Guide me in your truth, and teach me;

for you are the God of my salvation.

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

Good and upright is the Lord;

therefore he shows the way to sinners.

He guides the humble in right judgement;

to the humble he teaches his way.

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

All the Lord’s paths are mercy and faithfulness,  
for those who keep his covenant and commands.

The Lord’s secret is for those who fear him;

to them he reveals his covenant.

*To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.*

### **First Reading**

#### **A reading from the first letter to the Thessalonians**

Brothers and sisters:

May the Lord make you increase

and abound in love for one another and for all,

as we do for you,

so that he may establish your hearts

blameless in holiness before our God and Father,

at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Finally, then, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus,

that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God,

just as you are doing,

that you do so more and more.

For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us, O Lord, your mercy,  
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia.

**Gospel**

**Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

At that time:

Jesus said to his disciples:

‘There will be signs in sun and moon and stars,  
and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity  
because of the roaring of the sea and the waves,  
people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world.

For the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

And then they will see the Son of Man  
coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Now when these things begin to take place,  
straighten up and raise your heads,  
because your redemption is drawing near.

‘But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down  
with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life,  
and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap.

For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth.

But stay awake at all times,

praying that you may have strength to escape  
all these things that are going to take place,  
and to stand before the Son of Man.’

The Gospel of the Lord