



St Mary's Catholic Church

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Parish website:

www.saintmarysswindon.co.uk

Deanery website:

www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk

Diocesan website:

www.cliftondiocese.com

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

(MARCH 9, 2025)

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:

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Gospel Acclamation:

Reader: Glory and Praise to you, O Christ.
All: **Glory and Praise to you, O Christ.**
**One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.**
Glory and Praise to you, O Christ.

Communion Antiphon:

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

SUNDAY MASS TIMES

6.00pm (Sat) 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am

CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 9.30am – 10am and 5pm - 5.30pm

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Marie & Henry Cini (RIP) Shane Pereira (Intention) Valente De Souza (Intention)
	08.00am	Mass – Caetano Coutinho (RIP)
	09.30am	Mass – Aaron Vales (Intention)
	11.00am	Mass - Nazia Goes (Intention)

MONDAY NO MASS

TUESDAY 09.00am Mass – Reema Dias (Intention)

WEDNESDAY 09.00am Mass - Jonas De Sousa (Intention)
Shenoya Vaz (Intention)

THURSDAY 09.00am Mass - Mariquinha Vas

FRIDAY 09.00am Mass - Kenneth Gonsalves (Intention)
Calida Gonsalves (Intention)

SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (MARCH 16, 2025)

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Deceased members of Machado family.
	08.00am	Mass – Deceased members of Gonsalves & Melynchuk families Paulo Fernandes (Intention)
	09.30am	Mass – Vanantius Da Cunha (Intention)
	11.00am	Mass - Frank Naughton (RIP) Mike Naughton (RIP) Archie & Thelma Hemphill (Intention)

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

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

DEACON TERRY AND MARION ASPELL

Deacon Terry has been appointed to be the Parish Deacon at St George's Parish in Warminster. There is no resident Priest in Warminster and so Deacon Terry and Marion will live in the Presbytery and work with the Parish Priest of Salisbury in running the Parish. Terry will gradually make the transition to Warminster and so he will be with us for a while longer. We will find a way of thanking him more fully at some point in the future.

BAPTISM: We welcome into the Church Norah Fernandes and Digby Walsh who are being baptised here in St Marys this weekend.

LENT FAMILY FAST DAY: Friday 14th March is Lent Family Fast Day when we are asked to do without so that we can help those in need. The second collection next Sunday (15th /16th March) will be the proceeds of our Fast Day and will go towards the work of CAFOD. There are Gift Aid envelopes available at the back of the Church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: 73 of our Children have now begun their preparation to receive their First Communion. Please keep them in your prayer.

CONFIRMATION: Bishop Bosco is coming to our Parish in July to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Registration is now complete and 64 of our young people will be confirmed. Please keep them in your prayer.

LITURGY OF RECONCILIATION: Bishop Bosco is coming to Swindon in March to lead a Liturgy of Reconciliation. There will be a Liturgy of the Word, examination of conscience and time for confession. There will be several Priests to hear confession. This will be held in St Peter's Church, Swindon, Thursday 20th March at 7pm.

LENTEN CROSSES KNITTED ITEMS –

The Knit & Natter Group have been busy knitting items for Lent.

This year we are asking for a small donation to charity raising money for Swindon Prospect Hospice. The items are available after Mass during Lent. Many thanks to all the knitters for your wonderful efforts.

SAVE THE DATE: St Catherine's School, Davenwood, SN2 7LL FOSC are holding a Quiz Night at the School on Friday 21st March. Doors open at 6.30pm for 7pm start. £8 ticket pp includes food. Drinks available. Tickets can be purchased soon. Details to follow.

MUSIC AT MASS: Deacon Terry's move will mean that we no longer will have an organist at the 9.30am Mass. Do we have any musicians or singers who can help at this Mass? Any ideas please speak to Fr Michael.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE is on 21st May 2025 for 7 nights and is £829 per person. For more details, please contact Mario Pereira: 07985 553325. Rosie De Sa 07424716644. Poster on the notice board.

PILGRIMAGE WALK carrying the Pilgrim Cross from Oxford to Walsingham 11th-20th April (including Holy Week 2025):100miles, in this Jubilee Year of Hope when pilgrimage is being encouraged why not consider a UK walking pilgrimage starting not too far from home? Click here (<https://pilgrimcross.org.uk/event/oxford-leg-24/>) to find out more; click here to register; or email Deacon Eric: eric.holliday@cliftondiocese.com Those who would like to take part please contact by email: studentcross.oxfordleg@gmail.com Poster on the board.

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: The offertory collection last Sunday came to £1781.56 and £500 in standing orders. Many thanks for your generosity.

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 Notley, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Caroline Borg, Nellie Blake, Martin Connolly, Nicola Campbell

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 Passion of Christ is the greatest work of Divine Love.
The greatest and most overwhelming work of God's Love"
St Paul of the Cross*

First Sunday of Lent

Mass Readings – 9th March, 2025

First reading

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

The confession of faith of the chosen people.

Moses spoke to the people: ‘The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God. And you shall make response before the LORD your God, “A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.” And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 91(90):1-2. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15. R cf 15b

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,
and abides in the shade of the Almighty,
says to the LORD, ‘My refuge,
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!’

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Upon you no evil shall fall,
no plague approach your tent.
For you has he commanded his angels
to keep you in all your ways.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

They shall bear you upon their hands,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.
On the lion and the viper you will tread,
and trample the young lion and the serpent.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him,
protect him, for he knows my name.
When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will be with him in distress;
I will deliver him, and give him glory.

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Second reading

Romans 10:8-13

The confession of faith of believers in Christ.

Brothers and Sisters: What does Scripture say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in

your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 4:4b

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.
One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.
Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

'Jesus was led by the Spirit in the wilderness and tempted by the devil'

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone." '

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, 'To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve." '

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." ' And Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." '

And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.