



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

(MARCH 16, 2025)

Entrance Antiphon:

**Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face.
It is your face, O Lord that I seek;
hide not your face from me.**

Response to the Psalm:

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Gospel Acclamation:

Reader: Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.
All: **Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.**
**From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:
'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.
Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.**

Communion Antiphon:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

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 – 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)
MONDAY	NO MASS	
TUESDAY	09.00am	Mass – Shanessa Fernandes (Intention) Mclean Cardozo & Libia Fernandes (Wedding Anniversary) Perpetua Mendes (RIP)
WEDNESDAY	09.00am	Mass - Maria Anna Fernandes (Anniversary)
THURSDAY	09.00am	Mass - Ranvil Cardozo (RIP) Gelina D'Costa (Intention) Chris Afonso (Intention)
FRIDAY	09.00am	Mass - Private Intention

SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (MARCH 23, 2025)

SUNDAY (Sat)	06.00pm	Mass – Francisco Pereira (RIP) Rosario Gonsalves (RIP) Eliza D'Cunha (RIP) Adele Dias (Intention)
	08.00am	Mass – People of the Parish
	09.30am	Mass – Veylonie Fernandes (Intention)
	11.00am	Mass - Cruz & Sophia Silveira (Intention)

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

RECENTLY DIED: Please Remember in your prayers Francis Duggan who has died recently. His funeral service is here at St Marys on Friday 21st at 12noon.

BAPTISM: We welcome into the Church Tommy Steven White, Rory Walker, Emilia Edmunds, Zielle Amoah Thompson who are being baptised here in St Marys this weekend.

CAFOD COLLECTION: The Second collection this weekend from Friday's Lent Fast Day will go towards the work of Cafod.

PRAYER SERVICE AND HOME MISSION led by Bro Jose Karaikose and team from AFCM Birmingham. On Saturday 29th March Prayer service will start after 6pm Mass here at St Mary's Church. There will be Rosary, Praise and Worship, Talks, Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Healing Service. All are welcome.

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 Fri 21st March Doors open at 6.30pm for 7pm start. £8 ticket pp includes food. Drinks available. Tickets can be purchased via <http://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsof-stcatherines>.

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 £1760.03 and £500 in standing orders. Many thanks for your generosity.

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

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 Way of the Cross alone defeats sin, evil, and death,
for it leads to the radiant light of Christ's resurrection.”*

Pope Francis

Second Sunday of Lent

Mass Readings – 16th March, 2025

First reading

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

God enters into a covenant with Abram, the man of faith.

In those days: God brought Abram outside and said, ‘Look towards heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.’ Then he said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

And he said to him, ‘I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.’ But he said, ‘O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?’ He said to him, ‘Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.’ And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, ‘To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 27(26):1. 7-8b. 8c-9c. 13-14. R1a

The LORD is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
whom should I dread?

The LORD is my light and my salvation.

O LORD, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer me.

Of you my heart has spoken,
‘Seek his face.’

The LORD is my light and my salvation.

It is your face, O LORD, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.

Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.

The LORD is my light and my salvation.

I believe I shall see the LORD’S goodness
in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD; be strong;
be stout-hearted, and wait for the LORD!

The LORD is my light and my salvation.

Second reading

Philippians 3:17-4:1

Christ will configure us to his glorious body.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard:

'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'.

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

Gospel

Luke 9:28b-36

'As Jesus was praying, the appearance of his face was altered.'

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah' — not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!' And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.