



# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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**Parish website:** [www.saintmarysswindon.co.uk](http://www.saintmarysswindon.co.uk)  
**Deanery website:** [www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk](http://www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk)  
**Diocesan website:** [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com)

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

(January 4, 2026)

Entrance Antiphon: **When a profound silence covered all things  
and night was in the middle of its course,  
your all-powerful Word, O Lord,  
bounded from heaven's royal throne.**

Response to the Psalm: **The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.**

Gospel Acclamation: **Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations.  
Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world.**

Communion Antiphon: **To all who accept him,  
he gave the power to become children of God.**

### SUNDAY MASS TIMES

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

### CONFESSIONS

Tuesday – Thursday after 9am Mass  
(No Confession on Friday)

Saturday after 9am Mass and from 5pm - 5.30pm

### THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

**04<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY(SUN)** 06.00pm Mass – Reuben Fernandes (Intention)  
08.00am Mass – Manual & Ruzai Cabral (RIP)  
09.30am Mass – Lawrence Britt (RIP)  
11.00am Mass – Joe McGrory & Tracey McGrory (RIP)

**05<sup>th</sup> MONDAY** NO MASS

**06<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY** FEAST OF EPIPHANY  
09.00am Mass – Peter Vas (Anniversary)  
06.00pm Mass – People of the Parish

**07<sup>th</sup> WEDNESDAY** 09.00am Mass – Alina de Mello (Holy Souls in Purgatory)

**08<sup>th</sup> THURSDAY** 09.00am Mass – Vitorin Cabral & Fatima Pinheiro (RIP)

**09<sup>th</sup> FRIDAY** 09.00am Mass – Salvador Dias & Juliet Miranda (25th Wedding Anniversary)

**10<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY** 09.00am Mass – Dulcina Cabral (Intention)

### NEXT SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (JANUARY 11, 2026)

**11<sup>th</sup> SATURDAY(SUN)** 06.00pm Mass – Nevin Sequeira (RIP)  
08.00am Mass – Jose Vas & Brenda Rodrigues (Thanksgiving)  
09.30am Mass – Amron Vales (Intention)  
11.00am Mass – Eutemia Fernandes (RIP)

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

**COLLECTION:** There will be retiring collection after every Sunday Mass for the Extension of the Church.

**SLEEP OUT CHALLENGE:** Ana Fernandes, Lourdes De Oliveira and Elizabeth, will be taking part in the Sleep Out Challenge in front of St Marys Church on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026 starting at 7pm in order to raise funds and support the St. Mary's Parish Church extension at Tovey Road, Swindon. Please support them in your prayers and generosity – every contribution makes a difference. Anyone who would like to join contact Ana on 07809745701.

**CAKE, TEA & COFFE:** Some volunteers have decided to prepare delicious food or snacks and sell them after every Sunday Mass. If you are interested in contributing, please contact Natasha Vas on 07720982226. How You Can Help? You can support by buying the food and raise funds for the Extension of the Church. Your generosity and involvement - together, we can make a meaningful difference.

**BUILDING MEETING:** The next building meeting will be on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm in the Church.

**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY:** On Tuesday 6 January there will be two Masses one at 9am and other at 6pm.

**BAPTISM:** We welcome into the Church Nevan Pereira who is being baptised here in St Marys this Sunday.

**FIRST COMMUNION 2026:** The enrolment forms for children wishing to receive First Holy Communion in 2026 will be available to collect from the sacristy. Children must be in year 3 or above to make their First Communion. Last day for submitting either forms will be January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**CONFIRMATION 2026:** Young people must be in Year 9 and above to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please make sure the forms are duly filled with all the details. We will need the full address of the Church including Post Code/ Pin Code you were baptised in. Last day for submitting either forms will be January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**PARENTS MEETING** for First Communion candidates will be on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 10am in the Church. And for Parents meeting for confirmation will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 7pm

**CELEBRATING MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE:** Bishop Bosco is to celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 14, February (12 noon) and is inviting all families to join him to acknowledge the joys & challenges of family life. In addition, we will celebrate those couples with significant anniversaries in 2026. If you are, or know of a couple, celebrating a special anniversary during 2026 please do let us know. You just need to send names to: [adult.education@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com) with an address so that a personal invitation can be sent out from the bishop. Please include the number of years celebrating. Poster at the back of the Church.

**RETRouvaille HELPS MARRIAGE:** It can bring hope and healing to relationships.  
Next date: 12th February 2026. [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: 07887 296983

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS:** If you have changed your address since registering as a parishioner, you are now able to amend your entry yourself through the Parish website. On the home page, scroll down to 'Parishioner Registration' and follow the link. Please select 'Change of Address' (there is no need to re-register).

**GIFT AID:** Those Parishioners who gift aid their offering to the parish and do so through a standing order will soon receive a letter asking them of Clifton parishioners are asked to change their mandate to pay St Mary's Parish. You will soon receive a letter telling you what you need to do.

**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. Dominic or the Parish Office.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION** came to £1424.67 Many thanks for your generosity.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** The first Mass intention will be printed in the Newsletter. The other Mass Intentions shall be prayed for and the names will be read on the requested day but will be offered somewhere else. Please put your Mass intention in the envelope and add your phone number and drop in the box provided at the back of the Church two weeks in advance. Do not use the card machine for Mass intentions.

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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, Emmanuella Ruck, Elizabeth McGill, Andrew McCarthy, Gill Young, Peggy Notley, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Nellie Blake, Tommy Fox

## Second Sunday of Christmas

### First reading

Sirach 24:1-2, 8-12

#### The wisdom of God has dwelt in the chosen people.

Wisdom will praise herself and will boast in the midst of her people. In the assembly of the Most High she will open her mouth, and in the presence of his forces she will boast: ‘Then the Creator of all things commanded me, and the one who created me gave my tent a resting place. And he said, “Make your dwelling in Jacob and in Israel receive your inheritance.” From eternity, in the beginning, he created me, and for eternity I shall not cease to exist. In the holy tabernacle I ministered before him, and so I was established in Sion. In the beloved city likewise he gave me a resting place, and in Jerusalem was my dominion. So I took root in an honoured people, in the portion of the Lord, his inheritance.’

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### Responsorial Psalm

Ps 147: 12-13. 14-15. 19-20. R12a

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*

*or: Alleluia.*

O Jerusalem, glorify the LORD!

O Sion, praise your God!

He has strengthened the bars of your gates;  
he has blessed your children within you.

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*

*or: Alleluia.*

He established peace on your borders;  
he gives you your fill of finest wheat.  
He sends out his word to the earth,  
and swiftly runs his command.

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*

*or: Alleluia.*

He reveals his word to Jacob;  
to Israel, his decrees and judgements.  
He has not dealt thus with other nations;  
he has not taught them his judgements.

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.*

*or: Alleluia.*

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### Second reading

Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18

#### ‘He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus.’

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints.

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## **Gospel Acclamation**

**Cf. 1 Timothy 3:16**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations.

Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world.

Alleluia.

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## **Gospel**

**John 1:1-5, 9-14**

### **‘The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.’**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the Only Begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.