



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Tovey Road Swindon SN2 1LQ
Tel: 01793 535089



Parish Priest: Fr Dominic Findlay-Wilson
Dominic.findlay-wilson@cliftondiocese.com

Fr John Salter
Deacon Elias Fernandes
Deacon Paul Thompson
Suzanne Tewkesbury

Assistant Priest- John.Salter@Cliftondiocese.com
Parish Administrator – elias.fernandes@cliftondiocese.com
paul.thompson@cliftondiocese.com
Safeguarding -PSR.swindon.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

(March 08, 2026)

Entrance Antiphon: **My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.**

Response to the Psalm: **O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'**

Gospel Acclamation: Reader: Glory to you, O Christ, You are the Word of God.
**All: Glory to you, O Christ, You are the Word of God.
Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, You are the Word of God.**

Communion Antiphon: **For anyone who drinks it, says the Lord,
the water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.**

SUNDAY MASS TIMES
6.00pm (Sat) 8.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am

CONFESSIONS
Tuesday – Thursday after 9am Mass
(No Confessions on Friday)
Saturday after 9am Mass and from 5pm – 5.30pm

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

08 SATURDAY(SUN) 06.00pm Mass – Shane Pereira (Intention)
08.00am Mass – Alleluia & Aramita Menezes (RIP)
09.30am Mass – Cheryl Mascarenhas (Thanksgiving)
11.00am Mass – Caitan Fernandes (RIP)

09 MONDAY NO MASS - Silent Adoration – (9am-11am)

10 TUESDAY 09.00am Mass – Aaron Vales (Intention)

11 WEDNESDAY 09.00am Mass – Domingo Fernandes (RIP)

12 THURSDAY 09.00am Mass – Jacinta Mascarenhas (Anniversary)

13 FRIDAY 09.00am Mass – Catherine Darragh (Intention)

14 Saturday 09.00am Mass - Divine Fernandes (Thanksgiving)

NEXT SUNDAY MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS (MARCH 15, 2026)

15 SATURDAY(SUN) 06.00pm Mass – Kenneth Gonsalves (Intention)
08.00am Mass - Victor & Antonina Melynychuk (Intention)
09.30am Mass – William Coker (RIP)
11.00am Mass – Margaret McMullan (RIP)

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, Gill Young, Peggy Notley, Andrew Stacey, Pat Fox, Nellie Blake, Tommy Fox

OFFERTORY GIFT AID: The very best way for parishioners to help us is to set up a standing order, as it provides a regular and largely predictable income, with minimal processing costs. St Mary's have two Offertory accounts; one for your regular offertory giving and one for the Church Development Fund. If the UK Government, an extra 25% on every donation you make at no cost to you. This is an extremely important part of the church's finances and to achieve this all that is required is for a Gift Aid declaration form to be completed and signed alongside the standing order instructions. For all Non-UK taxpayers, all that would need to be completed is the standing order instructions. Forms can be collected from the Parish office.

BAPTISM: We welcome into the Church Jonath Joseph and Joseph Gutturidge who are being baptised here in St Mary's this Weekend.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: There will be Stations of the Cross every Wednesday at 6.30pm and on Friday after 9am Mass during Lent.

CHURCH EXTENSION: There will be retiring collection after every Sunday Mass for the Extension of the Church. The last week Collection + Fundraising came to £746.16. The income from Dine & Dance came to £ 7473.

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 07720 982226.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE: There will be confessions on Tuesday 31st March from 5pm – 7pm here in St Mary's Church.

HOLY WEEK READERS: If anyone is able to read during the Liturgy on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Masses please sign your name on the list at the back of the Church indicating at which liturgy you are able to read.

THE KNIT & NATTER GROUP have been busy knitting Lenten Crosses for lent. This year we are asking for a small donation to charity raising money for our church extension. The items are available after Mass during Lent. Many thanks to all the knitters for your wonderful efforts.

HOLY WEEK READERS: If anyone is able to read during the Liturgy on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Masses please sign your name on the list at the back of the Church indicating at which liturgy you are able to read.

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).

RETREAT: There is Lenten Retreat here in St Mary's on 28th March led by Fr Dominic Findlay-Wilson.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION last Sunday came to £1671.77. Many thanks for your generosity.

MISSIO: The **MISSIO Red Boxes** are ready to collect from the Sacristy.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: We are looking Eucharistic Ministers to help out during weekday and Sunday Masses.

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. Please do not use the card machine for Mass intentions.

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.

Dear Parishioner,

St. Mary's Catholic Church has started a new WhatsApp Broadcast service to share parish updates, Mass information, newsletters, prayer requests, and upcoming events.

If you would like to receive these messages, please register using the link below and save the parish number in your phone contacts.

👉 <https://forms.gle/6UtWufD7GpA2qX3S6>

📞 Parish WhatsApp Number:

073 44 94 61 62

⚠️ You will receive messages only if this number is saved in your contacts.

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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT -YA

First reading

Exodus 17:3-7

‘Give us water to drink.’

In those days: The people thirsted for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?’ So Moses cried to the LORD, ‘What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.’ And the LORD said to Moses, ‘Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.’ And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, ‘Is the LORD among us or not?’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 95(94):1-2. 6-7b. 7c-9. R7c, 8a

*O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts.’*

Come, let us ring out our joy to the LORD;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come into his presence, giving thanks;
let us hail him with a song of praise.

*O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts.’*

O come; let us bow and bend low.
Let us kneel before the LORD who made us,
for he is our God, and we the people,
the people of his pasture, the flock of his hand.

*O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts.’*

O that today you would listen to his voice!
‘Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert

when your forebears put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my work.'

*O that today you would listen to his voice!
'Harden not your hearts.'*

Second reading

Romans 5:1-2, 5-8

Love has been poured into our hearts through the Spirit who has been given to us.

Brothers and Sisters: Since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die — but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. John 4:42, 15

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.
Lord, you are indeed the Saviour of the world;
give me living water, so that I will not be thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God.

Gospel

John 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

'A spring of water welling up to eternal life.'

At that time: Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour.

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink.' (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?' (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock.' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water. Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshipped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming — he who is called Christ. When he comes, he will tell us all things.' Jesus said to her, 'I who speak to you am he.'

Many Samaritans from that town believed in him. So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is indeed the Saviour of the world.'