



## St Peter's Catholic Church

London Road, Gloucester GL1 3EX

Tel: 01452 523603

Parish website: [www.stpetersgloucester.org.uk](http://www.stpetersgloucester.org.uk)

Diocesan website: [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com)

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5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of  
**Lent**  
We prepare

**Parish Priest:**

Monsignor Liam Slattery VG

[liam.slattery@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:liam.slattery@cliftondiocese.com)

**Assistant Priest:**

Fr Stephen Corrigan

[stephen.corrigan@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:stephen.corrigan@cliftondiocese.com)

**Permanent Deacons:**

Rev Colm Robinson

[colm.robinson@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:colm.robinson@cliftondiocese.com)

Rev Tim Meadows

[timothy.meadows@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:timothy.meadows@cliftondiocese.com)

Rev David Hebbes

[david.hebbes@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:david.hebbes@cliftondiocese.com)

**Parish Secretary:**

Mrs Thérèse English

[gloucester.stpeter@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:gloucester.stpeter@cliftondiocese.com)

**Parish Office Hours:**

Tues, Wed, Fri -9.30am-2.30pm. Thurs-12.00pm-5.00pm

**Parish Safeguarding Reps:**

Jim Harris & John Bond

[psr.gloucester.stpeter@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:psr.gloucester.stpeter@cliftondiocese.com)

### Schools

**St Peter's Catholic Primary School:**

Tel: 01452 524792. Web: [www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk)

**St Peter's Catholic High School & Sixth Form Centre**

Tel: 01452 520594. Web: [www.st-petershigh.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.st-petershigh.gloucs.sch.uk)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022

## Fifth Sunday of Lent (Year C)

<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b> <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> <b>Diocesan Prayer Link</b> <i>Holy Family, Patchway</i>	<b>6.00pm (Sat) Mass</b>	Mary Hughes <i>RIP</i>
	<b>9.00am Mass</b>	Roisin Burton <i>RIP</i>
	<b>10.30am Mass</b>	Ints Sue Hartnett
	<b>12.30pm Polish Language Mass</b>	
	<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<b>9.10am Morning Prayer</b>	
	<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Fr Jackie Robinson- <i>Get Well</i>
<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<b>7.30am Mass</b>	Holy Souls
	<b>6.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	
	<b>7.00pm Mass</b>	John Wood <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary</i>
<b>Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<b>11.30am Stations of the Cross</b>	
	<b>12.00pm Mass</b>	Christy O'Brien <i>RIP</i>
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<b>9.10am Morning Prayer</b>	
	<b>9.30am Mass</b>	John Staley <i>Anniversary</i>
	<b>7.00pm Stations of the Cross</b>	
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<b>9.10am Morning Prayer</b>	
	<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Kathleen (Kay) Sayers <i>Anniversary</i>
	<b>7.30pm Polish Mass</b>	
<b>Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	<b>9.30am Rosary</b>	
	<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Joyce Duffy <i>RIP</i>
	<b>10.45am – 11.30am Confessions</b>	
	<b>5.00pm – 5.30pm Confessions</b>	
	<b>6.00pm Mass</b>	Dr Claudio Baldari- <i>Thanksgiving</i>
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April</b> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	<b>7.30pm Polish Language Mass</b>	
	<b>9.00am Mass</b>	Larry Montagu <i>RIP</i>
	<b>10.30am Mass</b>	People of the Parish
	<b>12.30pm Polish Language Mass</b>	
	<b>5.30pm Mass</b>	John Lynch <i>RIP</i>

**This Week:** Divine Office - Psalter Week 1 and Fifth Week of Lent.

**Last Weekend:** Mass Attendance – 569. Offertory - £ 1594.45 (includes £365.49 from contactless payment).

**Covering of Crosses and Statues:** We are observing the custom of veiling the crosses and statues in church. It is a practice observed from a time when the Passion was read on the Fifth Sunday of Lent marking the beginning of Passiontide (last two weeks of Lent).

**Ukraine Appeal:** £140.00 has been donated during the last week, this brings our total raised so far to £4367. Thank you all for your generosity.

**Stations of the Cross this Week:** Wednesday 11.30am, Thursday 7.00pm (reflective), Palm Sunday 3.00pm.

**Repository:** Easter cards are available now in the repository.

**Gift Aid Envelopes:** The new envelopes are available to collect in the sacristy corridor. Please be aware that your number may have changed, we have cut down our envelope order due to parishioners choosing to make their donation by other methods. Thank you for your ongoing support for the upkeep of our parish.

**Parish Synod Report:** Copies of the parish response to the Synodal Process are available at the back of the church and on the parish website (newsletter page).

**Fantastic News!** In its recent Section 48 (*Religious Education*) Inspection, St Peter's Catholic Primary School, has been judged 'Outstanding' in all areas. The report is glowing and rightly celebrates how everyone celebrates and lives out the Gospel values and mission of the school. The report is available to be read on the school website. A massive congratulations to all staff, pupils, governors and parents.

**Confessions:** In addition to the published times of confessions in preparation for Easter in St Peter's, there will be a Deanery Penitential Service in Our Lady's Churchdown on Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm.

**Congratulations:** To Bethany Konarski and Matheu Marshall who were married here last weekend.

**Baptisms:** We welcome into the family of the church Aurelia Blair baptised last weekend.

**St John Passion:** St Peter's High School choir presents Bob Chilcott's St John Passion on Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in St Peter's Church. Tickets £5 (£3 concessions) from [boxoffice@sphs.uk.com](mailto:boxoffice@sphs.uk.com) or 001452 520594. Please note the church will be closed on Wednesday afternoon for rehearsal.

**SVP:** Meet on Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> in the presbytery after the evening mass.

**RIP:** Please remember in your prayers those who have died recently:

**Margaret Catterall.** Funeral Service at Gloucester Crematorium on Friday April 8<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am.

**St Peter's Catholic Primary School - Teacher Vacancies:** The governors of St Peter's Catholic Primary School are seeking to appoint two outstanding teachers who will have an understanding of and empathy with the Catholic ethos of our school. St Peter's is a two-form entry multi-cultural primary school in Gloucester city. For more information visit [www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk/vacancies](http://www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk/vacancies)

**Gloucester Deanery Day for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers:** A deanery day of reflection for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will take place at the Family Centre Prinknash, on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April from 10.30am – 3.30pm. Lunch will be provided (please inform of any dietary requirements). To book a place, please contact the parish office by Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April. (NB: lunch will be prepared in a kitchen where nuts, dairy and meat products are used. If this could cause you a problem, please bring your own lunch).

#### HOLY WEEK 2022

##### **Palm Sunday (April 10<sup>th</sup>)**

Mass with Blessing of Palms  
6.00pm (Sat), 9.00am, 10.30am, 5.30pm

3.00pm Stations of the Cross

*Polish Mass 7.30pm (Sat), 12.30pm.*

##### **Monday of Holy Week (April 11<sup>th</sup>)**

9.10am: Morning Prayer

9.30am: Mass.

##### **Tuesday of Holy Week (April 12<sup>th</sup>)**

7.30am: Mass

6.00pm: Exposition on the Blessed Sacrament

7.00pm: Mass

7.30pm – 8.00pm: Confessions

##### **Wednesday of Holy Week (April 13<sup>th</sup>)**

6.00pm: Mass with Reception of the Holy Oils

6.30pm: Confessions

##### **HOLY THURSDAY (April 14<sup>th</sup>)**

7.30pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper

Watching until Sung Night Prayer at 10.45pm

##### **GOOD FRIDAY (April 15<sup>th</sup>)**

9.30am: Office of Readings & Morning Prayer

11.00am: Children's Stations of the Cross

12noon – 1.00pm: Confessions

##### **3.00pm: Liturgy of the Lord's Passion**

7.00pm: At the foot of the Cross

##### **HOLY SATURDAY (April 16<sup>th</sup>)**

9.30am: Office of Readings & Morning Prayer

*10.30am – 11.30am Polish Food Blessing*

##### **8.00pm: Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter**

##### **EASTER SUNDAY (April 17<sup>th</sup>)**

Easter Day Mass 9.00am, 10.30am, 5.30pm

*Polish Mass 12.30pm*

**We remember those who have asked for our prayers:** Fr Donal Daly, Andrea Brushneen, Sue Hartnett, Margaret Coleman, Marie O'Connor, Pat O'Ryan, David Burke, Cheryl Loy, Natalia Price, Sharon Scott, Christopher Browne, Kathy Smith, Joan O'Connell, Breedge Maguire, Eamonn Bohan, Sandra Flanagan, Jean Crickett, Dan Roche, Oliver Cuffe, Michael Casey, Edna McGinn, Brendan Markey, Charlie Brady

## **St Peter's Parish, Gloucester Synod Summary Report**

For this report, the alternative questions provided by the Diocese of Clifton's Synod Department, were used for all the parish listening events. Over 60 written responses were received.

### **How as a parish are we "journeying together"? What steps is the Holy Spirit inviting us to take in order to grow in our "journeying together"?**

A recurring theme throughout the listening process was the need for a place to meet as a parish, which would help build fellowship through continuing the listening process.

There was an acknowledgement that we are an international community, and there was a strong desire to learn more about each other's cultures and to work and socialise together, without losing our individual traditions and customs.

One response suggested that a group be formed to discuss the future of the Parish Centre.

A number of responses expressed a feeling of disjointedness in the parish due to the number of Masses and the limited times the parish came together as a whole.

Some responses wondered if parishioners could be more welcoming and understanding, especially towards young families, young people, and new parishioners.

Some responses suggested a new emphasis on youth work and one response suggesting setting up a Parish Parent/Toddler Group.

A large number of responses indicated a need for adult formation and catechesis, Bible study, and prayer.

Other responses suggested music workshops, praise and worship and opportunities for faith testimonies and witnessing.

A number of responses requested more Eucharistic Adoration and Solemn Benediction.

Several responses desired for the parish to be more visible in its outreach work with economic and socially disadvantaged people in the local community, including those who suffer from addictions, those who are homeless and those who use the local foodbank.

Some responses called for the formation of a pastoral team to support the housebound and the bereaved, as well as a number requesting more to be done in the area of ecumenical initiatives.

A number of responses acknowledged the work the parish already carries out in these particular areas, while highlighting the need to publicise and celebrate better what is already happening.

There was a recognition that many people were extremely busy, and some responses suggested that finances, both parish and personal, were a problem in initiating any change and new parish initiatives. It was also thought that a personal invitation to individuals to volunteer might be more fruitful than the more general approach of requesting for volunteers through the parish newsletter.

There was a recognition of how blessed we were to have our Priests and Deacons, acknowledging the pressure experienced in the day-to-day running of the parish, while leading us in our faith.

One parishioner's dream, and this was echoed elsewhere, was that ideally the Priests should be able to concentrate on matters of faith, and the laity be able to deal with more practical matters of parish life.

### **Communion: How do you feel the Church communicates with you and you with the Church? Who are the people who feel left out and excluded? How can we reach out, listen to, and love them?**

#### **Communication**

Many responses spoke of how much of this communication takes place through the Liturgy, scripture, and homilies.

Some spoke of how we communicate with the Universal Church through the Mass and are united with our persecuted brothers and sisters through prayer.

One response lamented that there were no Masses celebrated according to the 1962 Missal, and was opposed to the Clifton Diocese implementation of the recent Papal motu proprio *Traditionis Custodes*. There was also a real desire for faith sharing through prayer groups and more opportunities to talk and listen to each other's needs.

It was thought by many that the parish communicates well with parishioners through the website and newsletter, though some acknowledged that greater use could be made of social media and better use of the website.

Many responses stated how much they appreciated the live stream, and thought the Church sound system was very good.

There was a request for more information regarding the parish administrative structure and financial information.

The wider Church communications were often described as something which caused confusion and division. The Vatican documents were described as being too frequent, too long and that they used complicated and confusing terminology, and as a result often seemed irrelevant and inaccessible.

It was thought by some that Clifton Diocese was far better now at communicating than it was in the past, but that its website was still difficult to navigate.

There was criticism by some that within the Diocese, Gloucester felt like a northern outpost of Bristol; that there was a 'Bristol Bubble', and a sense that the main Diocesan activities only happen in Bristol.

### **Excluded**

Some responses expressed a feeling that members of the Neocatechumenal Way were excluded.

A number of responses felt that those divorced, separated and civilly remarried were also excluded.

Other responses referred to unmarried couples living outside of church teachings, homeless people, those suffering with addiction or disabilities, including those with learning difficulties. Members of the LGBTQ community, teenagers, lay men and single people were also mentioned.

Some responses thought that there was a lack of tolerance towards young families, and a large number of people thought the parish was excluding lapsed Catholics and the housebound. There was an acknowledgement of the work the parish carries out in these particular areas.

A few responses felt the Church did not exclude anyone, believing that the Mass was available for everyone and fully inclusive, and that some people were simply excluding themselves.

### **Reaching Out**

A general theme was the need to be a welcoming and understanding Church, through our prayer and social lives.

Some spoke of inviting others to Mass, prayer groups and social activities.

A few responses spoke of opportunities to listen to marginalised people and witness to them.

It was thought there could be more youth events, outreach projects, calls to the housebound, trips and pilgrimages.

A few responses thought there should be a men's group, to explore the role of lay men and male spirituality.

There was a request for a group for young people for fellowship and Eucharistic Adoration.

Some called for more accessible adult formation, to encourage people to take responsibly for their own formation and salvation.

One response was concerned over health and safety during Mass, for example in regards to a terrorist attack taking place during a public Liturgy.

### **Participation: How do you feel able/not able to participate in Church life? What is your dream for the Church? How can you help bring this about?**

Parishioners thought they could participate within the Church through praying, attending Mass, having a liturgical awareness, helping with the music ministry, becoming catechists, and helping with the children's liturgy.

Responses spoke of volunteering, leading by example, loving and listening to each other, and receiving the sacraments.

One respondent thought General Confession and Absolution would assist people in participating.

There were a range of issues which people thought prevented or blocked people from participating in Church life. These included the ongoing legacy of lockdown, a concern of the disabled access to the Church premises, the lack of a parish centre, a lack of Priests, and not having a choice of Priests to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Some thought that divorced people amongst others felt unaccepted, as well as those who have had a termination, given the strong pro-life stance of the Church.

Busy lives was a reason for why there was a lack of volunteers, and some were afraid of the commitment.

Some responses thought women are second class citizens within the Church, while others were concerned that the continual discussion and Synods of recent years on various issues may be leading the Church to focusing too much on internal matters, and a distraction from her mission for the world. Several responses thought that the administrative process of becoming a volunteer was intrusive and time consuming. The necessity for DBS checks were recognised, but these could be carried out online and more simply, as happens in other organisations. It is currently necessary to complete an application form and obtain two references in order to be a Church volunteer, and some thought that was off putting for many people who struggle with poor literacy or where English is their second language. Additionally, many people do not have appropriate references required, or may not want their friends to know that they are volunteering for certain activities.

It was thought that within many parishes there were very few succession plans and that people who had held roles within the parish for many years were reluctant to trust anyone else to carry out their tasks, or that no potential replacements were coming forward.

### **Dreams for the Church**

Many dream of a united, all inclusive, welcoming, community centred Church.

Some spoke of their dream for the Neocatechumenal Way to be accepted in the Diocese of Clifton. Others spoke of a Church that recognised its universal nature, while some people wished others would be more respectful during Mass.

Some dreamt of the Church praying more often for the Holy Souls, listening to the Saints and discerning the Word of God.

One response dreamed of a Church that would learn from its mistakes, publicly praying and doing penance for those who have been abused under its care.

Many dreamt of a vibrant parish which would encourage people to develop a personal relationship with God, with evangelisation and prayer groups, Bible study, and social activities, all of which would help enable us to serve each other.

Many responses dreamed of more adult formation and catechesis, including assistance for parents to take responsibility to educate their children in their faith.

Others dreamt of the Church reaching out to the wider community, holding youth projects or groups, encouraging young people to take responsibility for their own activities and encouraging enabling full participation instead of tokenism.

Some spoke of a befriending service, and a better PR of parish activities to encourage others to volunteer. Some respondents were nostalgic of the 'Friends of St Peter's Group'.

More responses included the need to pray for more vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life.

Some desired female ordination to the Diaconate and Priesthood, while one person expressed a desire for the reinstatement of the celebration of Mass according to the 1962 Missal.

Finally, one person suggested whether the elderly/house bound could be involved in the children's First Holy Communion Programme by having a 'prayer child' who could visit, and that the elderly person would pray daily for the child and his/her family.

### **Mission: How do you feel the Church can make her Mission more effective for today's world?**

The number of ideas in response to this question gives expression to a real sense of enthusiasm for Mission.

Some spoke of the introduction of Our Lady's Teams and the Legion of Mary.

There was a desire for opportunities to evangelise, re-evangelise and witness to our faith with each other and the wider community.

Some suggested the formation of different styles of faith groups.

Better catechesis was frequently mentioned, and some asked about the appropriate age for young people receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

There was much desire to assist parents in catechising their children.

Many spoke of their dream to re-energise the Church's mission within Catholic schools.

There was a great desire to invite or encourage lapsed Catholics and those on the peripheries to

return to the faith. Suggestions included greater accessibility of adult formation and catechesis, learning more about the Church's Social Teachings, and listening to others' witness and life stories. Some spoke of their wish for more ecumenical work, and others of having more awareness of persecuted Christians, through organisations such as Aid to the Church in Need.

Other suggestions included the Church being more inclusive of people who are divorced and civilly remarried, that the Church starts ordaining married men to the Priesthood, and to have female Priests and Deacons.

It was suggested that the parish work within the local community should be more visible and widely publicised, especially a greater awareness of the parish SVP (St Vincent de Paul Society).

There was an overwhelming call for a Parish Centre.

Finally, others suggested an active youth ministry within the parish.