



St Peter's Catholic Church

London Road, Gloucester GL1 3EX

Tel: 01452 523603

Parish website: www.stpetersgloucester.org.uk

Diocesan website: www.cliftondiocese.com

CLIFTON DIOCESE (a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England and Wales under number 10462076.
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Parish Priest:

Monsignor Liam Slattery VG

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Permanent Deacons:

Rev Colm Robinson

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Rev Tim Meadows

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Parish Secretary:

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Parish Office:

Tues, Wed, Fri -9.30am-2.30pm

Thurs-12.00pm-5.00pm

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:

Jim Harris & John Bond

Schools

St Peter's Catholic Primary School:

Tel: 01452 524792. Web: 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

24th May 2020 – Seventh Sunday of Easter (Year A)

Mass Intentions this Week

During this week Fr Liam will say a daily private mass in St Peter's Church for the following intentions:

Sunday: People of the Parish.

Monday: Peggy Brindley *RIP*.

Tuesday: Larry Montagu *RIP*.

Wednesday: John Staley *RIP*

Thursday: Intentions of Jojin & Family.

Friday: Eddie Roche *RIP*

Saturday: Intentions of Sheril Kuruvila

Church Closure

St Peter's Church and the Parish Office are closed until further notice.

This Week

Seventh Week of Easter. Monday is the memorial of St Bede. Tuesday is the memorial of St Philip Neri, Wednesday is the Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury.

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Dominic, Dursley with St Joseph, Nympsfield

Daily Live Streaming of Mass from Clifton Cathedral

Continues each day including Sundays at 9.30am and can be accessed through the diocesan website (cliftondiocese.com) or through churchservices.tv.

We remember those who have asked for our prayers: Joy Jones, Ian Cahill, Andrea Brushneen, Cheryl Loy, Sharon Williams, Michael Hercules, Mary Wood, Leonard Slatter, Sue Hartnett, Phil Gammond, Mandi Stokes, Theo Montague, Margaret Coleman, Vera Watson, Patricia Walsh, Cecilia Edwards, Veronica Burke, Janet Diaco, Linda Northway, Rebecca Northway, Ben Wilkinson, Jackie Hutt, Steve Prosser, Kitty Daly, Peter Hagan, Frank Kelly, Mary Philomena Mayo, Marie O'Connor, Baby Monroe Cserna-Ochai, Jennifer Morrissey, Kathleen Neely, Joan O'Connell, Milvia Sepede, Eileen Mary Parsons, Pat O'Ryan, Fr Liam Slattery, Christopher Browne.

Philip Kilminster RIP

Philip's funeral takes place on Thursday 28th May at 2.00pm. It can be viewed on www.obitus.com. Enter User name - gloucester0859 and Password - 181297. Donations in memory of Philip to <https://caninepartners.org.uk/donate/giving-in-memory/>

RIP

We ask your prayers for those who have died recently:

Michael Tennant, Carmelina Lepore. We extend our sympathy to their families and friends.

World Communications Sunday

Today, Sunday 24 May, we are celebrating World Communications Day for the 54th time. Every year the Holy Father sends a message about it, and this year's is all about the power of stories. Pope Francis also asks us to be discerning, and to avoid harmful stories in favour of good ones – stories that are wholesome and have a life-giving message. But why accept a second-hand version of the message? Why not read it for yourself? This year's message is entitled "'That you may tell your children and grandchildren" (Exodus 10,2). Life becomes history'. [Pope's message for World Communications Day 2020](#)

Year of Communion - Sunday May 24th – Seventh Sunday of Easter

Today's Gospel is part of the priestly prayer of Jesus. Jesus speaks directly to his Father. He prays for those who belong to him. In other words, he is praying for us, asking God to protect us. It is the perfect model for our own prayer because Jesus is speaking from the depths of his heart. Prayer has been and continues to be central to the life of our communities. When we have not been able to gather physically, we have found innovative ways to come together virtually. What has mattered more than anything has been our desire to bring to God our heartfelt needs. In these difficult months we may not have been able to comprehend what is going on, but we have been able to pray. Even when that has been hard for us personally, others have been able to hold us in their prayer. The prayer of Jesus is not for himself. While we may pray that we will respond to whatever God asks of us, ultimately we are encouraged to grow in our relationship with God by our prayer for others. The fruit of our prayer will be seen in our reaching out and our tender love for others.

Organ Donation

On 20th May, an opt-out system for organ donation was introduced in England.

The Catholic Church has consistently encouraged its followers to consider organ donation. The act of donating organs before or after death has been considered a gift and an intrinsic good. However, a system of presumed consent risks taking away the right of the individual to exercise this decision, and therefore potentially undermines the concept of donation as a gift.

Following the change in the law, all adults in England will be considered donors in the event of death, unless they have recorded a decision not to donate or are in one of the following excluded groups: those under the age of 18; people who lack the mental capacity to understand the new arrangements and take the necessary action; visitors to England, and those not living here voluntarily; and people who have lived in England for less than 12 months before their death.

The Catholic Bishops' of England and Wales have produced Guidelines for Catholics on Organ Donation, and how to record this decision online via the Organ Donation Register (ODR). The ODR also allows you to record your faith beliefs so that they may be respected in the event of death and organ donation.

Click [HERE](#) to see the guidelines.

Rosary Mission

As a Diocese we have had a request from Monsignor John Armitage, from the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, to participate in a May Rosary Mission on Pentecost Sunday (31st May). Each Diocese in England, Wales and Scotland has been allotted an hour in which the Rosary will be prayed either individually or in family groups. The hour allotted to Clifton is 1.00pm. At that time the Rosary will be live streamed from Clifton Cathedral.

The Catholic Herald

From May, the Catholic Herald is changing from a weekly to a monthly publication. Subscribers will receive 12 monthly issues and will have 24 hour access to the new website as well as weekly podcast from Rome and historic archives. A print and digital subscription will cost £59.99 per year. A digital only subscription is £45. For more information see <https://catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe> or telephone 020 7448 3607 or 3618.

Reflection from Deacon David Hebbes

24th May 2020 7th Sunday of Easter

'Laudato Si' Sunday

It doesn't seem like 4 weeks since I wrote my last reflection for a Sunday. I have been finding that the days are blurring into one continuous shapeless cycle. I wonder how it is for you? Some of you, I am sure, have selflessly soldiered on through the lock-down, going to work as usual whatever usual might look like now! And to all of you who are working in the front line or keeping the essentials of life operating, I say a massive 'Thank You' on mine and, I am sure, everyone's behalf. There is also another big 'Thank You' due to all of you who have been diligently observing the lock down, selflessly staying at home for the benefit of us all. I personally have found it difficult and have struggled at times. I am not ashamed to say it, nor should any of us if that is how we have felt. All of us have a duty to support each other when and where it is needed. Try helping each other to see the

positives,,and there are positives to be found and to be embraced.

The severe reduction in travel and production has led to a profound drop in pollution across the world. Landscapes and cityscapes which have been blurred or hidden for as long as people can remember have become visible and are able to be enjoyed again. The waters of Venice have been running clear; wildlife has been seen venturing into towns, the constant thrum of roads has been silenced; birdsong is audible like never before. I was sitting in the garden talking to my mother on the phone the other day when a pair of Goldfinches came and settled on the ivy-clad wall; something I wouldn't have seen if the pace of life hadn't been interrupted giving me the space to slow down. That sight and moment was a true gift! I have never valued being able to walk by the Severn as much as this week when we were allowed to exercise with social distancing....simple things but wonders often overlooked....an example of things that I had allowed to be taken away from me.

During the lock down I have been able to re-engage with aspects of life which I had lost. My first passion and pursuit was Biology and Ecology....the whole of Creation was my world. This virus has highlighted the importance of Creation, of life in all its forms, of people, of communities, of families to me; and I would be surprised if not to all of you too. Life, time and the world around us is a precious gift for us all to cherish and enjoy.

This weekend sees the anniversary of the publication of Pope Francis's wonderful encyclical 'Laudato Si' (Praise be to You). It wasn't all new but it was the first time that we had spiritual leadership concerning Creation and the challenges we are facing in the 21st Century. To build on this, Francis has tasked a department to lead a year of celebration, and more importantly, a year of action. It is calling us to not just 'Talk the talk' but to 'WALK THE WALK'. This year we will be encouraged to take an active part in making changes which will help improve our World. The lock down has given us a chance to Reflect, Reset and Renew.

Pope Francis is expecting every one of us to be active and to make a real difference to our world. It is our mission to heal the problems in all aspects of our world and our lives. That, Francis stresses, includes how we treat and live with others. The current challenge has shown all of us, absolutely clearly that we are a global family and as a global family we must open our arms and our thinking to become as one. This will extend into all aspects of our daily lives....what we buy...what we do...what we consume....what we give...how we help...how we conduct ourselves. The 3 'R's (reflect, reset and renew) are joined by another 2Respect and Reverence.

A lot more will be released in the coming weeks about what we can get involved in, but we can get ourselves ready in mind and spirit through reading 'Laudato Si' (available free on line from the Vatican's website), taking time to reflect and meditate, and to pray. The Vatican's team has given us a special prayer to celebrate 'Laudato Si' which you will find below. Let this prayer be the first step of a new beginning...a new way and a new world which we cherish...we enjoy.....and we love with all our hearts.

A PRAYER FOR OUR COMMON HOME

All powerful God, you created all things, and you are present throughout the universe and in every creature,

You embrace with your tender love all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, so that we may have the strength and courage

to protect all life and the beauty of our world,

preserving it from pollution and destruction.

Fill us with your peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one,

And caring for the Earth, our common home.

Teach us to discover the worth of every creature on this earth,

Let us protect those at risk and in danger, encourage us as we seek justice, love and peace.

Stay with us each day, with the power of your grace.

Through Christ our Lord

Amen

Stay well, stay safe and let us all look forward to the day when we can be together again. In the meantime.....

'LAUDATO SI'!

World Communications Day

The Catholic Church celebrates World Communications Day on 24 May when we pray for those who work in the media

2020

[Pray for] those who work in the media who work to communicate today so that people are not so isolated... who help us to bear this time of isolation

Pope Francis
during COVID-19
pandemic

O Mary, woman and mother, you wove the divine Word in your womb, you recounted by your life the magnificent works of God. Listen to our stories, hold them in your heart and make your own the stories that no one wants to hear. Teach us to recognise the good thread that runs through history. Look at the tangled knots in our life that paralyse our memory. By your gentle hands, every knot can be untied. Woman of the Spirit, mother of trust, inspire us too. Help us build stories of peace, stories that point to the future. And show us the way to live them together.

Prayer