



## 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)

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

[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:**

Wednesday and Thursday 10.30am – 1.30pm, Friday 10.30am – 2.30pm.

**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](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)

## 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020 – First Sunday of Advent (Year B)

### Mass Times and Intentions for this Week

<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2020</b> <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent</i> <b>Diocesan Prayer Link</b> <i>All Chaplaincies to HM forces in the diocese</i>	<b>Church open for Individual Prayer</b> <b>1.00pm – 3.00pm</b> <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November</b> <i>St Andrew</i>	<b>Church Closed</b>
<b>Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December</b> <i>St Alexander Briant</i>	<b>Church open for Individual Prayer</b> <b>11.00am – 12.00pm</b>
<b>Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b> <i>Weekday of Advent</i>	<i>11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i> <b>12.00pm Mass</b> Ints of Deacon David Hebbes
<b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b> <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	<i>9.10am Morning Prayer</i> <b>9.30am Mass</b> K C John & C M Mathew RIP
<b>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>St Osmund</i>	<i>9.10am Morning Prayer</i> <b>9.30am Mass</b> Esterina & Bronyslaw Bril RIP <i>7.30pm Polish Language Mass</i>
<b>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>Weekday of Advent</i>	<i>9.30am Rosary</i> <b>10.00am Mass</b> Int of Magdalena & Family <i>10.45am – 11.30am Confessions</i> <i>3.00pm Filipino Monthly Mass</i> <i>5.00pm – 5.30pm Confessions</i> <b>6.00pm Mass</b> Douglas Hook RIP <i>7.30pm Polish Language Mass</i>
<b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> People of the Parish <b>10.30am Mass</b> Teresa Zahra Anniv <i>12.30pm Polish Language Mass</i> <b>5.30pm Mass</b> Marianna Pospiech RIP

### 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](http://cliftondiocese.com)) or through churchservices.tv. Progress on enabling mass be streamed live from our church is slow. We are awaiting a necessary upgrade to broadband before being able to proceed. This is not due to happen until mid December.

### Church Cleaning

Volunteers are invited to help clean the church on Monday at 10.00am Access via the rear door. Thank you.

## COVID-19

Good news! The celebration of public masses resumes on Wednesday December 2nd. We do remind parishioners of the following:

- Under no circumstance should anyone attend mass in St Peter's, if they have any symptoms associated with COVID-19, have been in contact with someone who recently tested positive, or are feeling unwell.
- In accordance with the requirements of Tier 2, you must not attend mass in groups of more than 6 people. While in church you must not interact/socialise with people from outside of your household or support bubble.
- Unless exempt from doing so, everyone attending mass must wear a face covering at all times, and use the hand sanitiser provided.
- Individuals and groups of up to three from the same household are asked to use the side pews so that the longer pews in the centre of the church can be kept for groups of up to six from the same household or three individuals, when side pews are filled. When the safe capacity is reached at any given mass no one else will be permitted to enter the church for that mass. Please observe and respect the guidance of stewards at all times.
- If you pick up a newsletter, mass sheet or any literature please take it away with you and do not return it to the table.
- The obligation to attend mass on a Sunday continues to be suspended.

### Thank You!

We owe Mrs Baron, Mrs Layhe, teachers, teaching assistants and support workers in St Peter's Catholic Primary School and St Peter's Catholic High School a huge thank you and the continuing support of our prayer, for all they are doing to enable the continuation of the education of the children and young people entrusted to their care in these challenging times. So much of what they do is above and beyond the call of duty. Thank You!

### RIP

We ask you prayers for those who have died recently.

**Dora Vai**, whose funeral took place last week.

**Michael 'Mick' Tomlins and Gloria Ireland.** Private funerals will take place in the coming weeks.

### Clifton Diocesan 2021 Liturgical Diary (£6.50) and Directory (£5)

These are now available. Please contact Fr Liam to purchase a copy.

### Mass Intentions this Week

During this week Fr Liam will say a daily private mass for the following intentions:

Sunday: People of the Parish

Monday: Paul Montanaro *RIP*

Tuesday: Keith Nunn *RIP*

### Advent 2020

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new Liturgical Year in the life of the church, the Year of St Mark's Gospel. The following publications for the Season of Advent are available: Advent Extra (£1), My Day by Day (75p). We also have free publications for children – Advent Celebrate and an Advent worksheet. All are available from the back of the church. Bishop Declan has issued a Pastoral Letter for this First Sunday of Advent. You will find it by clicking [HERE](#). Visit the website of the Bishops of England and Wales throughout Advent for various reflections on [www.cbcew.org.uk](http://www.cbcew.org.uk).

The liturgical year begins with the Advent Season, which starts four Sundays before December 25th and ends at the Christmas Vigil Mass. As the Roman Missal reminds us: *'Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation'*. During the season of Advent we remember the long years of waiting by the people of Israel for the Messiah, the message of hope in the prophets, and how Mary and Joseph were faithful to God's plan. The Catechism of the Catholic Church stresses this two-fold meaning of this "coming": *"When the Church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the Saviour's first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for His Second Coming"* (No. 524).

### Christmas 2020

Details of times of masses for Christmas and the booking system that we will need to put in place, will be publicised next weekend.

### **Prayer Intention of Pope Francis for December**

That our personal relationship with Jesus Christ may be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

### **Repository**

The Repository (Religious Goods Shop) at the back of the church will reopen with the resumption of public Masses. There is a wide selection of Advent Candles and Calendars plus Christmas Cards, Nativity Scenes, Crib Figures, Diaries and Calendars in stock.

### **First Holy Communion 2021**

Parents of children baptised Roman Catholic and in Year 3 or above who would like them to make their First Holy Communion in St Peter's Parish in 2021, are invited to download an application form from the parish website. A form can also be requested by emailing Fr Liam on [liam.slattery@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:liam.slattery@cliftondiocese.com). Closing date for return of application forms has been extended to December 6<sup>th</sup> 2020.

### **We remember those who have asked for our prayers**

Deacon David Hebbes, Fr Donal Daly, Andrea Brushneen, Cheryl Loy, Sharon Williams, Michael Hercules, Leonard Slatter, Sue Hartnett, Phil Gammond, Mandi Stokes, Theo Montague, Margaret Coleman, Patricia Walsh, Cecilia Edwards, Veronica Burke, Janet Diaco, Ben Wilkinson, Jackie Hutt, Steve Prosser, Kitty Daly, Peter Hagan, Frank Kelly, Marie O'Connor, Baby Monroe Cserna-Ochai, Jennifer Morrissey, Kathleen Neely, Joan O'Connell, Eileen Mary Parsons, Pat O'Ryan, Christopher Browne, Margaret Mayell, John Shields, David Burke, Shirley Badham, Margaret Withers. Do please advise us of any updates to this list of names.

### **Red Mission Box**

Box holders and promoters, thank you all so much for your generosity in helping the missions. Please collect your calendars from the back of church. Please feel free to empty your own box if you can and put the money into one of the brown envelopes provided. Otherwise, please bring it to church to be emptied. If you would like to write a cheque, please make it payable to "APF". If you have signed a Gift Aid Declaration in the past, please let me know if there is a change to any of your details. Any queries please contact me on 07452773330 or email [lucyglos@msn.com](mailto:lucyglos@msn.com). Many thanks, Lucy Hayward.

### **'Sharing our Story' – Online Conversations for Catechists**

There is an opportunity for catechists to be renewed and refreshed by taking part in a series of conversations with a variety of speakers from around the country. Each speaker will offer their own insights into different aspects of catechesis followed by time to discuss, comment and share ideas. All are welcome to join, including anyone who is interested in this area of ministry but not yet involved. To our first session on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, we welcome David Wells, International Speaker and highly experienced in the world of catechetics. The conversations will take place on *Microsoft Teams*, 7.30pm – 8.45pm. To register your interest please contact: [adult.education@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com) and a *Teams* invite will be sent out on the Monday before each talk. Further information can be found on the Clifton diocesan website

### **Church Opening Times this week**

In addition to when the church is open for public Mass from Wednesday onwards, the church will also be open this week for individual prayer on Sunday from 1.00pm – 3.00pm, Tuesday from 11.00am – 12.00pm, Wednesday from 2.00pm – 3.00pm and on Friday from after mass until 12.00pm.

### **Vacancy at St Peter's Catholic Primary School**

We have a vacancy for OPAL Play Team (formerly midday supervisor). Details and application form on the school website <https://www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk/vacancies>. Closing date is 4th December.

### **Year of Communion- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November – First Sunday of Advent**

2020 has been like no other year that we can probably remember or imagine. When we started Advent in December 2019, we had absolutely no idea that the new liturgical year would play out as it has done. We could not have anticipated or expected the experience we have had and currently still have. Government recommendations during the pandemic to 'Stay alert' find echoes in our Gospel today. 'Stay awake, be on your guard' is how Mark puts it. But this is not about watching out for the dangers of a virus. Rather we are to be prepared for the coming of the Lord, not just Christmas, but at any time. This second coming of Christ and the final judgement is what we need to hold in mind throughout our Christian lives. As a faithful community, we are, waiting in hopeful anticipation for Christ to come once more. It is not a passive waiting but is mindful and open to the reality that Christ comes to us in the poor, in the exiled, in the refugee and asylum seeker, in the homeless and the most vulnerable in our society. As we enter the season of a new liturgical year, let's pray for the strength to be hopeful and joyful in the weeks and months ahead.

### **Summary of the Holy Father's words at the General Audience last Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>**

Dear Brothers and Sisters, in our continuing catechesis on prayer, we now reflect on how constant prayer was the driving force of the missionary activity of the first Christians. Saint Luke tells us that they “devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers” (Acts 2:42). Today too the Church’s life is centred on prayer, which unites us to Christ, and inspires our witness to the Gospel and our charitable service to those in need. In prayer, we experience the life of the risen Jesus who, in the power of the Spirit, continues to be present to our world, especially in the Church’s teaching and sacraments, and our efforts to advance his kingdom of reconciliation, justice and peace. The Catechism teaches that the Holy Spirit “keeps the memory of Christ alive in his Church” (n. 2625), and grants courage and conviction to all those missionaries, who, in our day too, face arduous journeys, dangers and persecution for the sake of the Gospel. Like the early Christians, may we learn, through the cultivation of personal and communal prayer, to be ever more closely united to the Triune God of love, and to bring that same love to the world around us. *Full text on the Vatican website [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)*

