

PARISH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year C)

8 May – 14 May 2022

First Mass of Sunday

Mass: 5.45pm

Peter Owen RIP

SUNDAY 8 May FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Mass: 9.30am

Pro Populo

Mass: 11.00am

Johnny & Stenia Palak RIP

Polish Mass: 12.30pm

Confessions: 5.50pm – 6.20pm

Mass: 6.30pm

MONDAY 9 May

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Mass: 9.30am

For vocations

Funeral Service: 1.00pm

Kathleen Jones RIP

TUESDAY 10 May

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Pietro Comino RIP

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY 11 May

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Olivia John (In thanksgiving)

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

THURSDAY 12 May

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

For our priests

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

Holy Hour: 6.30pm – 7.30pm

FRIDAY 13 May

OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

For peace in our world

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

SATURDAY 14 May

ST MATTHIAS

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Confessions: 10.00am – 10.30am & 5.00pm – 5.30pm

First Mass of Sunday

Mass: 5.45pm

THIS SUNDAY: This is traditionally known as Good Shepherd Sunday, and is part of the continuing journey of Easter - remember that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who both gives his life for his sheep and takes it up again. His relationship with us, after the resurrection, is closer than we can imagine: through his dying and rising, Jesus fulfils the promise he makes in today's Gospel: 'I give them eternal life, and they will never be lost.' This Sunday is another opportunity for us to consider the consequences of the Resurrection - how we live the Easter Story.

THIS SUNDAY: Vocations Sunday - Good Shepherd Sunday each year gives us the chance to pray for vocations to the priesthood and to the religious life. Each of us is constantly discerning where God is calling us to live the Gospel but this one Sunday in the year allows us the opportunity to pray that those whom God is calling to priesthood or the religious life may have the faith and the generosity to answer his call. Maybe this intention is one that you can hold in your prayers across this coming week.

AN OPEN CHURCH: During this Week, the Church will open at **7.30am** each morning and will close around 6.30pm.

LANGUAGE SHEETS: Those of you who might like to follow the Liturgy of the Word in either Italian, Spanish, French or Polish will be able to make use of the sheets that can be found on the table at the back of the Church. Please help yourself and take them with you as you leave.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The parish office is open from 9.00am until 2pm (Tuesday to Friday).

SUNDAY CONFESSIONS: There will be a priest in one of the confessionals from about 5.50pm until 6.20pm ... but please don't turn up at the last minute - Mass begins at 6.30pm.

THE EASTER GARDEN – THE EMPTY TOMB: It has been a most beautiful feature of our Easter season across these last four weeks. The Easter Tomb in the Sacred Heart Chapel will be taken down during this week and stored away until next Easter.

FIRST COMMUNION 2022: The children join us for their last preparation Mass at 9.30am this Sunday, 8 May, and they will gather again on **Wednesday 11 May** in the Church for session seven at 4.30pm. We continue to keep them in our prayers – Matvey, Krysztof, Gabriel, Alicja, Aleksander, Ronnie, Kaiser, Patryk, Jewel, Agata, Laurie, Oscar, Rafferty, Frances, Calogero, Domenico, Amelia, Lena, Erin, Isabella, Julia, Aiden, Hudson, Benitha, Isobella, Filip, Adeleine, Nadia, Patryk, Nela, Sophia, Daniel, Maisy, Enrick, Laura, Lena, Aleksandra, Aleksander, Zofia, and Renee. First Communion this year will be celebrated on **Sunday 12 June** at 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

ADORATION: Adoration goes from strength to strength, and it is good to see people crossing the threshold of the Church and finding time to spend before the Lord. Each day (Tuesday – Friday) the Blessed Sacrament is exposed in the Sacred Heart Chapel after the 10am Mass until 5.30pm. Do make use of this

opportunity to come close to the Lord present to us and to open yourself up with the peace the Risen Christ offers us. If you want to offer yourself for an hour's prayer, do 'sign up'.

EVENING ADORATION: The Lenten Saturdays were such an attractive moment of prayer for so many across the season of Lent. We'll keep this going across the Easter Season but tweak it slightly. **Each Saturday** up to Pentecost, the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Adoration Chapel from 7pm until 8am on the Sunday morning. This allows those who want to use those hours for keeping vigil the space and the safety to come before the Lord. If you want to pop into the Chapel, then just ring the doorbell and someone will let you in. There's the added opportunity of **Friday nights** as well: a twelve-hour moment of prayer in the Adoration Chapel from 7pm until 8am. There is a little sign-up sheet but you can always contact Catherine or George if you would like to take part during one of these 'vigil' hours. Do make use of these peace-filled and quiet moments before the Lord. It is to him we come with our burdens knowing that he is taking care of us.

WORSHIP AND PRAISE during Adoration on a Wednesday from 12.30pm until 1.30pm. Do come along – prayer and music before the Lord.

YOUR PRAYERS: We pray for Patricia Macarthur who died on Easter Monday. Her funeral is to take place at St Alphege's on Monday 9 May. We also pray for Kathleen Jones who died recently. Her funeral service takes place here at St John's on **Monday 9 May** at 1pm. May they rest in the peace of the Risen Christ.

FRIDAY LUNCHESES: We continue to meet for a simple lunch each Friday at 12.30pm. This simple lunch of freshly made soup, crusty bread, cheese and fruit is available to those of you who want to come together in the Hall. A generous welcome awaits you. There's no charge for the lunch. All that is gathered pays for the following week's lunch. We have been well served, well fed and well looked after so far... come and be nourished. It is an opportunity to meet others, engage in conversation and have the company of others whilst you eat.

EASTER LECTIO DIVINA: Caroline Price has been leading this school of *Lectio* over the weeks of Lent and now we come to a little pause before the next session. We meet again from 11am until 12.15pm in the Adoration Chapel on **Wednesday 11 May** and 25 May, and 8 June. This is a chance to immerse oneself in a new way of praying and a prayerful way of reading the scriptures. It's not too late to start if you want to pick up after Easter.

CHILDREN'S ADORATION each Friday at 4.30pm in the Sacred Heart Chapel. This simple hour before the Blessed Sacrament is an opportunity to draw families together in stillness and in prayer. Do come along if you can.

THE CLUB: A good and gentle afternoon was had by those who came along and there was plenty of tea and cake to go round. The Club meets next on Tuesday 7 June for a Jubilee Tea at 2pm in the Hall. Don't have such a big

lunch that day... you'll be well fed and the conversation is always good. If you are free for the afternoon and would like to enjoy company and conversation, please come along.

AN EXHIBITION ON THE EUCHARIST: St John's is to host an exhibition curated by and flowing from the prayerful initiative of Blessed Carlos Acutis, a young Italian man with such a love for the Blessed Sacrament. Around our Church across June, July and August there will be a narrative of saints and places so touched by the Eucharist across the centuries. This pilgrimage around the Church enables us to deepen our understanding of the Real Presence of the Lord and a love that is revealed in this great gift of himself. The Exhibition, enabled here by Tom and Angelina, will feature panels around the north and south aisles and exhibits in the Lady Chapel and the Sacred Heart Chapel, too. There will also be a display of some beautiful things that are used in our celebration of the Eucharist.

THE SYNOD – A DIOCESAN PRESENTATION: Bishop Declan invites every parish to an evening liturgy at the Cathedral on **June 22 at 7pm** when he will also present Clifton's Synod report to each parish. Fr Christopher will be accompanied by our three Synod Delegates in receiving the report on behalf of the parish... but it would be good if others were there in the gathering. There are no restrictions on numbers gathering with our bishop so please do feel encouraged to go along. However, you will need to register your 'presence', and to facilitate this, you are asked to book onto the event via this link (Eventbrite): eventbrite.co.uk/e/evening-liturgy-synod-tickets-327123734897

WORLD YOUTH DAY LISBON 2023: World Youth Day will next take place in Lisbon in 2023. The Department for Adult Education and Evangelisation is organising an eight-day pilgrimage from **July 31 to August 8, 2023** for young adults [18-35] in our diocese. The provisional plan is to spend six nights in Lisbon and two nights in Fatima. There will be formation sessions for the group before the pilgrimage to build community and support one another in our faith journey. If you are interested in learning more about the Clifton Diocese World Youth Day 2023 Pilgrimage, and will be at least 18 years old on 1st April 2023, please register your interest at adult.education@cliftondiocese.com - Please spread the word to any young adults you know who may be interested in attending World Youth Day!

MARRIAGE MASS – SATURDAY 2 JULY: Bishop Declan is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 2 July (12 noon) and is inviting all married couples to join him. He will send a personal invitation to those couples who are celebrating significant anniversaries during 2022 or those who will marry during this year. If you are celebrating a 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th, 65th, or 70th anniversary during 2022 or getting married this year please email adult.education@cliftondiocese.com so that a personal invitation can be sent out, leaving details of your names, address, and the number of years you are both celebrating.

VOTIVE CANDLES: If you would like to offer one for your intention for the week, please use the brown

envelopes by either chapel and pop them into the parish office. They cost £5 and each candle will be labelled with the donors intention and hung in the votive glasses for the week.

MAY – THE MONTH OF THE MOTHER OF GOD: Do enter into the prayer of the Rosary during this month of May, the month of Mary.

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE INTENTIONS:

Sacred Heart: St John Morgan Davies RIP

Lady Chapel: Ints of Marguerite Morgan Davies

FINANCE NEWS:

Last Sunday's collection: £847.11

Standing Orders: £978

Gift Aid on S/O: £244 Candles: £193.48

Online and Contactless Giving: £213

ST JOHN'S CRICKET TEAM: The second fixture of the season was played last Wednesday against Combe Down CC and a St John's team with 4 debutants put in a fine showing. A 20 overs a side game saw Combe Down bat first and a strong opening bowling pair of Ash Smith and Andy Hamilton who kept the runs tight test aided by some amazing fielding from Graeme Hood in particular. Andy made the breakthrough and the next wicket was picked up by Tom Rynkowski when David Parker took the catch. The bowling effort was complemented with overs from Graeme, Freddie Ellis, David and Stuart as Combe Down were restricted to 129 for 6. A new opening pair for St John's of James Ward and Richard Granville gave the innings a solid start with David Cherriman coming at the fall of the first wicket after 8 overs. Top scorer for St John's was Louis who gave the innings some tempo alongside some strong shots from Andy and Freddie but St John's fell 21 runs short. A great effort from everyone to play the game in

A GOOD HOME: A 2012 Apple iMac 27" with wireless keyboard and mouse. It has a small crack in the display that isn't really visible when using it. If you might be interested, get in touch with our webmaster: website@stjohnsrcbath.org.uk

POSITION AVAILABLE: Safer Recruitment Officer Full-time – 35 hours per week. There is a new vacancy in the Safeguarding team to support safer recruitment activities throughout the Diocese. Based in the Curia Offices in Pennywell Rd, Bristol, the Safer Recruitment Officer role provides support to parishes regarding the safer recruitment of people working and volunteering within the Church. The provision of Disclosure and Barring (DBS) administration is also a key element of the role. For further information, the role is available on the Diocesan website: cliftondiocese.com/diocese/working-for-us/

A STAY IN HOSPITAL? If you or a member of your family is going into the Royal United Hospital, please contact ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net or call the RUH Chaplaincy 01225 428331 on arrival. It can be such a useful thing to know so that the Chaplaincy team can call upon you.

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED: Female parishioner seeks accommodation. If you can help in any way, please contact macarthursarah@yahoo.com

CONGRATULATIONS to Clara Yeoman who was baptised last Sunday. We keep her, her parents and her family in our prayers.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR FR PETER CORNWELL: Members of the congregation would be very welcome to a Mass of Thanksgiving for Fr Peter Cornwell on Saturday 28th May 2022 at 11 a.m. at the Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows at Prior Park College, Ralph Allen Drive, Bath BA2 5AH. The Mass will be followed by a drinks reception. If you are planning on attending the Mass, please could you register using this Link: <https://www.thepriorcommunity.co.uk/fr-peter-cornwell-memorial-mass>

WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS

In today's Gospel passage (cf. Jn 10:27-30) Jesus is presented to us as the true Shepherd of the People of God. He speaks about the relationship that binds him to the sheep of the flock, namely, to his disciples, and he emphasizes the fact that it is a relationship of mutual recognition. "My sheep" — he says — "hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me; and I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish" (vv. 27-28). In carefully reading this phrase, we see that Jesus' work is explained in several actions: Jesus speaks; Jesus knows; Jesus gives eternal life; Jesus safeguards.

The Good Shepherd — Jesus — is attentive to each one of us; he seeks us and loves us, addresses his Word to us, knowing the depths of our heart, our desires and our hopes, as well as our failures and disappointments. He accepts us and loves us as we are, with our merits and our faults. He "gives eternal life" to each one of us: that is, he offers us the opportunity to live a full life, without end. Moreover, he safeguards us and leads us lovingly, helping us to cross impervious paths and the sometimes dangerous roads that appear in life.

The verbs and actions that describe the way in which Jesus, the Good Shepherd, interacts with us correspond to the verbs that relate to the sheep, namely us: "hear my voice", "follow me". They are actions that show how we must correspond to the tender and caring attitudes of the Lord. Indeed, hearing and recognizing his voice, implies intimacy with him, which is strengthened in prayer, in the heart-to-heart encounter with the divine Master and Shepherd of our souls. This intimacy with Jesus, this openness, speaking with Jesus, reinforces in us the desire to follow him, by emerging from the labyrinth of errant ways, abandoning selfish behaviour in order to set out on new paths of fraternity and of self-giving, in imitation of him.

Let us not forget that Jesus is the only Shepherd who speaks to us, knows us, gives us eternal life and safeguards us. We are the only flock and we only have to strive to hear his voice, while he lovingly examines the sincerity of our hearts. And from this constant intimacy with our Shepherd, from this colloquy with him, springs the joy of following him, allowing ourselves to be led to the fullness of eternal life.

Know that he, the Lord, is God.
He made us, we belong to him,
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love.
He is faithful from age to age.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

There are language sheets for the readings available at the back of the church – French, Italian, Spanish and Polish – as well as Mass cards to guide you through the Liturgy.

First reading Acts 13:14,43-52
A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul and Barnabas carried on from Perga till they reached Antioch in Pisidia. Here they went to synagogue on the Sabbath and took their seats. When the meeting broke up many Jews and devout converts joined Paul and Barnabas, and in their talks with them Paul and Barnabas urged them to remain faithful to the grace God had given them. The next sabbath almost the whole town assembled to hear the word of God. When they saw the crowds, the Jews, prompted by jealousy, used blasphemies and contradicted everything Paul said. Then Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly. 'We had to proclaim the word of God to you first, but since you have rejected it, since you do not think yourselves worthy of eternal life, we must turn to the pagans. For this is what the Lord commanded us to do when he said:

*I have made you a light for the nations,
so that my salvation may reach the ends of the earth.'*

It made the pagans very happy to hear this and they thanked the Lord for his message; all who were destined for eternal life became believers. Thus the word of the Lord spread through the whole countryside. But the Jews worked upon some of the devout women of the upper classes and the leading men of the city and persuaded them to turn against Paul and Barnabas and expel them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in defiance and went off to Iconium; but the disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

Second reading Apocalypse 7:9,14-17
A reading from the book of the Apocalypse

I, John, saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language; they were standing in front of the throne and in front of the Lamb, dressed in white robes and holding palms in their hands. One of the elders said, 'These are the people who have been through the great persecution, and because they have washed their robes white again in the blood of the Lamb, they now stand in front of God's throne and serve him day and night in his sanctuary; and the One who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. They will never hunger or thirst again; neither the sun nor scorching wind will ever plague them, because the Lamb who is at the throne will be their shepherd and will lead them to springs of living water; and God will wipe away all tears from their eyes.'

Gospel John 10:27-30
A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said: 'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me. I give them eternal life; they will never be lost and no one will ever steal them from me. The Father who gave them to me is greater than anyone, and no one can steal from the Father. The Father and I are one.'



Responsorial Psalm Psalm 99(100)
We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing for joy.