

PARISH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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THIS SUNDAY: Sacred Hospitality is our theme: as the letter to the Hebrews says: 'remember always to welcome strangers, for by doing this some people have entertained angels without knowing it.' True hospitality lies in two things: first the welcome, encouraging the stranger to enter the house and be at home there: secondly, the gift - not just of food or drink, but of time: listening to the stranger, and giving of ourselves to them. This is what makes hospitality costly, but holy, and a true service of Jesus Christ.

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.

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.

ADORATION: Adoration is most certainly a pulse in our parish community and a blessing for our city, too. With adoration each day (Tues-Fri), there are the added opportunities now on Thursday (7pm – 7.45am), on Friday (7pm – 8am) and Saturday (7pm – 8am Sunday). These three evening and vigil times allow us to watch before the Lord in those still and tranquil hours, longing for the dawn, longing for the Lord who comes. It is so good to encounter people who cross our threshold to be drawn into the tranquillity and peace that comes from being before the Lord. It is good to see so many taking up the challenge of the giving of an hour or so during the night. If you want to offer yourself for an hour's prayer – either in Church during the day or in the Chapel for one of the evenings - do 'sign up'. Catherine, AJ, Angelina or George would be happy to allocate you a time.

SEA SUNDAY: Thank you for the kindness you showed last weekend to the Apostleship of the Sea. £610.31 was raised last weekend and that will be sent off this coming week.

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

FRIDAY LUNCHESES: A hearty fresh soup, with fresh bread, fruit and cheese await you... all served and laid up for you, too. Come and enjoy the conversation and the company. There is no charge for the lunch, just an offering that helps pay for the next week's lunch. **Every Friday at 12.30pm.**

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.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (C)

17 - 23 July 2022

First Mass of Sunday

Mass: 5.45pm

Pat Mawhood's Intentions

SUNDAY 17 July XVI SUNDAY

Mass: 9.30am

Mass: 11.00am

Polish Mass: 12.30pm

Mass: 6.30pm

Pro Populo

MONDAY 18 July

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Funeral Mass: 10.30pm

Maureen Hughes

Funeral taking place in Chapel of St Michael's Within

TUESDAY 19 July

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Peter Cornwell RIP

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY 20 July

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

THURSDAY 21 July

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

FRIDAY 22 July

ST MARY MAGDALENE

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

In thanksgiving (D&SB)

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

SATURDAY 23 July ST BRIDGET

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Bridget Barron RIP

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

First Mass of Sunday

Mass: 5.45pm

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 1 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!

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Sacred Heart: *David Riley's Ints*

Lady Chapel: *Intentions of Timothy*

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.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS: We also keep in our prayers Maureen Hughes who died on Monday. Her funeral takes place on **Monday 18 July** at 10.30am at the Chapel of St Michael within (St John Foundation). Please note the funeral is not here at St John's, but in the little Chapel near to the Thermae Baths. May she rest in peace.

A PARISH CENSUS 2022: Keep those census forms coming in! The online facility allows you to fill in your details online and update as-and-when. If you are not connected... do not despair! There will be a laptop or two set up with folk to help you fill in the details. The system will also allow new arrivals and returners to be part of the process and also offer us a clear vehicle of contact and communication. We can use this opportunity to explore a harvest of skills and gifts that can be put to good use with a very clear *follow up* to ensure that what is offered is made good use of. The Parish Census team, drawn together, will begin to make things available for you. If you want to look here, then you can begin to 'sign up' stjohnsrcbath.org.uk/parish-census/.

FINANCE NEWS:

Last Sunday's collection: £691.02

Online and Contactless Giving: £418

Standing Orders: £978

Gift Aid on S/O: £244 Candles: £206.88

Thank you

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: Don't forget that if you are putting cash into the collection and you pay UK tax, you can add an extra 25% in tax reclaimed to your gift simply because you fill out one of the **white envelopes** from the back table and pop your offertory into that. That GA bonus makes such a difference... at no extra cost to you! Just take the time to complete the simple form on the envelope.

MONTHLY HEALING MASS: With Fr Malcolm moving from St Alphege's and Fr Michael away in Buckfast, there's chance for us to explore the monthly healing Mass finding a place in the calendar and rhythm of St John's once again. We can pencil a Mass and healing prayer for the feast of St Michael – that seems a good place to start – and see where that leads us. Mass on **Thursday 29 September at 7pm** in the church – with confessions, adoration and healing prayer.

EXHIBITION ON THE EUCHARIST: St John's is hosting 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 this month of **June, and 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 is also a display of some beautiful things that are always 'at the service' of our celebration of the Eucharist. There is a simple and beautiful guide to the exhibition and it becomes a prayerful trail in itself. You don't have to complete the exhibition all at once; you can come back! Use the trail in such a way that ends in the Sacred Heart Chapel during the week for a time of prayer.

THE CLUB meets again on **Tuesday 2 August** at 2pm in the Parish Hall. It is always a great opportunity to come together with others for an afternoon filled with conversation, tea, cake... and even a quick game of bingo! Just call into the hall... it would be good to see you.

LOWER CAR PARK: Renewals are due by the middle of July and those of you who make use of the fob system will need to get in touch with Patrick via the parish office over the next couple of weeks. From **July 15**, the annual subscription for the car park will be £165. You can either pay by cheque or arrange for bank transfer. Those who may not wish to renew can return their fobs to the parish office.

VISITING GROUP: Seeking to respond to the fruits of the listening exercises as part of the Synodical Process, Fr Christopher has begun to draw people together to form a visiting group by way of assisting him in keeping those who are housebound connected to the life of the community. It would be useful if any of you knew of those who may welcome a visit from him or from one of the Visiting Group. If you would like to let FrC have names of those you think may just need that gentle outreach, he will arrange a visit and some contact. You can always contact Robert in the office with names of those who may like to be visited at home as well. **Also**, there's chance to volunteer as a chaplaincy visitor at the RUH. Contact Robert.

MISSIO MASSES: There is a poster in the porch giving details of the Masses celebrated during the month of July drawing the Red Box holders together. Do have a look at

the dates (nearest one is celebrated in Corsham – **20 July** at 7pm). It would be good to see you there.

PARISH LITURGY GROUP meets next at 11am on Wednesday 20 July.

DEMENTIA CAFÉ: There are so many husbands, wives and members of families who are caring for loved ones living with dementia. On the first Wednesday of every month, there will be an opportunity for carers simply to come together for a cuppa and pastries between 11am and 12pm – an hour to catch your breath and have a gentle conversation with others. It may grow into a wonderful support group, who knows! If you'd like to come along, please do. You may know others who would benefit from that hour with others, sharing the load. We'll begin on **Wednesday 3 August** in the parish hall.

WORKS ACROSS THE SUMMER MONTHS: The work in transforming the ladies toilet is near completion. The tiler has done a superb job on floor and walls and this coming week we should find the fixtures and furniture being put into place. That should complete that project. The toilet that serves the *St Matthew and St Luke* meeting rooms underneath the presbytery will be replaced and that whole area refreshed and renewed. Work needs to start on two part of the roof. Scaffolding will appear a week on Monday (25th) to allow access to the area of the roof above Station XIV. That area causes concern because the water is damaging the Station itself and you can see the erosion on the stone. Whilst the roofers have the scaffolding up there are one or two little areas where attention is needed, where tiles have slipped and where gutters need a little attention, also. There is scheduled work due to start on the renovation of the wooden boards in both the Lady Chapel and the Sacred Heart Chapel. Permission was granted by the Historic Churches Committee two years ago for renovation and repair, and so some initial work will begin (and may cause a little disruption – but not too much nor for too long) whilst testing wood finish takes place. The kitchen in the basement part of the presbytery will be completed in the next week or so and then a little decoration to the hall way will take place. That opens up a beautiful small meeting area with good facilities. IT equipment will be installed so that it becomes a good function space for smaller meetings and gatherings. Some gardening and landscaping work needs to take place along the bank. Fr Christopher is hoping that we can have a lavender bank along the river just to give a little hedging on the other side of the fence by the river. There is some work needed on the Chapel at Perrymead during the summer and some garden and boundary work between what is the parish's and what belongs to the Eyre Chapel. The Perrymead Chapel was thoroughly cleaned out in the last two weeks and there will be chance to give it another sweep and clean before the end of August. The gutters need some clearing before we nudge into Autumn. It will be good to get all this done (especially if the weather is on our side) as well as keeping on top of the day to day stuff of keeping us going. Fr Christopher is working with Michael Gibbens and Robert to take forward the necessary works on the nine bells in the spire after 150 years. If we obtain permission from the Diocesan Trustees for renovation and restoration, then it may be that we see this project

commence some time in the Autumn months. That will give us chance to see the bells up close as they are brought down and have them on show when they return before they are re-installed.

ST MATTHEW – A DEANERY SERIES OF TALKS: Fr Alex from St Alphege's is hosting a series of talks across the Autumn of this year to introduce us to St Matthew, starting as we prepare for the liturgical reading of the Gospel from Advent. Each speaker will focus on a particular part of Matthew's Gospel to aid our reading, our study and our prayer. The talks take place at St Alphege's (from 16 September) and begin at 7pm each time. Take note of the dates from the poster in the porch. There will be a details prompt in the newsletter from September.

THIS WEEK: Monday 18 July, Maureen Hughes' Funeral (St John Foundation Chapel) 10.30am; **Tuesday 19 July** at 12noon, wedding of Aaron and Natasha; **Thursday 21 July** at 11.00am, reception into Full Communion with the Church of Samuel El-Metaal; **Friday 22 July** at 12noon, the wedding of Zophie and Dalton. **Adoration** will take place in the Chapel whilst the weddings are taking place.

RELIQS OF ST BERNADETTE IN CLIFTON: The relics of St Bernadette come on a pilgrimage tour through the dioceses of England, Wales and Scotland. On Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 September, they visit our Cathedral in Clifton. The Relics will visit Clifton Cathedral from 2.00pm on Sat to 11.00am on Sunday. You can read about the visit to our cathedral in Clifton on the diocesan website - cliftondiocese.com/bernadette/ . St Mary's Parish is arranging a coach to take parishioners to the Cathedral on **Saturday 10 September** (times tbc). If you are interested in booking a seat, please email Charlotte Boyall at bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com or call the Parish Office 01225 314114 so that the level of interest can be gauged. This is a great opportunity – a pilgrimage of faith and of prayer. If you are interested in going along, please mark off the dates in your diary. The diocesan website will give you the schedule of what is happening.

DIOCESAN TRUSTEES: The Diocese is currently looking for individuals to join the Board of the Trustees to enhance the skills of the Board in specific areas as a result of current vacancies. Suitable applicants should have in depth knowledge and experience of either corporate law, property law, or a HR environment. In order to support the full activities of the Board, experience in charity or corporate governance would also be beneficial. The commitment is to one 3 hour meeting per month on a Wednesday from 9.30 am in Bristol along with other on at least one sub-committee, and preparation for meetings. It is usual for a Trustee to give somewhere in the region of 6 hours per month plus travelling time. If you would like to be considered for a position, please send your details to the Bishop's Private Secretary, St Ambrose, North Rd, Leigh Woods, Bristol BS8 3PW by 5th August.

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 Genesis 18:1-10
A reading from the book of Genesis

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the Oak of Mamre while he was sitting by the entrance of the tent during the hottest part of the day. He looked up, and there he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them, and bowed to the ground. 'My lord,' he said 'I beg you, if I find favour with you, kindly do not pass your servant by. A little water shall be brought; you shall wash your feet and lie down under the tree. Let me fetch a little bread and you shall refresh yourselves before going further. That is why you have come in your servant's direction.' They replied, 'Do as you say.'

Abraham hastened to the tent to find Sarah. 'Hurry,' he said 'knead three bushels of flour and make loaves.' Then running to the cattle Abraham took a fine and tender calf and gave it to the servant, who hurried to prepare it. Then taking cream, milk and the calf he had prepared, he laid all before them, and they ate while he remained standing near them under the tree.

'Where is your wife Sarah?' they asked him. 'She is in the tent' he replied. Then his guest said, 'I shall visit you again next year without fail, and your wife will then have a son.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 14(15):2-5
The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue.

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

Second reading Colossians 1:24-28
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians

It makes me happy to suffer for you, as I am suffering now, and in my own body to do what I can to make up all that has still to be undergone by Christ for the sake of his body, the Church. I became the servant of the Church when God made me responsible for delivering God's message to you, the message which was a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints. It was God's purpose to reveal it to them and to show all the rich glory of this mystery to pagans. The mystery is Christ among you, your hope of glory: this is the Christ we proclaim, this is the wisdom in which we thoroughly train everyone and instruct everyone, to make them all perfect in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our heart, O Lord,
to accept the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 10:38-42
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus came to a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. She had a sister called Mary, who sat down at the Lord's feet and listened to him speaking. Now Martha who was distracted with all the serving said, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself? Please tell her to help me.' But the Lord answered: 'Martha, Martha,' he said 'you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

