

PARISH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

South Parade ♦ BATH ♦ BA2 4AF

☎ 01225 464471

🌐 stjohsrcbath.org.uk

Parish Priest

Canon Christopher Whitehead

✉ christopher.whitehead@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Administrator

Janet Flinn

✉ bath.stjohntheevangelist@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Treasurer

Robert Von Hawrylak

✉ robert.von.hawrylak@cliftondiocese.com



SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY 26 May – 1 June 2024

First Mass of Sunday

Mass: 5.45pm

Fr Hungerford RIP

SUNDAY 26 May TRINITY SUNDAY

Mass: 9.30am

Yves Morvan RIP

Mass: 11.00am

Ints of the Willey Family

Polish Mass: 1.00pm

Confessions: 5.50pm – 6.20pm

Mass: 6.30pm

Pro Populo

MONDAY 27 May ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Rosary: 10.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Ints of Joe Barron Snowden and Judy Actub

TUESDAY 28 May

Mass: 8.00am

Ints of the Willey Family

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Fr Des Millet RIP

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY 29 May

Mass: 8.00am

In honour of Our Lady of Grace

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

William Stockley's Ints

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

THURSDAY 30 May

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Ints of the Willey Family

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm *(Prayer for Priests – 10.30am)*

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

FRIDAY 31 May

VISITATION OF THE BVM

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Carmen Gilmartin's Ints

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

SATURDAY 1 June ST JUSTIN, MARTYR

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Rosary: 10.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Matthew and May Millet RIP

Confessions: 10am – 10.30am & 5pm – 5.30pm

First Mass of Sunday

CORPUS CHRISTI

Mass: 5.45pm

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY: When the Church celebrates the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity, it is an attempt to summarise the whole mystery of our God into one day. This is not just a "theological feast" but a feast which should speak to us of this simple fact of faith: the Father loves us, has revealed that love in his Son, and has called into a relationship sustained by the Spirit. It is our joy that, as baptised members of the Church, we can somehow share in that divine life and love which is the Trinity~ becoming children of God. God has chosen us, and we are his own people, just as he chose the people of Israel long ago. The mystery of the Trinity is not meant to make this more difficult - on the contrary it is to clarify and summarise all that our faith is about: that we are children - with the Son, in the power of the Spirit - of the one Father.

SCHOOL OF PRAYER: This month, building on the prayer of the desert Fathers and Mothers, we explore the prayer of St Benedict and Sr Walburga, a nun from the Community of Benedictine Sisters at Minster Abbey, will help us unfold the prayer of this great man of influence. Do come along if you can... and maybe bring someone with you. This is a great way of deepening our own way of praying and deepening our relationship with the Lord through exploring the prayer of others. **Tuesday 28 May, 7.00pm** in the church.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024: As we have congratulated the 13 children who celebrated First Communion two weeks ago, we welcome Oscar Griffiths who will celebrate his First Communion at the 9.30am Mass on **Sunday 2 June**. We look forward to welcoming Oscar and his family to Mass that weekend.

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Sacred Heart:

The Hart Family

Lady Chapel:

Beverley Roberts RIP

CHAPEL VOTIVE LIGHT INTENTIONS: The votive candles that burn in front of the Lady Chapel and the Sacred Heart Chapel allow the wonder of prayer to 'burn' for a whole week. These candles can be 'sponsored' each week and each one holds a particular intention. They appear in strict rotation which is why your intention may take a while to filter through. Please use the envelopes at the gates of each chapel and hand in your intention to the parish office.

AN OPEN CHURCH: During this week, the church will open at 7.30am each morning and will close around 6.30pm. **Just check the times this week, though.**

LANGUAGE SHEETS: Those of you who might like to follow the Liturgy of the Word in either Italian, Spanish, French, Chinese 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.

ADORATION: Adoration continues each day (Tues-Fri: 10.30am until 5.30pm), as well as the added opportunities on Wednesdays (7.00pm – 7.45am), Thursdays (7.00pm – 7.45am), Fridays (7.00pm – 7.45am) and Saturdays (7.00pm – midnight). These are moments to savour and to cherish and they bring us into the peace of the presence of Christ. Adoration brings a

stillness to our church... and it is so good to encounter people who cross our threshold being drawn into the tranquillity and peace that comes from being before the Lord. If you would like to offer an hour, then do 'sign up'. Catherine, Angelina, or George would be happy to help allocate you a time.

FRIDAY LUNCHESES: Every Friday at 12.30pm... You are most welcome to pop down to the hall for lunch each week. It is always a good opportunity to spend a little time with others enjoying the nourishment of a freshly made soup, some fresh bread and fruit. Come and meet other parishioners. It'll be good to welcome you!

WEEKDAY ROSARY: It may be that with the weather warming up and improving that the recitation of the Rosary from time to time (during the week) may take place in Our Lady's Garden alongside the river.

THURSDAY LUNCHESES WITH GENESIS: Lunch is served from 12 noon to 1.30pm for some of Bath's homeless and vulnerable. The lunch is always looking for volunteers to be part of the rota to cook lunches – main course or pudding – just to ease the load on those who already volunteer. Please contact Janet in the parish office if you would like to help. Thank you. If you have rice you might like to donate, drop some into the parish office.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD: Each Sunday (except for the first Sunday in the month) as part of the 9.30am Mass. Do feel you can send your children to listen to God's word in the Adoration Chapel. They will be sent out at the start of Mass and will return at the time of the Offertory so that they can celebrate the 'second part' of the Mass with us.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2024: Details have been released for the 2024 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. The dates are **Friday 23 August to Friday 30 August**. Accommodation in a 3- or 4-star hotel, full board, close to the Domain, including return coach transfer from Toulouse airport to Lourdes. For further information please go online to lourdes@cliftondiocese.com

THURSDAY PRAYER FOR PRIESTS: Don't forget that each Thursday morning, the first hour of Adoration (10.30am – 11.30am) is always a Holy Hour praying for our priests and praying for vocations. Do come and spend a little time before the Lord, holding this intention in prayer.

MASS OF HEALING PRAYER will start up again during the month of May. It takes place on the last Thursday of the month and so we will gather on **Thursday 30 May** at 7.00pm. There is an encounter with the healing love of the Lord revealed in the gift of the Eucharist; there's chance for some time before the Blessed Sacrament in Adoration, an opportunity for the healing Sacrament of Reconciliation and also the availability of being supported in prayer through the ministry of others. Do come along if you can.

MAY DEVOTIONS: May is the month of Mary and a gentle way of drawing close to her in prayer throughout the month. On **Sunday 26 May** (that's this Sunday

afternoon) at 3.30pm in the Church there will be May Devotions and a procession to the Garden behind the Church for the crowing of the statue of Our Lady next to the river. Do come along if you can.

CORPUS CHRISTI: This great feast which draws our attention to the gift of the Eucharist is celebrated this year on **Sunday 2 June**. We have been welcomed back to Prior Park again this year and will celebrate Evening Prayer at 3.00pm and then process to the front of the Mansion House for a blessing over our city. The College will offer us tea afterwards. Pass the word around.

GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE: Bishop Bosco invites you to join him at this year's Glastonbury Pilgrimage taking place on **Sunday 14 July**. The rosary procession begins in the Abbey Grounds at 2.15pm with Mass celebrated in the Abbey ruins at 3.30pm. It is always a good gathering of the diocesan community and a wonderful witness to faith. There's an opportunity for Confession as well as for Healing Prayer and Adoration. There is a poster in the porch giving full details. Do join the Pilgrimage if you can.

MISSIO - RED BOX: The red box holders raised £1412.34 for the missions in 2023. Thank you so much. On **Wednesday 26 June** at 7.00pm Father Gary, the Diocesan Director for Missio, will celebrate Mass at St. Mary's, Julian Road. This will be followed by refreshments in the parish centre. Everyone is most welcome.

THE CLUB - A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: The Club isn't meeting during this month of May but they meet next on **Tuesday 18 June** at 2.00pm in the parish hall. Professor Julian Hughes, a parishioner of St. Mary's, will give a talk entitled 'Dementia: the person and ethics' based on his book *Dementia and Ethics reconsidered*. He will discuss the idea of personhood and consider an approach to ethical issues that arise from those living with dementia. This should be a superb afternoon and you will be so welcome. There will be tea, cake, and a little glass of sherry to bring you cheer!

CAFOD: Join CAFOD's International Programme Director, Fergus Conmee, to explore the power of leaving a gift in your Will to make a lasting impact in the world, at St John the Evangelist, Bath on **Wednesday 12 June**, 2.00pm to 4.00pm. To find out more and to book your place please go to cafod.org.uk/legacyevent

AUTUMN FORMATION: This autumn will see us embarking upon some serious formation for liturgical ministers. Plenty of notice is given now so as to allow you to pop those dates in your diary. As we prepare to step into the Holy Year of 2025, this Year of Prayer allows us to enter into the spirit of ministry with prayer and reflection, seeking to offer ourselves to the Lord and place ourselves at the service of our community:
Welcomers: Wednesday 11 September (7pm);
Readers: Wednesday 25 September (7pm); **Servers:** Saturday 5 October (11am); **Musicians, Cantors and Singers:** Wednesday 9 October (7pm); **Adorers:** Saturday 12 October (11.30am); **Extraordinary Ministers of HC:** Wednesday 23 October (7pm).

AN HOUR'S HELP: Fr Christopher is looking for a little help for one hour each Friday lunchtime (1.30pm) just to get through the folding of all the liturgy sheets ready for the weekend. Each Mass has its own music sheet and a little team lending a hand folding them ready before the weekend would make a huge difference. The band of folders will meet in Presbytery each Friday at 1.30pm with the promise of a cup of tea. Come along if you can.

THE BELL RESTORATION: The clock is up and running again and it is good to hear those quarter hours ringing out again. We are nearly at the end of the restoration project with only one or two loose ends to be pulled together. Brass plaques with the details of the bells, their weights, names and fabrication date are to be made up, the new bell for the sanctuary and the commemorative 'scrolls' with details of donors is in draft form and can be found at the back of the Church for editing. If there are omissions because a name has been left off or an anonymous gift needs 'naming' or there is a misspelling, please do have a look and take a pen to the script. There will be another week to sort out the mistakes, errors and things that need correcting before it goes to print. If there is something a little more complicated, have a word with FrC.

BEAR FLAT ART TRAIL: Our commissioned icon of St Justina will arrive here in Church at the end of July. Tamara Penwell is featuring our icon in the BFAT. Dates, times, details and address are on the noticeboard. Do pop in and visit if you are in the area. **25 - 27 May**

FINANCE NEWS:

Offertory: £988.84 Envelopes: £187
Contactless Offertory: £376 Candles: £102.50
Standing Orders: £1353 Gift Aid on S/O: £338.25
Thank you

THE NEW LECTIONARY: As part of the continuing process of revising our liturgical texts, the Bishops are publishing a new lectionary which will be produced in time for Advent 2024. This will alter the readings at Mass as we begin to acclimatise ourselves with a new translation, similar to what we have been using but with noticeable changes to some of the language. More to come!

CATHOLIC MOTHERS BATH & WEST WILTSHIRE: There is a hope that a new group for mothers to meet once a month for Mass here at St John's might be started up with chance to gather afterwards in the hall to share tea, cake, faith and fellowship. Children are most welcome. The group will be a part of the wider 'Catholic Mothers' network. The plan is to meet for the first time on **Monday 15 July** after the 9.30am Mass. Contact Amy on 07872382979 to find out more.

PRIESTS' RETIREMENT FUND: The annual collection for the Priests' Retirement Fund is taken at all Masses **next weekend** (2 June). We are so fortunate here at St John's to benefit from the ministry of the four retired priests who live here. Our retired priests around the diocese continue to give so much to parish communities, supporting their brother priests and continuing to reveal the gentle love of the Lord in all

they do. This important fund supports the retired priests with their accommodation and a little living, too. They are supported because of your kindness and your generosity. As they have given so much (and continue to give) we can show gratitude and an appreciation through the support we offer them. Please be as generous as you possibly can next weekend. The diocese has produced some little handouts which you might like to pick up this weekend.

PARISH FORUM: We come together as a parish each year to listen to reflections on the activity and ministry of so many of our parish groups and, of course, be appraised of our parish income and expenditure for the previous year. This year we will gather as a parish family on **Wednesday 26 June** at 7.00pm in the Parish Hall. There will be refreshments from 6.30pm. Do keep the date free if you can and come and join in the reflection upon parish life. There will be chance to glance at the running order of parish groups represented and also chance to meet the Pastoral Counsel Group, that has been in formation, at each Mass on Saturday 22 and Sunday 23 June.

END OF UNIVERSITY YEAR: The exam season begins to draw to a close this week and many of our students will begin to slip away into the summer vacation or, for some, on to pastures new. We, of course, look forward to seeing those returning students at the end of September and we continue to pray for those whose university 'chapter' now comes to an end. Wherever life takes you onwards from Bath, may you know God walking with you each and every day.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Michael Ward and Kathleen McDonagh** who were married here at St John's on Friday. We hold them in our prayer and wish them every blessing for their married life together.

RECEPTIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS: This coming week **James Corbett** will be received into the Church and will be celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation alongside **Danilo Padiglioni** this coming Wednesday at 4.00pm in the afternoon. Do keep them both in your prayers.

WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS: Today's celebration makes us contemplate this marvellous mystery of love and of light from which we come and toward which our earthly journey is guided. In the message of the Gospel and in every form of Christian mission, one cannot overlook this unity among us to which Jesus calls, following the unity of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Spirit: one cannot overlook this unity. The beauty of the Gospel asks to be lived — unity — and witnessed in the harmony among us, who are so diverse! And this unity, I dare say, is essential to Christians: it is not an attitude, a manner of speaking, no; it is essential, because it is the unity that arises from love, from the mercy of God, from the justification of Jesus Christ and from the presence of the Holy Spirit in our hearts.

Angelus, St Peter's Square, 30 May 2021

GLORY BE to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THIS SUNDAY'S READINGS

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

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 4:32-34 4:32-34;39-40 A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'Put this question to the ages that are past, that went before you, from the time God created man on earth: Was there ever a word so majestic, from one end of heaven to the other? Was anything ever heard? Did ever a people hear the voice of the living God speaking from the heart of the fire, as you heard it, and remain alive? Has any god ventured to take to himself one nation from the midst of another by ordeals, signs, wonders, war with mighty hand and outstretched arm, by fearsome terrors – all this that the Lord your God did for you before your eyes in Egypt?

'Understand this today, therefore, and take it to heart: the Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other. Keep his laws and commandments as I give them to you today, so that you and your children may prosper and live long in the land that the Lord your God gives you for ever.'

PSALM Psalms 32(33) Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

The word of the Lord is faithful
and all his works to be trusted.
The Lord loves justice and right
and fills the earth with his love.

By his word the heavens were made,
by the breath of his mouth all the stars.
He spoke; and it came to be.
He commanded; it sprang into being.

The Lord looks on those who revere him,
on those who hope in his love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

Our soul is waiting for the Lord.
The Lord is our help and our shield.
May your love be upon us, O Lord,
as we place all our hope in you.

SECOND READING Romans 8:14-17

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Everyone moved by the Spirit is a son of God. The spirit you received is not the spirit of slaves bringing fear into your lives again; it is the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!' The Spirit himself and our spirit bear united witness that we are children of God. And if we are children we are heirs as well: heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, sharing his sufferings so as to share his glory.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
the God who is, who was, and who is to come.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-20

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The eleven disciples set out for Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had arranged to meet them. When they saw him they fell down before him, though some hesitated. Jesus came up and spoke to them. He said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.'

