

# PARISH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

South Parade ♦ BATH ♦ BA2 4AF

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## TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) 23-29 June 2024

*First Mass of Sunday*

**Mass:** 5.45pm

*Angela Flexen RIP*

**SUNDAY 23 June** **XII SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**

**Mass:** 9.30am

*Hilary Taylor's Intentions*

**Mass:** 11.00am

*Pro Populo*

**Polish Mass:** 1.00pm

**Confessions:** 5.50pm – 6.20pm

**Mass:** 6.30pm

*Intentions of the Balyis Family*

## MONDAY 24 June NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

**Morning Prayer:** 9.00am

**Rosary:** 10.00am

**Mass:** 9.30am

*Intentions of Louis and Rose*

## TUESDAY 25 June

**Mass:** 8.00am

*J Sadorra RIP*

**Morning Prayer:** 9.30am

**Confessions:** 9.40am

**Mass:** 10.00am

*Kay Barron RIP*

**Adoration:** 10.30am – 5.30pm

**Evening Prayer:** 5.30pm

**Rosary:** 6.00pm

## WEDNESDAY 26 June

**Mass:** 8.00am

**Morning Prayer:** 9.30am

**Confessions:** 9.40am

**Mass:** 10.00am

*Intentions of Christopher Frayling*

**Adoration:** 10.30am – 5.30pm *Praise & Worship: 12.30pm – 1.30pm*

**Evening Prayer:** 5.30pm

**Rosary:** 6.00pm

## THURSDAY 27 June

**Mass:** 8.00am

*Thanksgiving (A Leung)*

**Morning Prayer:** 9.30am

**Confessions:** 9.40am

**Mass:** 10.00am

*Matthew & May Millett RIP*

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

**Evening Prayer:** 5.30pm

**Rosary:** 6.00pm

**Mass of Healing Prayer:** 7.00pm *Ints of Hilary Taylor*

## FRIDAY 28 June ST IRENAEUS

**Mass:** 8.00am

*Irene Zlotnicki's Intentions*

**Morning Prayer:** 9.30am

**Confessions:** 9.40am

**Funeral Mass:** 10.00am

*Geoffrey Stappard RIP*

**Adoration:** 10.30am – 5.30pm

**Evening Prayer:** 5.30pm

**Rosary:** 6.00pm

## SATURDAY 29 June

**Morning Prayer:** 9.00am

**Rosary:** 10.00am

**Mass:** 9.30am

*Peter and Pippa Newland's Intentions*

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

*First Mass of Sunday*

## SOLEMNITY OF SS PETER & PAUL

**Mass:** 5.45pm

*Intentions of Francis Granger*

**THE WORD THIS SUNDAY:** There is a strangely simple theme to this Sunday: that God has power over the forces of nature, because he created them in the first place. This is what the first reading tells us, and also what the gospel shows us, when Jesus “rebukes the wind”. This tells us something about Jesus (that he is God made man), and also something about our faith. It's also interesting that the disciples react to this miracle with fear and awe - as if their minds were suddenly opened to a reality they had not realised before. They had chosen to follow the Christ who had called them, but we see their understanding of who he is growing and developing. Perhaps this is of comfort to us, as we see our relationship with the Lord who controls the waters grow and develop, and alerts us to be ready for the surprises that following the Lord can bring.

## THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE INTENTIONS

**Sacred Heart:** *Elodie & Otilie Byers*

**Lady Chapel:** *Ian & Andrea Walker*

**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 (Tue-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!

**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 some instant coffee or 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.

**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.

**BATHCAN HUSTINGS:** BathCAN have arranged for candidates standing for office at the coming General Election will gather in Bath Abbey on **Monday 24 June** at 7.00pm. Doors will open at 6.30pm. This is an important opportunity for Candidates to gather with the Christian Community across the city and it is important for the Candidates to see the strength of the Christian Community in Bath. Please do go along and take part in the Hustings. Let those seeking office hear the concern for the poor, the weak, the marginalised. Let them hear of concerns that matter; let them hear the cry of the earth and the concerns of the people they seek to serve.

**SCHOOL OF PRAYER:** This coming week, building on the prayer of St Benedict and his communities, we welcome the **Dominican Sisters** of St Joseph, and Sr Hyacinthe (with her companions) who will unfold for us what St Dominic teaches us about prayer in our relationship with the Lord. This *Year of Prayer* - given to us by Pope Francis - allows us to refresh our understanding of prayer and our ways of praying. The Dominican Sisters will be with us on **Tuesday 25 June** at 7.00pm in the Church. Do come and join them if you can. It has been a great series so far!

**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**.

**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.

**MASS OF HEALING PRAYER:** Our monthly Mass takes place this coming Thursday, the last Thursday of the month. There is an opportunity to celebrate the merciful and healing love of the Lord through the gift of the Eucharist, through the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and also to be accompanied and supported by the prayer of others holding your intentions as they pray with you. Do come along if you can.

**FAMILY ADORATION:** Families are invited to gather for an hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on the last Saturday of the month, **Saturday 29 June**, from 3.30pm and then gather in the hall for refreshments afterwards. All are welcome

**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. A 36-seater coach is being organised from St John's to take those who may wish to go along to Glastonbury to do so. It'll leave here at 12.30pm in order to arrive in time for the procession and then Mass, leaving around 5.30pm/6.00pm to return to St John's. If you want to add your name to the list, then please do so or contact Janet in the Parish Office. Cost is £12 return. 28 seats have been taken already.

**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.

**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](mailto:lourdes@cliftondiocese.com)

**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:** Each weekend 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 meets in the Presbytery each Friday at 1.30pm with the promise of a cup of tea. Come along if you can.

**DIOCESAN DAY:** This year's diocesan day will centre around the theme of hope and each community in the diocese is invited to gather around our Bishop to explore the theme in anticipation of the Jubilee Year of 2025. There is a poster on the porch notice board giving full details. All are most welcome to be part of the day. **6 July** at St Bernadette's Secondary School, Whitchurch, Bristol.

**CAFOD/SVP AND THE GENERAL ELECTION:** The SVP and CAFOD are working together in the run up to the General Election this July. As Catholics, we know that tackling poverty and injustice are among some of the important issues politicians are asked to act on. St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD have produced a guide for Catholics for the General Election, with suggested questions to ask candidates. Please see [cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) or [svp.org.uk/encounter](http://svp.org.uk/encounter) for more information. Do keep the intention of the General Election as part of your prayer over these next weeks.

**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!

**FOR YOUR PRAYERS:** Geoffrey Stappard's funeral takes place here on **Friday 28 June** at 10.00am. David Moran's funeral is arranged for **Tuesday 9 July** at 11am. We keep them in our prayers, remembering, also, their families and those close to them. May they rest in peace.

**FR CHRISTOPHER** celebrates thirty years of ordination on **Monday 1 July** and will celebrate Mass at 7.00pm on that evening. You are warmly invited to join FrC in this celebration and also to come along to refreshments in the hall afterwards. Please keep the date free in your diaries.

**THE SOLEMNITY OF SS PETER AND PAUL** is transferred this year and will be celebrated on **Sunday 30 June**. The retiring collection after all Masses next weekend is *Peter's Pence*. This fund, taken across the Church, is given to the Holy Father to allow him to reach out to the parts of the Church in need.

**A JOURNEY TO FAITH, TO BAPTISM AND TO COMMUNION:** It has been such a fruitful couple of months with a gentle flow of people who either are looking for baptism or to enter into full communion with the Church. It is good to see people coming to the

Sacraments as well as journeying with the children towards First Confession. If you are thinking about becoming a Catholic or seeking to be baptised, please have a word with FrC over the next couple of weeks. It would be good to set up a group to journey towards the Sacraments and unfold the story of faith.

**PRAYER AND FASTING FOR LIFE:** On **Saturday 22 June**, so close to the Feast of St John the Baptist, we are encouraged to use this day to pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. This is the last monthly day of prayer and fasting for life before the General Election, an election which could well result in an even more pro-abortion government than we have currently had. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. Please Invite others to join the day on Facebook, [facebook.com/events/1037436687798327/](https://facebook.com/events/1037436687798327/)

**PLANT SALE:** Nina Dobson is hosting a plant sale next weekend after the two Sunday Masses **this** weekend in the hope of raising a little money for CAFOD. The table will be outside (23 June) by the West Doors.

**THIS MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART:** Take time during this month of June to ponder the immensity of God's love for each of us. He seeks to reveal to you the secrets of the Father's love and compassion. Pope Francis reminds us that 'more difficult than loving God is allowing ourselves to be loved by him'. The Lord is always watching us with mercy, [always] awaits us with mercy. Let us be not afraid to approach him! He has a merciful heart! If we show our inner wounds, our sins, he always forgives us. He is pure mercy! Let us never forget this: He is pure mercy! **Let us go to Jesus!**

**BATH ABBEY:** On **Saturday 29 June** the Youth Choir of Brunswick, Germany, is visiting Bath as part of their annual Concert Tour. They will join the Abbey Girls and Lay Clerks to celebrate Evensong together at 5 pm by way of marking the Twinning of Braunschweig and Bath across the last 53 years. After Evensong, the Choir of Brunswick Cathedral will perform an admission-free concert with a diverse and interesting program under the title "Arise, Become Light!" Poster in porch – all welcome so do go along if you can.

**LOWER CAR PARKING:** It is coming to that time of year when annual subscriptions for parking in the lower car park are due for renewal. Existing permit holders will be contacted in the next week or so inviting them to renew their annual subscription or cancel and hand back the fob. Patrick and Janet will be in touch.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Sienna Scott who was baptised here last Saturday afternoon. We keep Sienna and her family in our prayers.

**NEXT SUNDAY** Helena Taylor will be received into full communion with the Church and celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation at the 6.30pm Mass. Keep Helena in your prayers.

<b>FINANCE NEWS:</b>	
Offertory: £849.32	Envelopes: £171.70
Contactless Offertory: £348	Candles: £60
Standing Orders: £1353	Gift Aid on S/O: £338.25
Thank you	

## 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** Job 38:1,8-11

**A reading from the book of Job**

From the heart of the tempest the Lord gave Job his answer. He said:

Who pent up the sea behind closed doors  
when it leapt tumultuous out of the womb,  
when I wrapped it in a robe of mist  
and made black clouds its swaddling bands;  
when I marked the bounds it was not to cross  
and made it fast with a bolted gate?  
Come thus far, I said, and no farther:  
here your proud waves shall break.

**PSALM** Psalm 106(107):23-26,28-32

**O give thanks to the Lord,  
for his love endures for ever.**

Some sailed to the sea in ships  
to trade on the mighty waters.  
These men have seen the Lord's deeds,  
the wonders he does in the deep.

For he spoke; he summoned the gale,  
tossing the waves of the sea  
up to heaven and back into the deep;  
their souls melted away in their distress.

Then they cried to the Lord in their need  
and he rescued them from their distress.  
He stilled the storm to a whisper:  
all the waves of the sea were hushed.

They rejoiced because of the calm  
and he led them to the haven they desired.  
Let them thank the Lord for his love,  
for the wonders he does for men.

**SECOND READING** 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

**A reading from the second letter to St Paul to the Corinthians**

The love of Christ overwhelms us when we reflect that if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead; and the reason he died for all was so that living men should live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised to life for them.

From now onwards, therefore, we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh. Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh, that is not how we know him now. And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a

new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** Mark 4:35-41

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

With the coming of evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us cross over to the other side.' And leaving the crowd behind they took him, just as he was, in the boat; and there were other boats with him. Then it began to blow a gale and the waves were breaking into the boat so that it was almost swamped. But he was in the stern, his head on the cushion, asleep. They woke him and said to him, 'Master, do you not care? We are going down!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, 'Quiet now! Be calm!' And the wind dropped, and all was calm again. Then he said to them, 'Why are you so frightened? How is it that you have no faith?' They were filled with awe and said to one another, 'Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him.'

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**WORDS OF POPE FRANCIS:** Today we can ask ourselves: what are the winds that beat against my life? What are the waves that hinder my navigation, and put my spiritual life, my family life, even my psychological life in danger? Let us say all this to Jesus; let us tell him everything. He wants this; he wants us to grab hold of him to find shelter from the unexpected waves in life. The Gospel recounts that the disciples approach Jesus, wake him and speak to him. This is the beginning of our faith: to recognize that alone we are unable to stay afloat; that we need Jesus like sailors need the stars to find their course. Faith begins from believing that we are not enough for ourselves, from feeling *in need of God*. When we overcome the temptation to close ourselves off, when we overcome the false religiosity that does not want to disturb God, when we cry out to him, he can work wonders in us. It is the gentle and extraordinary power of prayer, which works miracles. Jesus, begged by the disciples, calms the wind and waves. And he asks them a question, a question which also pertains to us: "Why are you afraid? Have you no faith?". The disciples were gripped with fear, because they were focused on the waves more than on looking at Jesus. And fear leads us to look at the difficulties, the awful problems, and not to look at the Lord, who many times is sleeping. It is this way for us too: how often we remain fixated on problems rather than going to the Lord and casting our concerns to him! How often we leave the Lord in a corner, at the bottom of the boat of life, to wake him only in a moment of need! Today, let us ask for the grace of a faith that never tires of seeking the Lord, of knocking at the door of his Heart.