

PARISH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B)

14-20 July 2024

First Mass of Sunday

Mass: 5.45pm

Elizabeth & Bill Midgley RIP

SUNDAY 14 July SUNDAY XV OF THE YEAR

Mass: 9.30am

Hilary Taylor's Intentions

Mass: 11.00am

Bridget Barron RIP

Polish Mass: 1.00pm

Confessions: 5.50pm – 6.20pm

Mass: 6.30pm

Pro Populo

MONDAY 15 July ST BONAVENTURE

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Rosary: 10.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Joan King RIP

TUESDAY 16 July OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Mass: 8.00am

Matthew and May Millett RIP

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY 17 July

Mass: 8.00am

Karoli Evans RIP

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Harrison Family Ints

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Praise & Worship: 12.30pm – 1.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

THURSDAY 18 July

Mass: 8.00am

Intentions of Angela Hollyer

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Fr Des Millett RIP

Wedding: 11.00am

Donna and Daniel McDonagh

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

(Prayer for Priests – 10.30am)

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

FRIDAY 19 July

Mass: 8.00am

Ines Villalobos Ints

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Vladimir Micenec RIP

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

Ministries Mass: 7.00pm

SATURDAY 20 July

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Rosary: 10.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Action du Grace (FX & S Gordien)

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

First Mass of Sunday

SUNDAY XVI OF THE YEAR

Mass: 5.45pm

Matthew and May Millett RIP

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY: Again, it is prophecy that is our theme (see last week). Here, we concentrate on the sending of prophets, the entrusting of the mission to them, and most importantly the necessary qualifications to be a prophet. The only qualification necessary is an open ear, to hear the mandate from God. We see this in Amos, the simple shepherd, and in the Twelve, called by Jesus from their humble occupations, which no one would have thought qualified them to speak on 'religious' themes. As last week, the possibility of rejection and failure is quite explicitly treated - Jesus instructs the Apostles in what to do if they are ignored. When the Gospel simply states, "So they set off to preach repentance..." we can imagine all that was in their minds and hearts as they did so. They had heard the call of Jesus and allowed it into their hearts: this was all they needed to go out and speak his words.

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Sacred Heart:

Frank Croston RIP

Lady Chapel:

Joan Dingley 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!

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.

SCHOOL OF PRAYER: Tuesday week, building on the prayer of the desert Fathers and Mothers, St Benedict and his communities, and St Dominic, we welcome Tamara Penwell who will help us explore prayer in the Orthodox Tradition. Tamara is a member of the Orthodox community here in Bath and the most talented of icon painters. She will also unfold for us the use of icons in Orthodox prayer. This *Year of Prayer* - given to us by Pope Francis - allows us to refresh our understanding of prayer and our ways of praying. Tamara will be with us on **Tuesday 23 July** at 7.00pm in the Church. Do come and join them if you can. It has been a great series so far!

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. The coach leaves 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. The coach is full and Catherine will have the list to ensure people get on and arrive back together.

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

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.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS: John Sousha died just after last weekend and his funeral is arranged for **Wednesday 24 July** at 10.00am. We keep John in our prayers, remembering, also, his family and those close to him. May he rest in peace.

THE CLUB will not be meeting on Tuesday 16 July... however the Club looks forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting on the **Tuesday 20 August**.

PARISH SOCIAL GROUP meet in the presbytery on **Tuesday 16 July** at 4.00pm.

THE ICON OF ST JUSTINA: There has been conversation taking place across the last couple of years about a reparation that needs to take place for the disturbing of the relics of St Justina some time ago. During Fr Christopher's time with us, the relics have found a home in the Sacred Heart Chapel and in order to draw both attention and devotion, an icon of St Justina has been commissioned to be placed alongside of the reliquary. Tamara Penwell who has painted the icon will be here on **23 July** as part of the *Schools of Prayer* and the icon will be blessed and positioned on that same evening. If you took part in the Bear Flat Art Trail, then you might have seen the icon nearly finished. It will be a beautiful addition to the church and a good way of building a devotion to a saint entrusted to our care. Do come along on that evening 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 have been contacted in this last week inviting them to renew their annual subscription or cancel and hand back the fob. Patrick and Janet will be in touch.

LOWER CAR PARK: Those of you who may use the lower car park will know that there is much work to be done on resurfacing and relining the whole area. Three quotations have been received and a diocesan approval

has to be sort before we can begin. It may be that works begins across two weeks of September which will mean the whole car park will be closed off for that time. It will mean that there may be one weekend where there is no parking down below for Mass. As much warning will be given when we have a start date. Once the slope down to the lower end of the car park has been sorted, fresh tarmac will be laid, the whole car park will be relined, remarked and the spaces all numbered. Keep an eye on the newsletter for details as and when they come in.

FOURTH WORLD DAY OF GRANDPARENTS

and the Elderly is taking place on **Sunday 28 July**. This is marked so close to the feast of Saints Joachim and Ann (26 July), the grandparents of Jesus. Pope Francis has themed this year "Do not cast me off in my old age" (Ps 71:9). It'll be an opportunity to pray for grandparents and reflect upon the 'wisdom of our elders'. Pope Francis's message for the Fourth World Day of Prayer is available at the back of the Church.

SEA SUNDAY: Each year, a Sunday is offered to us to pray for those who spend so much of their working life at sea and for those who care for them whilst they are at port in this country. Stella Maris is the largest ship-visiting network in the world. They improve the lives of seafarers and fishers through their network of local chaplains and seafarer centres, expert information, advocacy, and spiritual support. The retiring collection **this weekend** goes to support the work of the Church in these port chaplaincies, offering seafarers some care, support and an anchor when so far from home. There are envelopes for GIFT AID purposes at the back of the Church. Please pick one up. You can also read more on the work of Stella Maris through their website: stellamaris.org.uk

CONTACTLESS DEVICES: A new set of contactless devices has arrived to replace the two that we have had since December 2019. The new ones seem much more efficient and a lot quicker.

MONSIGNOR KELLY FUND: A quiz night is arranged the hall for **Tuesday 30 July** in order to raise a little money for the projects sponsored and supported by the Monsignor Kelly Fund. A little drink to quench your thirst as you answer the questions put before you. Do come along and support the evening if you can. Doors open at 7.00pm.

ST JOHN'S CRICKET TEAM is inviting all parishioners to join as we host Holy Spirit CC from Nottingham. Please join us, bring a picnic and enjoy the beautiful surroundings at Prior Park. If anyone is interested in joining the team please reach out to our team contacts: Tom Rynkowski (tomasz@rynko.com) or David Parker (dwparker2018@virginmedia.com). St John's CT v Holy Spirit CC – **Sunday 21 July 1pm** – at Prior Park. Do go up and watch if you can.

ST JOHN'S 'LIVE SIMPLY' & CAFOD: Pope Francis, through Laudato Si, and encouraged by CAFOD through their 'Live Simply' campaign are always inviting us to consider being more sustainable in our lifestyle choices – everything we choose does matter. It is great to see that St John's does contribute to the conversations formed by the bi-monthly ecumenical

group called CAFÉ BANES (Christian Action for the Environment). It draws the Christian Communities in Bath together so as to form a stronger voice and a greater force for action. Keep an eye out at the back of Church CAFÉ BANES booklet which gives simple tips and useful guides to living in a more sustainable way. July is a great month to keep those lifestyle changes on the radar. In this 'no plastic' month- there's chance to do a little something to help out. Have a look at the Facebook posts. Do have a look and see ideas how to reduce your plastic use. If you would like to find out more about CAFOD Live Simply and become involved in our St John's community network for change, have a word with Nina Dobson.

ONLINE REGISTRATION: Don't forget you can submit your details for parish registration through the parish website. If you are new to the parish or have yet to 'sign up' just have a look at the home page and click the registration button. It is simple and straightforward and allows for a more digital and paper-free census. If you have no access to online facilities, just have a word with the parish office and someone will help you out with this.

MINISTRIES MASS: As the diocesan students for the diaconate journey towards the end of the academic year, Canon Colin Mason VG will be here at St John's to admit students to the ministry of Lector and Acolyte. That Mass will be celebrated on **Friday 19 July** at 7.00pm. You are welcome to join them. Do keep all our students in your prayers as we continue, of course, to pray for vocations. The students have been using the presbytery as a venue for their formation over the last (near) five years and with a new director of formation, they are going to make use of the top floor office space as a base for their studies. The library currently housed in the St Luke Room will be moving in the next couple of weeks and relocated to that new space. This will mean that as we can reclaim the St Luke Room it will be decorated over the summer and given a new lease of life for greater parish use and for outside groups as well. Watch this space.

CONFIRMATION 2024: Bishop Bosco will confirm our young people at St Mary's Church on **Friday 6 December**. The preparation course for the Sacrament of Confirmation is suitable for those in Year 9-13 (from Sept 2024) and is open to anyone living in the parishes of St Mary's, Bath; St John's, Bath; St Alphege's, Bath; St Peter & St Paul's, Bath; St Joseph's, Peasedown St John, and all churches associated with St Benedict's, Stratton-on-the-Fosse. It takes place for 6/7 weeks at St Mary's Church on Tuesday evenings 7.00pm - 8.15pm (dates to be finalised). You can email Charlotte at St Mary's to register your interest: bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com. Once the course dates are finalised Charlotte Boyall will email an application form to you.

FAMILY ADORATION takes place next on **Saturday 27 July** at 3.30pm. This simple hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament draws families – the young and the young at heart – to Jesus and so to find his peace.

MASS OF HEALING PRAYER: We come together on the last Thursday of the month to come close to the

Lord who brings us his healing and his mercy. There is chance to celebrate Mass and also chance to come before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament after Mass with the opportunity for Confessions. **Thursday 25 July** at 7.00pm.

FINANCE NEWS:

Offertory: £738.14 Envelopes: £151.70
Contactless Offertory: £380 Candles: £81
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 Amos 7:12-15

A reading from the prophet Amos

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer;' get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets,' Amos replied to Amaziah 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."'

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Psalm 84(85):9-14

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help.

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land.

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven.

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us in Christ, to be holy and spotless, and to

live through love in his presence, determining that we should become his adopted sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind purposes, to make us praise the glory of his grace, his free gift to us in the Beloved, in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom, the forgiveness of our sins. Such is the richness of the grace which he has showered on us in all wisdom and insight. He has let us know the mystery of his purpose, the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from the beginning to act upon when the times had run their course to the end: that he would bring everything together under Christ, as head, everything in the heavens and everything on earth. And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own, chosen from the beginning, under the predetermined plan of the one who guides all things as he decides by his own will; chosen to be, for his greater glory, the people who would put their hopes in Christ before he came. Now you too, in him, have heard the message of the truth and the good news of your salvation, and have believed it; and you too have been stamped with the seal of the Holy Spirit of the Promise, the pledge of our inheritance which brings freedom for those whom God has taken for his own, to make his glory praised.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;
you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 6:7-13

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals but, he added, 'Do not take a spare tunic.' And he said to them, 'If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.' So they set off to preach repentance; and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.