

PARISH OF ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B)

21-27 July 2024

First Mass of Sunday

Mass: 5.45pm

Matthew and May Millett RIP

SUNDAY 21 July SUNDAY XVI OF THE YEAR

Mass: 9.30am

Mass: 11.00am

Pro Populo

Polish Mass: 1.00pm

Confessions: 5.50pm – 6.20pm

Mass: 6.30pm

MONDAY 22 July ST MARY MAGDALENE

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Rosary: 10.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Matthew and May Millett RIP

TUESDAY 23 July ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN

Mass: 8.00am

Fr Des Millett RIP

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Frank Croston RIP Christine Nesbitt RIP

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

WEDNESDAY 24 July

Mass: 8.00am

Charles Savage RIP

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Funeral Mass: 10.00am

John Shousha RIP

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

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

THURSDAY 25 July ST JAMES

Mass: 8.00am

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

Pauline Gorman RIP

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

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

Mass of Healing Prayer: 7.00pm

FRIDAY 26 July ST JOACHIM AND ST ANNE

Mass: 8.00am

Linda Wall

Morning Prayer: 9.30am

Confessions: 9.40am

Mass: 10.00am

For all grandparents

Adoration: 10.30am – 5.30pm

Evening Prayer: 5.30pm

Rosary: 6.00pm

SATURDAY 27 July

Morning Prayer: 9.00am

Rosary: 10.00am

Mass: 9.30am

Wedding: 1.30pm

Alexandra and Stephen

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

First Mass of Sunday

SUNDAY XVII OF THE YEAR

Mass: 5.45pm

Fr Des Millett RIP

THE WORD THIS SUNDAY: “Sheep without a shepherd.” This is the simple theme of today's readings. It is interesting that Jesus' reaction to the crowd is one of pity – as he sees their great thirst for his teachings. This is, in a sense, a clear fulfilment of the prophecy we hear in the first reading, where God promises a true shepherd who will care for the people of Israel. Shepherding is a particularly suitable image of God's love and care. The dependency of the sheep on their shepherd, their wandering and drifting without someone to guide them, is also a suitable image of the people God loves. Our own age also displays sheep without shepherds - a great wandering crowd, seeking something, but not knowing what they are seeking. It is to this flock that the present-day followers of Jesus are sent as shepherds.

THIS WEEK'S VOTIVE INTENTIONS

Sacred Heart:

For the health of our daughter

Lady Chapel:

For vocations

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: This coming Tuesday, 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!

THE ICON OF ST JUSTINA: After some months of preparation, the icon of St Justina will finally find a home here at St John's. We hold the relics of St Justina in the Sacred Heart Chapel and in a desire to draw 'attention' to her and create a focus on seeking her intercession, the icon allows us to 'identify' something of who she is. 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. Andrew Vickers has creatively crafted a beautiful stand for the icon to rest upon. Do come along this coming Tuesday evening if you can.

CATHOLIC MOTHERS BATH & WEST WILTSHIRE: What a beautiful beginning to see so many mothers with their young children gathering together in our hall following the morning Mass for tea and conversation as well as a moment of prayer and reflection. What a good thing to be able to host. The next coming together is on **Monday 12 August** after the 9.30am Mass. Do come along if you can. Children are most welcome. The group is part of the wider 'Catholic Mothers' network. 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@cliffondiocese.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 looks forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting on the **Tuesday 20 August**.

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 these last two weeks inviting them to renew their annual subscription or cancel and hand back the fob. Contact the parish office if you have a query.

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: Thank you for your kindness and your generosity towards that outreach to seafarers in last weekend's retiring collection. **You raised £960.71 with some Gift Aid added on top.**

MONSIGNOR KELLY FUND: A quiz night is arranged in 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.

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.

INTERNATIONAL MASS: Ever conscious of how diverse, culturally, we are as a parish community, there's opportunity in the year to celebrate that wonderful diversity. Our International Mass each year enables to draw the broad parish family together and reflect the many languages and cultures of so many in our community. **Mass at 6.30pm on Sunday 29 September** will reflect that make-up through our readings and through the prayers at Mass. There's also a chance to gather together in the hall, socially, and experience the delicious tastes from the countries of our parish family. If you want to offer a dish for that shared supper, get in touch with Margaret Phelan in good time and let her know when you can and what you can offer: margaret.a.phelan@gmail.com

ADOREMUS – EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS: Our bishops (nationally) are inviting diocesan communities to come together in September to gather around the Eucharist. Oscott College is hosting the national Eucharistic Congress on **Saturday 14 September** and some 40 representatives from each diocese are attending. Each parish has been invited to take part in this day of Congress by gathering for a time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. From after the 9.30am Mass until 5.00pm on that day, there will be adoration in Church with organised and scheduled times of formal prayer.

MASS AT PERRYMEAD: There will be Mass celebrated in the little chapel at Perrymead at 2.00pm on **Tuesday 6 August**. All are welcome. If it is a good summer's day, then bring a flask of tea and some sandwiches for afterwards.

FIRST FRIDAY AND FIRST SATURDAY: 2 and 3 August.

FINANCE NEWS:

Offertory: £853.25 Envelopes: £305
Contactless Offertory: £878 Candles: £107
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 Jeremiah 23:1-6

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

‘Doom for the shepherds who allow the flock of my pasture to be destroyed and scattered – it is the Lord who speaks! This, therefore, is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds in charge of my people: You have let my flock be scattered and go wandering and have not taken care of them.

Right, I will take care of you for your misdeeds – it is the Lord who speaks! But the remnant of my flock I myself will gather from all the countries where I have dispersed them and will bring them back to their pastures: they shall be fruitful and increase in numbers. I will raise up shepherds to look after them and pasture them; no fear, no terror for them any more; not one shall be lost – it is the Lord who speaks!

‘See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will raise a virtuous Branch for David, who will reign as true king and be wise, practising honesty and integrity in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel dwell in confidence. And this is the name he will be called: The-Lord-our-integrity.’

PSALM Psalms 22(23)

The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit.

He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort.

You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

SECOND READING Ephesians 2:13-18

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

In Christ Jesus, you that used to be so far apart from us have been brought very close, by the blood of Christ. For he is the peace between us, and has made the two into one and broken down the barrier which used to keep them apart, actually destroying in his own person the hostility caused by the rules and decrees of the Law. This was to create one single New Man in himself out of the two of them and by restoring peace through the cross, to unite them both in a single Body and reconcile them with God: in his own person he killed the hostility. Later he came to bring the good news of peace, peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near at hand. Through him, both of us have in the one Spirit our way to come to the Father.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn10:27

Alleluia, alleluia!

The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,
says the Lord,
I know them and they follow me.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 6:30-34

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

The apostles rejoined Jesus and told him all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, ‘You must come away to some lonely place all by yourselves and rest for a while’; for there were so many coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. So they went off in a boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But people saw them going, and many could guess where; and from every town they all hurried to the place on foot and reached it before them. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them because they were like sheep without a shepherd, and he set himself to teach them at some length.

