

# ST JOSEPH'S, STONEHOUSE & THE ANNUNCIATION, WOODCHESTER

## PARISH CLERGY

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### TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - PSALTER WEEK 2

ST JOSEPH'S			THE ANNUNCIATION	
Sun	9.00am	Mass: <i>People of parish</i>	11.00am	Mass: <i>People of parish</i>
Mon		No Mass		No Mass
Tue		No Mass		No Mass
Wed		No Mass		No Mass
Thurs		No Mass		No Mass
Fri		No Mass		No Mass
Sat		No Mass		No Mass

### LECTIONARY

Sun	Jer 20: 7-9	Psalm 62: 2-9	Rom 12: 1-2	Matthew 16: 21-27
Mon	1Cor 2: 1-5	Psalm 118: 97-102		Luke 4: 16-30
Tues	1Cor 2: 10-16	Psalm 144: 8-14		Luke 4: 31-37
Wed	1Cor 3: 1-9	Psalm 32: 12-15, 20-21		Luke 4: 38-44
Thurs	1Thes 2: 2-8	Psalm 95: 1-3, 7-10		Matthew 16: 13-19
Fri	1Cor 4: 1-5	Psalm 36: 3-6, 27-28, 39-40		Luke 5: 33-39
Sat	1Cor 4: 6-15	Psalm 144: 17-21		Luke 6: 1-5

#### PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT ST JOSEPH'S

Vi. Burrage, Mike Gibbons and Olga, Julie Wood, Elizabeth Carr, Mary Evans, Rosemary Mabud,  
Aine Anderson, Mary Scully, Maggie

#### AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Les Smith

#### PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT THE ANNUNCIATION

Fr. Richard Finn O.P. and family, Rebekah Hollingshead, Brendon Conboy, Della Cox, Barry Norris,  
Cynthia Stevens, Peggy Chapman, Barry Taylor, John Presland, Tony Thompson, Georgina Mazzone, Frances  
Little, Christopher Notley, Trese Hulbert, Elizabeth Lillinton, Tina Hathaway, Phil Goodwin, Chris Jay

#### AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Gilberte McCarthy, Marian Coleman, John Dempsey, Helena Bryk, William Shelley, Alice Watson, Gilbert Apps,  
Raymond Brown, Andrea Rankin, Veronica Woolaghan

#### POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR AUGUST

For all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

### DIOCESAN PRAYER LINK

*Swindon: Holy Rood*

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

**CURRENTLY WE ARE ONLY HAVING SUNDAY MASS: 9AM MASS AT ST JOSEPH AND 11AM AT WOODCHESTER. ADMITTANCE TO MASS IS ON A "FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE" BASIS. THERE IS NO NEED TO CALL OR EMAIL AHEAD OF TIME. SUNDAY OBLIGATION IS STILL REMOVED AT PRESENT.**

### IN GENERAL

#### GOSPEL REFLECTION

At the time that Jesus was put to death, the cross was seen to be an instrument of torture and execution. Slowly over time the cross has become a symbol of triumph over death and resurrection, a symbol we are familiar with today. We hang crosses in our homes, our churches, and many of us wear one around our neck. We begin and end our prayer with this sign. When Jesus calls his disciples to take up their cross and follow him, we might wonder if he was asking them to pick up an instrument of torture or the promise of resurrection. We, too, are invited to pick up our cross and follow him. To understand what this might mean we can turn to St. Paul who tells the Romans that they are to 'offer their bodies as a living sacrifice'. In other words, he is telling them, and us, that every day of our life is to be a life lived for Christ. Inevitably this will come with joys and sorrows. Daily life is not always easy, but it can bring us many opportunities to also experience kindness, compassion and love. Eventually living will lead to death, not usually a gruesome death in the way that Jesus died. It may not be straightforward or come at a time that we expect, but eventually it will come. This is the very nature of what it is to be human. This is not a cause for despair. We are a people of hope – a hope which takes us from death to resurrection and new life shared with the risen Lord.

#### STARTING SCHOOL?

If you have a child born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017, then now is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from September 2021 onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of the *Stroud* Council. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of 15 January 2021.

### ST JOSEPH'S

#### FR. MARTIN GRIFFIN MSFS

Fr. Martin spent some time at St Joseph's after the death of Fr McCabe. He was recently diagnosed with cancer and died in hospital. Please remember him in your prayers.

#### SUNDAY MASS STEWARDS

We need one or two more stewards to help keep us all safe whilst we are at Church on a Sunday. At the moment we only have three: Mike, Tim and Andrew, with two of us being on duty each week. We regularly have between 15 and 18 parishioners each week now, which leaves us about 6 spare seating areas in Church. These are on the "families" side, so there is potential to accommodate roughly 12-18 more people if they come as families of two or three. Laurie, our Health and Safety expert is currently investigating what our seating capacity could rise to if we reduced the social distancing in Church from the current 2 metres down to 1 ½ metres. She is also looking at how the hall could be used to accommodate any overflow, when we use up all the available seating in Church. But to be able to use the hall we will need more stewards to look after that part of that church. Can anyone currently help us on a Sunday morning? Please come and see Mike, Tim or Andrew in the porch if you can help. Thank you.

*Item for the Bulletin? You can send items for the bulletin (by the Wednesday) to [stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com) or post them through the presbytery letterbox. For The Annunciation, email: [woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com) or post in the church letterbox (by front gate) or leave a message on 01453 822121. Any financial matters for Stonehouse, please email [admin.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:admin.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com). Any health and safety matters for Stonehouse, please email [HS.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:HS.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com)*

## CAR PARK SECURITY UPDATE

As I reported in the bulletin two weeks ago the finance committee met on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> August to discuss whether we should have a barrier installed across the car park entrance to deter out of hours use of our facility, following the use of our car park since March as a social venue by a group of young people on motorbikes. Two options were to be looked at: a manually operated drop down barrier and an electrically operated double swing gate. Deacon Bogdan had obtained a quote for the manually operated type from a fabrication company called TR King based in Woodchester. A drop-down barrier was thought to be cheaper and quicker to install but both our H&S representative and TR King recommended that a set of double gates be installed as a better option from a Health and Safety point of view. TR King quoted but were unable to offer installation. It was requested by the committee that a second quote be obtained from De-Havilland Fabrication in Stonehouse, as they had done the repairs to the metal gate when it was hit by a lorry – this has been obtained and does include installation. The electric barrier option was discussed but it was felt that we couldn't justify spending that amount of money at this time. It was decided that the manually operated double gate option be approved and the order will be placed with the winning quote submitted by De-Havilland Fabrication for £2000. Installation will take about 3-4 weeks. From a practical point of view the barrier will be opened from about 6am every morning and will be locked sometime during the evening. When we get back to being able to use the hall again, the time the gates are locked will consider the groups who use the hall.

- Andrew

#### ONE YEAR ON!

On Sunday by the day, and Tuesday by date, it will be one year since I have had any symptoms of M.E. This is very special as it means it will be medically accepted that I do not have M.E. So much has happened during the year, not least the coronavirus. I had thought that I could continue where I was when I got M.E. but soon discovered this was not so. Not only was my body weak and needed building up but it was also 23 years older! But even so my life has changed drastically, and I am able to do things I haven't done for years. Although I thank God, His Son and Our Lady every day it was with great joy that I was looking forward to returning to Lourdes this year to give thanks at the shrine. Obviously, that will have to wait and when it happens it will be no less heartfelt! Please will you all join me in saying thanks for this great gift I have received, even one 'Hail Mary' in thanksgiving will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Penny

#### STONEHOUSE SEPTEMBER RAINBOW

You will notice colourful banners going up in the town this week to promote the Stonehouse September Rainbow. This is a town council initiative to encourage residents, businesses, schools, churches and other community groups to create a continuous rainbow throughout the town as a 'thank you' to NHS and other frontline workers during the coronavirus crisis. Everyone in the town is invited to join in and decorate their windows, shop fronts, reception areas, halls and gardens. You can be as creative as you like, preferably using recycled materials – the only stipulation is that they need to be the colours of the rainbow.

### THE ANNUNCIATION

#### CLEANER NEEDED

If you are available to help with cleaning every 4<sup>th</sup> week in the month please could you call Angela on 01453 832911.