

ST JOSEPH'S, STONEHOUSE & THE ANNUNCIATION, WOODCHESTER

PARISH CLERGY

Fr. BILL WATSON
01453 822121
william.watson@cliftondiocese.com

Deacon BOGDAN WASYLKIW
07805093786
bogdan.wasylkiw@cliftondiocese.com

St Joseph's Church, Oldends Lane, Stonehouse Glos GL10 2DG
01453 822121 email: stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com
www.stjosephsstonehouse.org.uk

The Church of the Annunciation, St Mary's Hill, Inchbrook, Stroud, Glos. GL5 5HP
01453 822121 email: woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com
www.facebook.com/woodchesterpriory/
web: www.woodchesterpriory.org.uk

For Hall Bookings at St Joseph's please contact Mike Gibbons: ☎ 01453 824332 or: mjg53@btinternet.com

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE - PSALTER WEEK 2 – 22ND NOVEMBER 2020

THERE ARE NO PUBLIC MASSES TAKING PLACE THIS WEEK

There is a live daily Mass from the Blessed Sacrament Chapel in Clifton Cathedral. The Mass is 9.30am and can be viewed on the Diocesan website:
<http://cliftondiocese.com>

LECTIONARY

Sun	Ez 34: 11-12, 15-17	Psalm 22: 1-6	1Cor 15: 20-26, 28	Matthew 25: 31-46
Mon	Apoc 14: 1-5	Psalm 23: 1-6		Luke 21: 1-4
Tues	Apoc 14: 14-19	Psalm 95: 10-13		Luke 21: 5-11
Wed	Apoc 15: 1-4	Psalm 97: 1-3, 7-9		Luke 21: 12-19
Thurs	Apoc 18: 1-2, 21-23, 19: 1-3, 9	Psalm 99: 2-5		Luke 21: 20-28
Fri	Apoc 20: 1-4, 11- 21: 2	Psalm 83: 3-6, 8		Luke 21: 29-33
Sat	Apoc 22: 1-72	Psalm 94: 1-7		Luke 21: 34-36

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

Jennifer Donaldson, John Burfoot, Doreen Tindale, Mildred Biddle, Catherine Boyd, Michael O'Halloran, Kath McNeil

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, Chris Jay, Penny Gear

AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED ABOUT THIS TIME

Alice Freeman, Pat Saunders, Mary Street, Veronica Wynn, Marie McLaughlin, John Wynn, James Skelly, Annie Law, Ian Brown, Kathleen Tarn, Kathleen Seville

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR NOVEMBER

That the progress of robotics and artificial intelligence may always serve humankind.

DIOCESAN PRAYER LINK

All University/College/School Chaplaincies in the diocese

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Both Churches are currently closed for Mass and also for private prayer. Obligation to attend remains removed. National shared prayer is taking place daily at 6pm. We are currently expecting to open again for Sunday Mass on Sunday 6th December at both Churches, if the government advises it is safe to do so.

IN GENERAL

A PORTRAIT OR AN ICON?

There are lots of portraits of notable persons; famous ones, largely of those who have died long ago, painted by notable painters. But, "is this the truth?" we might ask, on seeing the image of a rogue masquerading behind a benign and regal appearance! No 'feeding of the hungry' in this fellow! Portraits are 'painted,' while Icons are 'written,' which suggests that the writer (abiding by strict rules) is doing something akin to the writers of holy scripture. Something deeper than the outward person (adjusted, on occasion, by the portrait painter) resides in the language the Iconographer is using. Deep things can be read from the Icon. During the year when we were exploring the meaning of 'Called to be a People of Hope,' There was an Icon of Christ to lead the mind to dwell prayerfully on who Christ is and how he brings hope into the world. It was an image of dignity, with nothing of the ostentatiousness of a regal portrait! Here was The One not subject to death who even now shepherds his flock away from falsehood, through the testing times of mortal life, into the light of eternity, where he dwells for ever and ever. Now we see dimly, then we will see face-to-face.

- Father Bill

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In the film *Chocolat*, a small, French, Catholic community follow the rules of the Church to the letter of the law. But it makes them miserable and the villagers are often cruel, unkind, judgmental, and critical of each other. When a young woman arrives in the town and opens a chocolate shop her way of life is frowned upon. However, her desire to bring joy and happiness to the people of the town, brings change in how people relate to one another. Eventually, the young parish priest, himself full of doubt, finally sees the truth. In his homily on Easter Sunday he preaches: *"I'm not sure what the theme of my homily, today, should be. Do I want to speak of the miracle of the Lord's transformation? No, not really, no I don't want to talk about his divinity. I want to talk about his humanity. I mean, you know, how he lived his life here on earth; his kindness, his tolerance. Listen, here's what I think. We can't go round measuring our goodness by what we don't do, by what we deny ourselves, what we resist and who we exclude. I think we have to measure our goodness by what we embrace, what we create and who we include."* Next week marks the start of Advent. We are still living with the pandemic and many people are tired, unsure of what Christmas will bring. But this we do know, Jesus entered our world to live amongst the most vulnerable in society, reaching out in compassion and love and mercy. Today's gospel encourages us to do the same.

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY

National Youth Sunday is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church in England and Wales today. Celebrated on the Feast of Christ the King, National Youth Sunday is an opportunity to *recognise* young people as a gift in the Church, *enable* the youth ministry and parish community to celebrate young people and *affirm* the contribution of young people in the Church and those who work with them. NYS takes place on Sunday 22nd November 2020. This year the theme is Together. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected every part of life. The way we live, work, study, play and pray has all changed. The most significant

Item for the Bulletin? You can send items for the bulletin (by the Wednesday) to stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com or post them through the presbytery letterbox. For The Annunciation, email: 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. Any health and safety matters for Stonehouse, please email HS.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com

change has been that we have not been able to do many of those things together. This year's theme recognises what it means to be 'together'; with ourselves, with others and with God.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Currently it is planned that four Christmas Masses will take place this year:

Christmas Eve

4pm – Woodchester, 7pm – Stonehouse

Christmas Day

9am – Stonehouse, 11am Woodchester

So we can have a rough idea of numbers expected, please could you email either stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com or Woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com or call the office on 01453 822121 depending on which Church you plan to attend. We will obviously have to adhere to the government guidance at the time.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

Additional representation is being sought for Churches Together in both Stonehouse and Woodchester. If you are interested, please could you contact Bogdan in the first instance.

THE ANNUNCIATION

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, NYMPFIELD

Governors at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Nympsfield have agreed to a request from the Diocese to add the Parish of the Annunciation to the designated parishes we serve, to ensure that Catholic children within your parish do not have a lesser chance of being allocated a place at a Catholic school in the future. With current COVID restrictions we are not be able to offer an 'Open Day' this year, but we are pleased to invite you to visit our school through a virtual tour which is available on our website: http://www.st-josephs-nympsfield.com/website/our_virtual_open_day/519444. Telephone enquiries are also welcome: 01453 860311

ROAD CLOSURE

Please be aware that in order to repair the boundary wall adjacent to the lane it has been necessary to close the lane leading to the church from the main road. Access to the church and graveyard can be made from the top of St Mary's Hill via either Convent lane or Cow lane. The works we are hoping will be complete before Christmas.

ST JOSEPH'S

CHURCH WINDOW NEEDS REPLACING

We found recently that one of the large windows at the back of the main church building had a large crack in it. This was allowing water to come through. Fr Bill, armed with his trusty sealant gun sealed the crack with some silicone sealant, but ultimately, we need to replace the pane of glass. As it is one of the large vertical panes it will be expensive, but it needs to be done to maintain the integrity of the building.

- Andrew Gibbons

NEW GARAGE DOOR NEEDED

The presbytery garage door needs replacing. We think it's the original door installed when the presbytery was built in the late 1970s or early eighties? Fr Bill said when he opened the door it came off the runners and he was lucky it didn't fall and damage his car. Despite efforts to repair the runners a new door is needed. Quotes are currently being obtained and the new door will be installed asap.