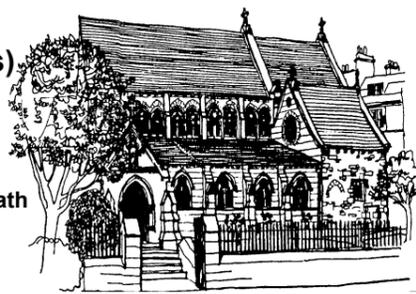


ST MARY'S
(Our Lady, Help of Christians)
Julian Road, Bath, BA1 2SF
www.stmarysbath.org.uk
bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com
[facebook.com/stmaryscatholicchurchbath](https://www.facebook.com/stmaryscatholicchurchbath)



Parish Priest: Mgr Jeremy Rigden
01225 311725
Deacon: Rev. Richard Hayward (Rtd)
Safeguarding: Clifton Diocese
safeguarding Co-ordinator Becky Cawsey
0117 954 0993

Royal United Hospital
ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net
 RUH Chaplaincy direct line 01225 428331

Parish Administrator: Charlotte Boyall
Office: Parish Centre - email only

<http://www.stmarysbath.org.uk/deanery-event-calendar/>

Benvenuto - Bienvenu - Bienvenido - Benvindo - Fáilte - Willkommen - Witamy - Welcome

The past is no longer yours; the future is not yet in your power. You have only the present wherein to do good. St Alphonsus Liguori

**TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN
 ORDINARY TIME
 Year A Psalter 1**

Sunday 23rd August

9.00am Mass Molly Farrell RIP
 10.30am Mass Private intention
 5.00pm Mass People of the Parish

Monday 24th August

St Bartholomew, Apostle
 No service in church

Tuesday 25th August

Weekday in Ordinary Time
 No service in church

Wednesday 26th August

Weekday in Ordinary Time
 10.00am Mass Private intention

Thursday 27th August

St Monica
 No service in church

Friday 28th August

St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
 10.00am Mass Private intention

Saturday 29th August

The Passion of St John the Baptist
 No Mass
 Wedding: Gage/Jasieniecka

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation/
 Confession will available by request only.**
Please call Fr Jeremy 01225 311725

Congratulations to baby Fryderyk,
 who was baptised on Friday.

Links to local masses and services being streamed live, such as those celebrated daily by Fr Christopher at St John's (<https://stjohnsrcbath.org.uk/>), can be found on the [parish website](#). Use the [online directory](#) of churches in England and Wales streaming Catholic Mass live online.

If Fr Jeremy is not available, and a priest is required urgently, please call:
 St Alphege's Fr Malcolm 424894
 St John's Fr Christopher 464471

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

First Reading: In a time of trial, Jeremiah appeals to the love with which God called him. His prayer is answered and he experiences, like a fire in his heart, God's love again.

Second Reading: Christian worship must be based on our whole lives lived in a self-giving love corresponding to Christ's.

Gospel: Christ came to lead us to the Father by a path of love. His love will be tested by suffering and death. If we are to follow him we, too, must live unselfish lives, continuing to love despite all set backs.

Parish Prayers:

For all those who have received A-Level, BTEC or GCSE results this month

For Eloise (Ella), aged 4, who has a brain tumour

For all those with life threatening illnesses

For baby Annie, due to undergo heart surgery

For Fr Jeremy's continued recovery

Diocesan Prayer Link:
 Holy Family, Swindon

RUH CONTACT DETAILS:
 If you or a loved one is going into the **Royal United Hospital**, please contact ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net or call the RUH Chaplaincy direct line 01225 428331 on arrival.

PARISH OFFICE: EMAIL ONLY
 Charlotte will remain working from home for the foreseeable future, so do not visit or ring her at the Parish Centre.

All postal items need to go to 4 Harley Street, Bath, BA1 2SF. Items for the bulletin must arrive by noon on Wednesdays:

bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

Email the parish office if you would like to receive the bulletin by email each Friday or the Mon-Thurs emails of updates and ideas for coping with life during a pandemic. Previous emails have been uploaded to the parish website

"[News, Events & Lockdown Resources](#)"

This week we remember:

Patricia Brophy, Tudor Geering,
 Daniel Till, Amy D'vaz, Mary Allen
 and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.

May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.



MASS AT ST MARY'S

The obligation to go to Mass each Sunday is still suspended, so you are not obliged to go to Mass on any day of the week.

We have been asked to take the contact details of one member of each household who comes to Mass. The details will be kept for 3 weeks and then will be destroyed.

BOOKING A SEAT AT MASS

Please click on the link to reserve a place at Mass between 16th - 29th August:
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/celebration-of-mass-registration-114365690860>

Eventbrite is our preferred method as it reduces the work for the Parish Office.

To book via Eventbrite: click the link that includes the dates you are interested in.

Booking OPENS when the link appears on the parish website & **BOOKING CLOSES:**

Sunday 9.00 am Mass - Saturday at 8.00 pm

Sunday 10.30 am Mass - Saturday at 9.30 pm

Sunday 5.00 pm Mass - Sunday at 4.00 am

Wed 10.00 am Mass - Tuesday at 9.00pm

Friday 10.00 am Mass - Thursday at 9.00pm

Via answerphone 07415000566 (for those who do not use the internet). Phone booking for the following week's Masses (Sunday to Friday): OPENS Noon every Wed

CLOSES Noon on Sat. Please text or leave messages within these hours only, or a seat will not be booked for you. Even if you have booked before, please include:

Preferred Mass
 Names and number of tickets
 Your phone number (mobile preferred)
 Age of any children included

COMING TO CHURCH SAFELY

It is important that anyone in a vulnerable group continues to stay at home.

Please do not come to Mass if you have any cough or cold symptoms.

Masks are now mandatory in all churches.
Please make sure your mask covers both your nose and mouth throughout the whole Mass.

When going up to receive communion:

*Wait for the steward to tell you to go up
 *stand on the marked square
 *remove your mask

*Put your arms out straight to receive the host
 *Consume the host

*Put your mask back on; return to your seat.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time A

Jesus asks Peter a very pertinent question, 'Who do you say I am?' I wonder what we would say to Jesus if asked the same question? It is a good one for us to ponder. Who do we say Jesus is? Who is Jesus for me? The spiritual life invites us to come to know the person of Jesus & grow in our relationship with him. How do we grow in that relationship? The pandemic forced us out of the Church but not out of our relationship with God. If anything, it has invited us into a deep encounter with the Lord & a renewal of friendship. Someone described the enforced lockdown as an opportunity to experience, in a very small way, the cloistered life. Locked up, as we have been, the pace of life has shifted, the rushing from here to there has had to stop. It is as if God is asking us to pause, to live more 'intentionally', to appreciate the small seemingly insignificant things. Being attentive to the love of Jesus is more possible, not because we hide away, but because we encounter the Lord in & through one another. Whether we are living alone or we have a houseful, the Lord is inviting us to unite together in prayer for the world, for health, for safety, the opportunity to gather once more & in gratitude for all those special people who have worked tirelessly & at great cost to keep us safe. Who do we say Jesus is? He is our light in the darkness from which we are, hopefully, beginning to emerge.

Sarah Adams, Director for the Department for Adult Education & Evangelisation

STEWARDS Thank you so much to all our brilliant volunteers. Without them, we could not open the church. **We need many more stewards to keep opening the church for Mass. Some of the original stewards have had to leave the rota due to family/job commitments. Cold you help?** If you are aged 18-70 & not in a vulnerable group, please email the parish office. The more stewards we have, the fewer times you will be asked to volunteer.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020:

Lockdown prevented many things from taking place, including our 2020 cohort from making their First Holy Communion.

Due to the continuing restrictions on the celebration of Mass, Fr Jeremy and the catechists have decided to allow the 2020 and the 2021 cohorts to receive Holy Communion for the first time next summer. At the moment, the plan is to start the programme as usual in January for the 2021 children, and for the 2020 cohort to join them later to finish their own programme. The nature of the pandemic makes it very difficult to set anything in stone.

Church car park: We have four weekday car park permits for sale at a cost of £344 each. They are valid for 1st Sept-31st Dec '20, Mon-Fri 8.00am-6.00pm. The permits are renewed in January and June each year. These permits are designed for people who work in Bath throughout the week (approx £4.50 per day). You do not have to be a parishioner to purchase one. Email the parish office for more information or an application form.

ONLINE RESOURCES FOR THOSE UNABLE TO COME BACK TO MASS

Spiritual Communion The Bishops have provided an online sheet to help us understand [how to make a spiritual communion](#). [This includes the prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori:](#)

"My Jesus,
 I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen."

SERMONS You can listen to Fr Jeremy's sermons each Sunday. Go to <https://www.stmarysbath.org.uk/sermons> & scroll to the end of the typed sermon. Click on the arrow shaped play button.

Families: Catholic Charismatic Renewal group Celebrate have created a "Stacyation pack" for all those at home with children during the summer holidays.

"This resource is compiled to encourage and support you. We think that this is an opportunity to draw close to Jesus, and also build community together online. This edition is all about the power of storytelling as an integral part of our faith."
<https://www.celebrateconference.org/family>

Christian Responses to the Climate Emergency

Six sessions on Zoom. Mondays: 7.30pm-9.00pm, starting on 3rd Aug with social time afterwards for those who wish. Each session will open up a theme relating to the Climate Emergency.

24 Aug: Divestment
 31 Aug: Taking Non-Violent Direct Action
 7 Sept: Sustainable living
<https://faithjustice.org.uk/climate-emergency>

Jesuits - Prayer through Art:

"In the Spiritual Exercises, St Ignatius gives us the idea of meeting sacred scripture with one's own life, mediated through Imaginative Contemplation. The aim of these reflections is to do this in tandem with pieces of art. Each month therefore, we will offer a painting in the hope that it will enable you to reflect more deeply on a particular passage of scripture. The idea is that you can return to the painting and scripture and discover more depth throughout the month."
<https://www.pathwaystogod.org/resources/praying-art>

B&NES Compassionate Community Hub

*If you need support with buying food or medicines, send an email with the subject "Support" to compassion@3sg.org.uk & the team will pick up your query within 24 hours. Alternatively, phone the hotline **0300 247 0050**

SAFEGUARDING Fr Jeremy would like to recruit two new **Parish Safeguarding Representatives**. The P.S.R. is a really important role within the parish, to help safeguard the young and the vulnerable. Part of the role is making sure all those who volunteer in certain roles are checked using the Disclosure and Barring Service. If you are interested in learning more about the role, please email Fr Jeremy to discuss it bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

MODERN SLAVERY:

Would you be interested in volunteering for a new local project by Hidden Voices Somerset, supporting victims of Modern Slavery and exploitation? HVS are looking for a range of volunteers to help victims of modern slavery and exploitation in Somerset. Initially the main work will be supporting people in the first 7 days after referral, but HVS will also work longer term with many of the victims.

If you are interested in volunteering HVS would like to invite you to a Zoom volunteer info sessions. Registration essential - click on the link of the meeting you wish to attend:

When: Aug 25, 2020 07:00 PM
https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZMuf-grTljGdJ11_C_ipMS90Yi72u1eh2o

When: Aug 26, 2020 07:00 PM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZMuf-eGpqlz1GN1SrrC8oMw44lvmMAXYw0e1>

When: Sep 3, 2020 07:00 PM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/joinMeeting/register/tZUld-Oitpz0rHNGsJmwkwc6UvcM4z4IJ6c-n>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you are interested in these roles or other work by HVS but are unable to make any of the above dates please email: allie.white@bathwells.anglican.org or call 01749 670777

.Monthly Healing Mass
 (Last Friday of the month)
 Friday 28th August
 7.00pm at St Alphege's, Bath.
 Sacrament of Reconciliation.

PARISH FINANCE: You can make a donation by using the 'Donate' button on the homepage of the parish website (just underneath the photo of St Mary's). It accepts PayPal & all Debit & Credit cards. Many thanks to all who have done so already. We receive roughly £150 per week through this method. If you are a tax payer, you can increase your giving by 25% by completing a gift aid declaration together with joining our standing order scheme at NO cost to yourself. This is a method of giving which means so much to the Parish. The scheme is explained in detail <https://www.stmarysbath.org.uk/parish-life>

Our income is sadly depleted due to all our usual bills still coming in whilst being unable to hire out the Parish Centre; weekday car park permits not being renewed, & from Sunday Mass collections not taking place March - June. Extra costs have instead come in: P.P.E., hand sanitiser, signage, metre sticks, communication equipment, caution tape etc.