

ST MARY'S
(Our Lady, Help of Christians)
Julian Road, Bath, BA1 2SF



www.stmarysbath.org.uk

Parish office: bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

www.churchservices.tv/bath

facebook.com/stmaryscatholicchurchbath

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



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

**“It is not enough to accept the invitation to follow the Lord;
one must be open to a journey of conversion, which changes the heart.” Pope Francis**

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
Year B Psalter 4
Proper of the Season

Sunday 20th December

9.00am Mass Maureen Sheridan RIP
10.30am Mass Henry Stacey RIP
3.45pm Advent Holy Hour (live-streamed
and open to all, no need to book)
5.00pm Mass Mike & Barbara Summerfield

Monday 21st December

Weekday of Advent II (O Oriens)
No public service in church

Tuesday 22nd December

Weekday in Advent II (O Rex Gentium)
No public service in church

Wednesday 23rd December

Weekday in Advent II (O Emmanuel)
10.00am Mass Derek Blagbrough RIP
Reconciliation after Mass

Thursday 24th December

Weekday in Advent II
6.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas P.L.
9.00pm Vigil Mass of Christmas P.L.
Midnight Mass People of the Parish

Friday 25th December

The Nativity of the Lord
9.00am Mass Private intention
10.30am Mass Private intention

Saturday 26th December

St Stephen, the First Martyr
No public service in church

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation/
Confession is available after every Wednesday
and Friday Mass during Advent.**

**St Mary's is in a tier 2 area so if you live in
a tier 3 area, you are advised to stay at home
and participate via live-stream.

However, from 23-27 Dec, you can come to
Mass at St Mary's in your Christmas bubble,
no matter what tier you are in. **

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
Sts Peter and Paul Fr Bill 832096

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

1st Reading: The scribe and teacher Ben
Sirach writes about the duties of children
towards their parents.

2nd Reading: A certain way of life follows
from the knowledge that we are God's
chosen people.

Gospel: In the context of the deep faith of
Mary and Joseph, the child Jesus grows to
maturity.

Parish Prayers:

For sacristans & parish administrators
everywhere, of all denominations
For all those with life threatening illnesses,
including Michaela L.

Diocesan Prayer Link:

Our Lady & St Alphege, Bath
St Joseph, Peasedown St John

CAFOD Advent Prayer: A Journey To The
Manger every Sunday until 3 Jan, 6pm-6:30pm.
No need for a computer camera or microphone
or worrying about what to say. Just register then
click the link on Sundays through Advent & on
Epiphany (Jan 6th). Starts 6.00pm; lasts 30mins
<https://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer/Online-talks>

The God Who Speaks: "At the Manger:
Family Celebrations for the Eight Days of
Christmas" Bishop Peter Brignall invites us a
short family service for each day of the Octave,
beginning on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day
with a blessing of the crib.
<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/advent-christmastide/>

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.

This week we remember:

Teresa Ward, Jean McNiff, Noel O'Regan,
Maureen Sheridan, Catherine Hill,
Eileen Hunt, Sheila Fry, Sidney Tucker,
Albert Connolly, Rosalia Bez, and all
whose anniversaries occur at this time.

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

Coming to Mass during a pandemic:

Everyone needs to book a seat before they
come to Mass. Bookings can be made via
<https://bookmassinadvent.eventbrite.co.uk>
or the booking phone 07415000566 (for
those who do not use the internet).

Live streaming of Masses from St Mary's:

*Sundays 9.00am, 10.30am, 5.00pm
*Wednesdays & Fridays 10.00am

Watch via www.churchservices.tv/bath or
on the home page of the parish website.
Thank you to all who have donated so we
can afford to make this available to all. We
hope that we might receive more donations
to cover the monthly costs. Please contact
Michael Gage if you want to Gift Aid your
donation via msg.gage@gmail.com You can
also donate via the [donate](#) button on the
parish website or send a cheque made pay-
able to "St Mary's Catholic Church Bath" to
4 Harley Street, Bath, BA1 2SF.

SANCTUARY LAMPS:

The restored Sanctuary Lamps are now back
in place, & the brass lamp at the Lady Chapel
has also been rehung. As you know we have
had no votive candles in the church since the
beginning of the pandemic, but these 7 day
candles are now available to purchase for
your intentions. Envelopes are available at
the back of the church in which you can
specify the lamp you wish, & the intention.
Minimum offering per candle £5.00 to cover
its cost. Please place the envelope with the
offering in the collection box near the exit in
the Lady Chapel, or hand it into the sacristy.
The intention will be published in the bulletin
unless you wish it to remain private.
Unfortunately with only three candles avail-
able each week it will not be possible to ask
for specific dates, & intentions will be allo-
cated on a first come basis for each lamp. If
there are no intentions for a particular week
then a sanctuary lamp is still required to be
lit, but it will be the only one.

The 7 day lamps burn this week for:

Sanctuary 1: Private intention
Sanctuary 2: Johnny & Jane White R.I.P.
Lady Chapel: Frank & Mollie Farrell R.I.P.

First Holy Communion 2021:

If you have a child in Year 3 who is ready to
prepare for this sacrament, please register your
interest by emailing the parish office.

4th Sunday in Advent

In a painting of the Annunciation by Henry
Ossawa Tanner there is no angel evident.
Instead, Mary's gaze is fixed on a tall, thin
pillar of white cloud at the end of her bed. She
is attentive and focused as if something is
stirring within her and she is discerning what
this might be. Advent is such a time for all of
us – to be attentive to the stirrings in our own
hearts. Being attentive in what is generally a
very busy time, is not easy. However, given the
pandemic, perhaps this year our focus could be
a little different. Perhaps this year is an
opportunity to be more attentive to the things
which really need our attention. What are those
things? Can we pause and listen to God inviting
us into a deeper relationship with him? Is it
possible we are being asked to give new life to
something special and can we respond to that
invitation as Mary did, with that enormous
"Yes"?

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

MASS STEWARDS We need many more Mass
stewards. We need at least two at every Mass or
we are not allowed to open the church. Could you
help? If you are aged 18-70, live in tier 2 & are
not in a vulnerable group, please email the parish
office asap.

PARISH OFFICE: closed for the holidays

Postal items: 4 Harley Street, Bath, BA1 2SF,
Bulletin items must arrive by noon on Weds:
bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

Email Charlotte to receive the Sunday bulle-
tin by email on Fridays or the Mon-Thurs emails
of updates & ideas of how to cope in a pande-
mic. These are archived on the parish website
"News, Events & Pandemic Resources".
Charlotte remains working from home, so do
not visit or ring her at the Parish Centre. If
you have her home phone number, please keep
it to yourself & please do not use it for church
issues. Email her at
bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com or ring Fr
Jeremy 01225 311725.

Act now & ask your MP to oppose introducing
assisted suicide. The assisted suicide lobby have
launched a large campaign to put pressure on the
Government to reconsider the legalisation of
assisted suicide. Right To Life UK have set up &
easy to use tool which will enable you to email your
MP asking them to make it clear to the Government
that it should not give into demands from the assist-
ed suicide lobby to reconsider the legalisation of
assisted suicide. It takes 30 seconds to email your
MP by visiting:
<https://righttolife.org.uk/StopAssistedSuicide>
There is more information here:
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/write-to-your-mp-to-prevent-the-legalisation-of-assisted-suicide/>

St Mary's School Christingle:

Many thanks to those who donated towards the
items needed to make the christingles for the
school service. £145 was collected, and donated
along with items bought for parish events that
would be useful when decorating fruit..

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Advent Reconciliation at St Mary's

Fr Jeremy is offering the Sacrament of
Confession/ Reconciliation after 10.00am
Mass on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Advent Holy Hours at St Mary's

There will be the opportunity to pray in front
of the Blessed Sacrament each Sunday of
Advent at 3.45pm. All Holy Hours will be
live-streamed for those who wish to pray
from their homes.

**Bath Carol Trail
5th-31st Dec:**

St Mary's Parish is proud to be part in a
Carol Trail around many of the churches
of Bath. Download/ print the map, start
from our parish centre, and guess the carol
from the nativity display. Check the QR code
and hear it sung! Listen again and sing along
with the subtitles! Aimed at children aged
1-102. Many thanks to Kirsten, Hugh & Nick
for their musical/ vocal/ technological/ artistic
talents. www.bathcaroltrail.wordpress.com



Christmas Masses at St Mary's

Christmas Eve: 6.00pm, 9.00pm & Midnight
Christmas Day: 9.00am and 10.30am

All the Christmas Masses will be live
streamed. Seating will be limited & and there
will be no singing, although there will be
instrumental music at some Masses. The
obligation to come to Mass is still suspended
and you may wish to take part in the
Christmas Masses via live-stream.

To book at seat at a Christmas Mass:

Booking closes on 22nd December or
when all the seats have been booked:
6.00pm Mass is fully booked.

•Booking is via the Parish Office by email
bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com

•We are not using Eventbrite for these
Masses. Instead, there will be a seating plan
to allow as many people as possible to come
to Mass, whilst ensuring everyone is socially
distanced.

•Book up to six seats for those in your
household or support bubble. If there are
more than six in your household or bubble,
add a note to that effect in your email.

•Booking is on a first come, first served basis.
Please give a first and second option for the
Masses you would like to attend. We may
not have the seats you need at your first
choice. You will receive email confirmation
of your booking within 24 hours (Mon-Fri).

•You need to give a phone number for track
and trace purposes.

•If you need step-free access or are a coeliac,
please include that information in your email.
•All the usual pandemic rules for attending
Mass apply re: masks

•To book Mass on any other day in
December, please use Eventbrite. People
who normally book by phone will receive a
phone call re booking for Christmas.

Mary's Meals: So much can be asked of us at
this time of year. It may be hard to always say yes.
Mary said yes to being the Mother of Jesus and
as a young, unmarried girl this must have been a
terrifying moment for her. Yet her 'yes' brought
Jesus into the world and changed lives forever.
Throughout this year of many challenges, thanks
to our generous supporters, Mary's Meals has
continued to say yes to feeding desperately
hungry children with a daily meal in a place of
education. Until 31st January 2021, donations
made to our Double The Love campaign will be
matched by the UK government, up to £2 million.
Please consider setting a place at our Big Family
Christmas dinner table or buying a Christmas gift
card on our website. More information
www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove

FINANCE: The pandemic has severely
disrupted our means of receiving money. We
are fortunate to have a foundation of regular
givers. Even so, we have lost almost 30% of
our monthly income (mostly collection plate
donations). This is income essential to
sustain the parish & its outreach
responsibilities. We know many are facing
greater financial hardship. However, if you
are able to make a regular or occasional
contribution, we would be grateful. Thanks
to all who support St Mary's financially with
a regular donation via their bank account or
envelope giving. Please visit St Mary's
website & give via the [DONATE](#) button.
Any size of donation is welcome, no matter
how small. Only the donations secretary sees
confidential info. If you are a taxpayer,
consider using Gift Aid to boost your dona-
tion's value by 25% at no cost to you. :
<https://www.stmarysbath.org.uk/parish-life>

St Mary's Car Park - parishioner permits

Permits for 2021 are available. Any
parishioner can buy a permit, allowing 4
hours of parking per week. Email the parish
office for an application form, then either:
*Complete the application form; send it plus
a cheque for £60.00 payable to St Mary's
Catholic Church Bath & a stamped
addressed envelope to Parish Office, c/o 4
Harley Street, Bath, BA1 2SF

•Complete the application form; email it to
the parish office, & transfer £61.00 to the
church bank account (Sort 521003 Account:
66286670 Name: Clifton Diocese re Parish
of St Mary, Bath) The extra £1 covers the
cost of the stamp & envelope to send your

2020-21 Parish Census: We took a census in
2016, so it is time to ask for everyone's details
again. Find the form by clicking on "I am new to
the parish. Help!" on

<https://www.stmarysbath.org.uk/parish-life>
Fill it in online and send it back to
bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com or print it off, fill
it in & send it back to: Parish Administrator, 4
Harley Street, Bath BA1 2SF. We would welcome
everyone to fill in a form, even if you have done
so in the past. Of the 370+ people who have
come to Mass since July, we have contact details
for only 80.