



**ST MARY'S**  
(Our Lady, Help of Christians)

Julian Road, Bath, BA1 2SQ

Website [www.stmarysbath.org.uk](http://www.stmarysbath.org.uk)

Livestream [www.churchservices.tv/bath](http://www.churchservices.tv/bath)

facebook.com/stmaryscatholicchurchbath



Clifton Diocese Linktree connects people with Diocesan events, information, opportunities  
<https://linktr.ee/cliftonevangelist>

Benvenuto - Bienvenu - Svāgatam - Chào mung - Merhba - Mabuhay - ласкаво просимо - Huanying

Parish Priest: Mgr Jeremy Rigden 01225 311725

Deacon: Rev. Richard Hayward (Rtd)

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Barbara Palmer and Barbara Summerfield

[psr.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:psr.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com)

Parish Administrator: Charlotte Boyall

[Bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:Bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com) 01225 314114

St Mary's St Vincent de Paul group

John Desmond [presidentB040313@svp.org.uk](mailto:presidentB040313@svp.org.uk)

Gift Aid [GA.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:GA.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com)

**LENTEN RETREAT** Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering a Lenten retreat: 'Transformed by Love' in six online sessions, contemplating God's grace at work in the lives of 6 persons, through scripture and artworks. 7.30pm Tues 20 & 27 Feb and 5, 12, 19 & 26 March. Click on the Zoom link to sign up [Meeting Registration](#) or the [diocesan website](#). Suggested donation £5 per person per session is recommended for any of the 'Light of Truth' courses. Info about more courses <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/join>

**PRAYER IN BATH, FOR BATH**

Three opportunities to pray together for the City and surrounding area:

\*Mon 22nd Jan 9.30-11.30am Council Chamber at Bath Guildhall (Mayors Parlour)

\*Shrove Tues 13th Feb 7.30pm Bath Abbey

\*BATHCAN Prayers for every day of Lent <https://www.stmarysbath.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Lent-Prayer-Diary-2024.pdf>

**St Mary's First Holy Communion 2024**

On 28th Jan, the 23 children wishing to make their First Holy Communion will be enrolled at 10.30am Mass. Each child will put their name onto a display board, & the parish will be asked to pray for them all over the next few months. Parishioners are asked to accompany the families on their journey by welcoming them into the church & joining them in the Parish Centre after Mass for refreshments. Pope Francis says that parents are the first catechists of their children, but in order for that to happen, we all need to accompany the parents.

**St Mary's Eco group:** CAFE BANES is an informal network of Christians in the Bath and North East Somerset area who are involved in, or want to encourage, action to improve the environment and protect nature. They have regular meetings and speakers - all welcome! Two talks coming up: details on "Upcoming Events". CAFE = Christian Action for the Environment in Bath and North East Somerset <https://cafebanes.org/>

**DIOCESE "The Kingship of Christ: Responding to the Cry of the Earth" online formation Wed 24th Jan 7.30pm**

Lumen Gentium 31 teaches that all the baptised are called to participate in the priestly, prophetic and kingly offices of Christ. We may have some ideas on how we can participate in the priestly or prophetic office of Jesus, but how can we participate in His Kingship? Caring for our common home is a way to live out this vocation. This session will draw on Scripture, the thought of St Thomas Aquinas, and some recent papal teachings to highlight a concern for creation as a perennial element of the Catholic faith. <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/kingship-of-christ-responding-to-the-cry-of-the-earth-online-formation-session/>

**This week we remember:**

Paul Kern, Monica Ashbee, Edward O'Reilly, Paul Bishop, Marie Willis, Richard Kemp, Doris Hayes, Simon Mumme and all whose anniversaries occur at this time. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Beginning 23rd January: "Lord, teach us to pray"** 7.00pm, St John's Church, South Parade. A year of talks on prayer, great prayer-ers of the Church and how to pray, as we journey to the Holy Year of 2025: "How we pray" Fr Tom Dubois

**Wed 24 Jan** The Kingship of Christ: Responding to the Cry of the Earth" online formation 7.30pm  
**24-27 Jan** St Philip & St James Church Drama Group present traditional family pantomime "Jack & the Beanstalk". Wed-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 1pm & 5pm. Wheelchair spaces available. Tickets £10 adults and OAPs, £6 children (under 18) [www.ticketsource.co.uk/spsjdrama](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/spsjdrama) or call 01225 835228 (Mon-Fri 9-1, 2-5pm).

**Sat 27th Jan** Small group facilitation training, St John's Church, 9.30-11.30am

**Sat 27th Jan** Holocaust Memorial Day

**Sun 28th Jan** Film: "My Nazi Legacy" The Little Theatre, Bath (St Michaels Place, BA1 1SF) 2-5pm. Patron of B&NES Faith Foundation, Sarah Bevan, will speak beforehand. Daughter of a Holocaust Survivor, she is well known locally for her work in raising awareness of the horrors of 1930's and 1940's Europe. Also present: Cllr Karen Walker Vice-Chairwoman of B&NES Council. Normal ticket prices apply. [www.picturehouses.com/cinema/little-theatre-cinema](http://www.picturehouses.com/cinema/little-theatre-cinema) or contact B&NES Faith Foundation [info@bathnesfaithfoundation.org.uk](mailto:info@bathnesfaithfoundation.org.uk)

**Sun 28th Jan** Racial Justice Sunday

**Sun 28th Jan** Enrolment Mass for all children preparing for First Holy Communion

**Wed 31st Jan** CAFE BANES meeting: Speaker Mary Colwell - conservationist and broadcaster "Believing in a better world: faith and conservation". 7.30pm, St John's Church.

**Thurs 1st Feb** Pilgrims of Hope: The 2025 Jubilee in Clifton 7:30-8:45pm. [www.cliftondiocese.com/jubilee](http://www.cliftondiocese.com/jubilee)

**Sun 4th Feb** "Hello neighbour" Sunday

**Sun 4th Feb** Open Table LGBT+ ecumenical service 5pm, Cotham Parish Church, Cotham Road, Bristol BS6 6DR. Tea and cake at 4.30pm

**Wed 7th Feb** SVP tea and chat, Parish Centre 10.30am (after 10.00am Mass)

**7-14 Feb** National Marriage Week

**LENT BEGINS Wed 14th Feb Ash Wednesday** Mass with ashes at 10.00am and 6.30pm

**Wed 14-24 Feb** Lent Vigil for Climate justice

**Sun 18th Feb** Lent Holy hours begin - adoration before the Blessed Sacrament every Sunday during Lent 3.45-4.45pm

**Tues 20th Feb** "Lord, teach us to pray" 7.00pm, St John's Church, South Parade.

"The prayer of Jesus" (Fr Dermot Power)

**Sat 24th Feb** Lucis choir a local Bath charity, in collaboration with The Life Project supporting adults with learning disabilities are holding a Mexican fiesta with delicious food & barn dancing to a professional fiddler. Auction of promises too. 6:30pm St Philips Church Hall, 35 Frome Road, Odd Down, Bath BA2 2QF Tickets £20 (£12 Members of Springs & Makers attending Life Project Day Services) Book via <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/CZCM> or email Kay Labate [info@lifeprojectbath.org.uk](mailto:info@lifeprojectbath.org.uk) to reserve ticket.

**REGULAR EVENTS:**

**Sundays: Children's Liturgy 10.30am** Mass Takes place in the Sacristy. Focusing on children up to pre-First Holy Communion stage. Its' themes run in parallel with the main Mass covering the penitential rite & the Gospel of the day. Parents welcome. Running late? Access the group via the Sacristy door on the outside of the church, nearest the car park.

**Sundays: Coffee after 10.30am** Mass

Everybody welcome! Come to the Parish Centre and meet other parishioners.

**3rd Sundays** Mass for LGBT+ Catholics, families & friends 3.00pm St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Bristol, BS5 ORE. [inclusionforall@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:inclusionforall@cliftondiocese.com)

**Fortnightly Mondays: Lectio Divina** Group

We use Divine Reading to lead our reading & sharing of the Gospel for Sunday.

Meet 7.30pm via Zoom. **Next: 22nd Jan** Info: Graham 07889 495419

**Tuesdays: St Mary's Art Club** All welcome to take part in the workshop format. £2.00

1.30-3.30pm St Mary's Parish Centre. Info: Joe Evans 07853 810041

**1st & 3rd Tuesdays:** Ecumenical Christian Meditation Group 7-8.15pm Parish Centre. Info: Deirdre 01225 872110

**1st Wednesdays** The Parish SVP provides tea & chat for everyone after 10.00am Mass/ 10.30am. We also welcome our neighbours from Christ Church. The SVP support those who may be isolated, house-bound or lonely & would benefit from a visit from members of the SVP. Info: [presidentB040313@svp.org.uk](mailto:presidentB040313@svp.org.uk)

**Fridays** We have a standing invitation to Cedar Tree Community Cafe, Christ Church, Julian Road 11.00am-1.30pm

**1st Saturdays** Malayalam Mass usually 2.30pm, St Mary's Church, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre.

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**DIOCESE: SYNODAL CHURCH**

The department of Adult Education & Evangelisation offer parishioners a chance to develop the skills of **small group facilitation** in the context of parish groups. These sessions help us to develop an attitude of listening with the heart & sharing with generosity. Provides participants with a model for rooting decision making in prayer & discernment & tools necessary for effective facilitation. <https://cliftondiocese.com/news>

**Nearest venue:** Sat 27th January, St John's Church, South Parade, Bath 9.30-11.30am <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/listening-with-the-heart-tickets-779973330227>

**Collection 14th January**

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Collection               | £449.63         |
| Contactless giving       | £82.00          |
| Direct donations to bank | £0              |
| Live streaming           | £0              |
| Envelopes                | £0              |
| Standing orders          | £1356.20        |
| Tax recovery (Gift Aid)  | £339.05         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>             | <b>£2226.88</b> |

Weekly cost of running the parish [£2570.00](#)

**Gift aid donation** forms in the church porch. Complete & send it to the Parish Office.

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Year B Proper of the Solemnity, Psalter 3**

**Sunday 21st January 2024**

**Word of God Sunday**

9.00am Mass People of the Parish

(Fr Michael English)

10.30am Mass Private intention

(Fr Michael English)

5.00pm Mass Private intention

(Fr Tibor Szende)

**Monday 22nd January**

**Weekday in Ordinary Time**

No Mass

**Tuesday 23rd January**

**Weekday in Ordinary Time**

No Mass

**Wednesday 24th January**

**St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**

No Mass

**Thursday 25th January**

**Conversion of St Paul, Apostle**

No Mass

**Friday 26th January**

**Sts Timothy and Titus, Apostles**

10.00am Mass Private intention

**Saturday 27th January**

**Our Lady on Saturday**

10.00am Mass Private intention

10.30am Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Normally available 10.30-11.00am on Saturdays & by request.

**Parish prayer link:**

For victims of genocide

For those without a home or adequate shelter

**Diocesan Church Prayer Link:**

St Joseph, Stonehouse

Annunciation, Woodchester

**HOSPITAL:** If you/a loved one is going into the **Royal United Hospital**, contact the RUH Chaplaincy on arrival 01225 428331 [ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net](mailto:ruh-tr.chaplaincy@nhs.net). Ask for the Spiritual Care Centre.

**If Fr Jeremy is not available, and a priest is required urgently, please call:**

**Sts Peter and Paul** Fr Bill 832096

**St Alphege's** 424894

**St John's** 464471

**\*\*\*Please note that there are CCTV cameras in the church, car park & Parish Centre.\*\*\***

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:**

**1st reading:** Moses tells the people that God will raise up for them a new prophet.

**2nd reading:** Paul expresses his concern that those who are married are more likely to face the distractions of earthly life than those who are celibate.

**Gospel:** Jesus' power to heal the possessed man gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds.

**Coming to Mass:**

\*Pick up a Welcome pack from one of the Mass stewards. It contains lots of info about the parish, how to get involved & how to get help.

\*Coughs and sneezes spread diseases. Don't bring them to church! Stay at home in the warm, get better and watch Mass via the livestream.

\***Lifts to Mass** St Mary's SVP can facilitate lifts to Mass for anyone who has a particular difficulty in getting to Church eg the elderly. Contact John Desmond 07553022059 or email him [presidentB040313@svp.org.uk](mailto:presidentB040313@svp.org.uk)

\*Are you housebound and would like to be visited? Have you got an elderly/sick relative who can no longer come to church? Would you like to receive Holy Communion at home? Ring Fr Jeremy 01225 311715 or email the parish office.

\*Could you be a Mass Steward on Sundays? We are very short of people to welcome people to our Masses. Talk to Fr Jeremy/contact Charlotte

**PARISH OFFICE** Inside the Parish Centre

**Parish Administrator:** Charlotte Boyall

[Bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:Bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com) 01225 314114

Postal items: 4 Harley Street, Bath, BA1 2SF

**THIS WEEK:** Parish Office open Wed and Fri. Email only Mon, Tues and Thurs.

**Bulletin:** Send info by 12pm Wednesdays please. Email Charlotte to receive the bulletin by email and/or join the parishioner email list: all the links in the e-bulletin work by clicking on them.

**Mass & Sanctuary Candle intentions:** Book with Fr Jeremy, pick up an envelope/ email me

**Parish Centre:** Available for hire from £7.00 per hour. Discounts for parishioners & charities. No costs for parish prayer, justice & peace groups etc.

**To register as a parishioner,** complete & return the census form. Paper copies available at the back of the church or on the website <https://www.stmarysbath.org.uk/parish-life>.

**Car Park:** St Mary's Car Park parishioner permits allow 4 hours of parking per week. Email the parish office for an application form or pick up one from the back of the church.

**ASSISTED DYING** Next Wednesday (24th Jan)

Kit Malthouse MP will table a ten-minute rule bill. The details of this are not yet known, but it is likely to say in effect that the House of Commons wishes that there should be legislation to allow assisted suicide and/or euthanasia. If you are against such a change in the law, and the Catholic Church is adamantly opposed to it, you should send an email immediately to your MP asking that they vote against Kit Malthouse's bill. Use this link to find your MP: <https://members.parliament.uk/members/commons> Unsure what to say? You could consult written evidence submitted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to the inquiry of the Health & Social Care Select Committee: <https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/116941/pdf/>

Alternatively, parishioner Dr. Julian Hughes would be happy to provide you with a key facts sheet from which you could draw to make the case to your MP (please feel free to contact Julian: [julian.hughes@icloud.com](mailto:julian.hughes@icloud.com)). Julian recently wrote an article about assisted suicide which can be accessed here: <https://www.thetablet.co.uk/features/2/3897/assisted-dying-no-laughing-matter>

**SANCTUARY LAMPS:** Three 7-day candles are available to purchase for your intentions. Envelopes at the entrance to the church in which you can specify the lamp & the intention. Minimum offering per candle £5 to cover its cost. Please give the envelope to Fr Jeremy/one of the stewards, who will put it in the sacristy. The intention will be published in the bulletin unless you wish it to remain private.

**Week beginning Sunday 21st January** Sanctuary lamp 1: Catherine "Kit" Byard RIP

**Pope Francis decreed that 2025 be a Jubilee** Theme "Pilgrims of Hope." What is a jubilee? Why does the Church periodically celebrate them? What about the "2024 Year of Prayer," or all those documents from the Second Vatican Council? Join us online for Pilgrims of Hope: The 2025 Jubilee in Clifton Thurs 1st Feb 7:30-8:45pm. It will introduce the jubilee year, provide context for the 3-year programme (2023 Year of the Council, 2024 Year of Prayer, 2025 Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope), as well as background for jubilees (origin, role in Scripture, and how jubilees have been used in the Church). It will explore the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope", and how Clifton Diocese can journey together over the next few years towards this great celebration. [www.cliftondiocese.com/jubilee](http://www.cliftondiocese.com/jubilee)