ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
(Our Lady, Help of Christians) Julian Road,
Bath, BA1 2SQ
www.stmarysbath.org.uk
Livestream www.churchservices.tv/bath
facebook.com/stmaryscatholicchurchbath

Parish Priest: Fr James Finan 01225 311725
james.finan@cliftondiocese.com
Deacon: Rev. Richard Hayward (Retired)

Parish Safeguarding Representatives:
Barbara Summerfield, Olwyn Donnelly, Sharon Champneys
psr.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com
Parish Administrator: Charlotte Boyall
Bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com 01225 314114
St Mary's St Vincent de Paul group
John Desmond presidentB040313@svp.org.uk
Gift Aid GA.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com
Treasurers Helen Bletso, Janet Freeman & Barbara Summerfield
treasurer.bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com
What3Words Church glory.simply.worker
Parish Centre tracks.crass.tools

"Each one of you, wherever you are, needs to live the life of faith fiercely because you are a true microphone of God our Lord in your context. Thus the church will always have preaching." St Oscar Romero

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Year A Psalter 2

Sunday 25th October 2026
9.00am Mass George Scott (anniversary)
10.30am Mass People of the Parish
2.45pm Syro-Malabar Mass
5.00pm Mass Sophie and Jeff Dilley RIP

Monday 26th October
Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Tuesday 27th October
Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Wednesday 28th October
Sts Simon and Jude, Apostles
10.00am Mass Mike Kelly (anniversary)

Thursday 29th October
Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Friday 30th October
Weekday in Ordinary Time
10.00am Mass Benefactors

Saturday 31st October
Our Lady on Saturday
No Mass or Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is usually available after Mass on Wednesdays, Fridays & Saturdays 10.30am, & by request.

Parish prayer link:
For all those affected by the storms
For all whose loved ones have committed suicide, and all those with suicidal thoughts
Diocesan prayer link:
St Mary-on-the-Quay, Bristol, with St James Priory

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

This week we remember:
Michael Snee, Kevin Ecclestone, Mike Kelly, Hilary Cockhill, Patricia Dye, George Scott, Elisa Memmolo, Anne Barnsdale, Filippo Bellavia, Derek Stoaling, Mike Nevett, and all whose anniversaries occur at this time.
May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace. Amen

If Fr James is not available, & a priest is required urgently, please call:
St Alphege's 07789185181 Fr Robert Corrigan
St John's 01225 464471 Fr Chris Whitehead

We have 24/7 CCTV cameras in the church, across the car park, around the outside of the buildings & in the Parish Centre.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:
1st Reading God is merciful because all things were created by God.
2nd Reading Paul tells the Thessalonians to remain faithful to Christ until Christ comes again.
Gospel Jesus recognizes the faith of the tax collector. In the hospitality extended to Jesus and in his conversion of heart, Zacchaeus is raised up by Jesus as a model of salvation.

Coming to Mass at St Mary's:
*New or visiting? Our Mass Stewards are happy to chat after Mass & offer a parish info pack
*If you are unsure of the fire exits in the Church please ask a Mass Steward for clarification.
*No longer able to come to church & would like to receive Holy Communion at home? Ring Fr James 01225 311725/email the parish office.
*Our SVP can facilitate lifts for those with difficulty in getting to Church eg the elderly. 07553022059 presidentB040313@svp.org.uk

SANCTUARY LAMPS 3 seven-day candles are available to purchase for your intentions. Envelopes at the church entrance on which you can specify the lamp & the intention. Minimum offering per candle £5.00 to cover costs. Please give envelopes to Fr James.

SYNOD Synodal information online sessions Find out more about the next stage of implementing the final document which came from the Synod in Rome. We will share what is being asked of our parishes over the coming months before a Diocesan Assembly in June. Please come with all your questions and help shape the way forward. **Register:** Tues 27th Oct 3-4pm **https://synodal2710.eventbrite.co.uk**
Any questions? **synod@cliftondiocese.com**
Synodal listening An online session for parishioners to develop an understanding of how to run listening conversations in our Parish and actively respond to the invitation to explore how we are flourishing as Parishes in Communion for Mission. Register: Wed 28th Oct 7pm: **https://Listening2810.eventbrite.co.uk**
Tues 10th Nov 7.00pm:
https://Listening1011.eventbrite.co.uk

Conference: Telling the Story Explore how our parishes can flourish in Communion for Mission and the challenges we face. **Sat 14th Nov** 10am-3pm at St John the Baptist, Trowbridge. Keynote speaker: Fr Jerome Ajakaiye will offer his thoughts and encouragement as a Parish Priest. An opportunity to listen to the stories of one another, hear what works and challenges encountered and overcome.
Register: **https://shootsofhope.eventbrite.co.uk**

POPPIES FOR REMEMBRANCE
After Remembrance Day last year, the Open Church group took up the suggestion of making and creating a Poppy display for our church in 2026. We opened up the challenge to our parishioners and many got involved: the knitted and crocheted poppies started coming in. The initial ambition was to create 1000 which we exceeded. We have nearly **3400** poppies. Three of us went to St. Mary's School and taught some of the children to knit and they helped with some of the displays.
Sat 31st Oct: Please meet at the church at 10.00am to help make a fantastic display of as many Poppies as we can, both inside and outside the church.
We will open our church on a number of days during November from 10.00am-12.00pm and 2.00-4.00pm so people can see the display whilst remembering all those who have fought for our country during the wars and those who have lost their lives:
Wk 1: Mon 2nd, Wed 4th* and Thurs 5th
Wk 2: Wed 11th, Sat 14th
Wk 3: Tues 17th*, Fri 20th*
Wk 4: Mon 23rd
*Mornings only

COUNTING TEAM We are looking for some more volunteers to help with counting the cash collection on a Monday morning. You would be teamed up with an experienced counter and be put on a rota to help about once every six weeks. If you are interested please contact Jim Sherry jim_sherry2000@yahoo.co.uk

DONA Machine 3 new buttons on the machines
1.Holy Souls (particular relevant with November approaching) This can be used anytime of the year and Masses will be offered throughout each month.
2.Priests Retirement Fund An annual collection for priests who have given their lives for the service of the Church and are now having a well-earned rest. Funds help pay for their accommodation, healthcare etc. Donations can be given at any time with this button and will be sent to the diocese for distribution as appropriate.
3.Clergy Training Fund An annual collection that enables the church to pay for students who wish to explore their vocation for the Priesthood and will go towards the 6-7 years training in seminary that is required to become a priest. Donations will be sent to the diocese so that it can be distributed appropriately

UPCOMING EVENTS:
Sun 1st Nov All Saints' Day Masses as usual
Mon 2nd Nov All Souls Day Masses at 10.00am and 6.30pm. Church open for the poppies and prayer until noon.

Tues 3rd Nov PRAY FOR BATH Bath Abbey 7.30pm Join believers from across Bath as we come together to pray for our city & the surrounding area. We will be praying for all aspects of life in our city: from our universities & local council, to welfare, outreach, & welcoming new church leaders.

6-8 Nov Vocation Weekend Taste the goodness of the Lord who loves you. Experience monastic life at the Monastery of Our Lady & St Bernard, Brownshill **https://www.bernardine.org/brownshill-programme/2026/**

Fri 6th Nov Online session: The Essential Mission of the Church: Proclaiming the Gospel with Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth. Explore the Church's mission to proclaim the Gospel by looking at essential documents, such as Dei Verbum, Evangelii Nuntiandi and Christifideles Laici. 7pm-8pm. Sign up here: https://www.lightoftruth.uk/join

Saturday 7th November
Fr Jeremy's retirement Mass with Bishop Bosco 12.00pm,
at St Mary's followed by a sparkling afternoon tea in the Parish Centre.
Everyone is invited.
*There are sign-up sheets in the church where you can volunteer to help at the Mass and at the afternoon tea party. Tasks vary from helping set up the Parish Centre on Friday 6th Nov, prepare and bring food on Saturday 7th Nov, welcoming people to the Mass, directing cars into the car park, being part of the welcome and hospitality team at the party, and the clearing up afterwards. We need lots of help.
*Due to the amount of people expected, we would love people living in Bath to try to car share, walk to the church, take the bus, book a taxi with friends, use Charlotte Street car park or use the Park and Rides if you live outside the city. The sparkling wine part of the afternoon tea should put you off driving to the event!
*Please contact the Parish Office by email or phone if you are able to come to the Mass and celebration.

Fri 13th Nov Confirmation Mass for our Pastoral Area, St Mary's 7.00pm with Bishop Bosco. Please pray for our candidates and for their catechists, Matt and Clare Hemson: Amariah, Finlay, Alex, Nica, Alexander, Kacper, plus Milo, Yeray, Coco, Dylan, Edwin, Holly, Hamish and Cruz

Fri 20th Nov Induction Mass for Fr James, led by Fr Richard Elson VF, Dean of our Pastoral Area. Everybody is invited! Laid out in Canon Law, it is the formal introduction of the Parish Priest where he confirms his commitment to the parish & is symbolically handed the keys to the church, also professing his faith, the faith of the Church. He promises to continue to uphold the Catholic faith, preach the Kingdom of God & help guide both physically & spiritually the people of the parish. 7.00pm in St Mary's Church with refreshments in the Parish Centre afterwards. If you can help with welcoming or hospitality, please contact the Parish office.

Sat 21st Nov Altar Server training session, St Mary's Church. Starts with Mass at 10.00am, finishing at 11.15am. Open to all current altar servers and those aged 7-17 ready & willing to learn, listen & pray. Let the Parish Office and/or Fr James know you are coming.

Sun 6th Dec Foodbank Collection at all Masses – save the date!

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Mass Intentions Fr James is happy to offer for you or your loved ones, deceased or living, for anniversaries or birthdays or for anything you wish to be prayed for. Please contact Charlotte at the parish office or if you wish write down the details on an envelope with the offering enclosed and hand to Fr James. You can also donate on the Dona machines by putting it on the Holy Souls button. Give the details to either Fr James or Charlotte so that we can make sure the transaction is noted as an intention. Offerings are usually £10 and above. Thank you.

Starting School? If you have a child born between 1st Sept 2022 & 31st Aug 2023, then now is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from Sept 2027 onwards. Complete an application form available from the school admissions team of BathNES Council. If your child has been baptised & you are applying for a Catholic school, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Apply by 15th Jan 2027.

Weekly Diocesan newsletter: **https://cliftondiocese.com/** (bottom of home page)
Clifton Diocese Linktree: Events & info **https://linktr.ee/cliftonevangelist**

PARISH OFFICE Inside the Parish Centre
Parish Administrator: Charlotte Boyall 01225 314114 Post: 4 Harley Street, Bath, BA1 2SF
Bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com
Opening hours this week: Mon & Tues email only. Open Wed Thurs Fri 9.00am-12.30pm.
Bulletin: Send info Sat-Wed for Sunday's bulletin. Email/call Charlotte to receive it by email &/or join the parishioner email list.
Parish Centre: Available for hire from £8.00ph Email/call Charlotte for availability, costs etc.
Parish census It's time for everyone to complete a census form. Please complete & return them to the Parish Office or the box at the back of church.

REGULAR EVENTS
Sundays Children's Liturgy at 10.30am Mass in the Sacristy, for children up to First Holy Communion stage. Running late? Go around to the Sacristy door.
Coffee after 10.30am Mass Come to the Parish Centre, meet new parishioners

3rd Sundays of the month Mass for LGBT+ St Nicholas of Tolentino Church, Bristol, BS5. 15th Nov **inclusionforall@cliftondiocese.com**

Mondays Lectio Divina Group. We use Divine Reading to lead our reading & sharing of Sunday's Gospel 7.30pm via Zoom. Next: 26th Oct, 16th Nov Info: Gillian Collins 07341 459690

1st & 3rd Tuesdays Ecumenical Christian Meditation Group 7.00–8.15pm Parish Centre. Info: Deirdre 01225 872110 Next: 3rd November

1st Wednesdays Parish Gardening Group
Next: 4th Nov Do you enjoy weeding, planting, hedge trimming even litter picking? Can you help keep St Mary's grounds as beautiful as possible? The Gardening Group meet on the first Wed of every month at 2.00pm. If that time doesn't work for you, could you spare an hour or so a month to keep one small part tidy? It can be any day or time that suits you. Call Ian for a chat 07828720517

1st Wednesdays The Parish SVP provides tea & chat for everyone after 10.00am Mass in the Parish Centre until noon. Next: 4th Nov in the church with the poppies

St Mary's Open Church mornings Next: 29th Oct **Last Thursdays of the month** 10.00am–noon. We invite YOU to join us St Mary's Church for: *Private Prayer *Men's & Ladies Groups *A Knit & Natter Group or the craft you enjoy. Those who wish can support people in need of knitting/ crochet/ sewing items. If possible RSVP to Pat & Joy **patjoy.kelly@gmail.com**

FINANCE Standing order & Gift aid donation forms are in the church porch. Complete & send it to the Parish Office or talk to Barbara Summerfield Gift Aid secretary.
DONA QR code at top of the bulletin
Collection 18th October

Collection	£361.13
Contactless giving (DONA)	£90.00
Livestreaming	£0
Standing orders	£1298.00
Tax recovery (gift aid)	£311.20
	Total £2060.33

Weekly cost of running the Parish £2570.00
THANK YOU: World Mission Sunday £213.30