Donate

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

"Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me." Micah 7:8

SOLENITY OF ALL SAINTS
Year A Proper of the Solemnity

Sunday 1st November 2026
9.00am Mass Graham Woodhouse RIP
10.30am Mass Catenians
2.45pm Syro-Malabar Mass
5.00pm Mass People of the Parish

Monday 2nd November All Souls' Day
10.00am Mass Holy Souls
6.30pm Mass Holy Souls (with Fr Ian McCarthy)

Tuesday 3rd November
Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Wednesday 4th November St Charles Borromeo
10.00am Mass

Thursday 5th November
Weekday in Ordinary Time
No Mass

Friday 6th November
Weekday in Ordinary Time
10.00am Mass

Saturday 7th November Our Lady on Saturday
12.00pm Fr Jeremy Rigden's Retirement Mass with Bishop Bosco

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

Parish prayer link:
For fair, democratic elections
Diocesan prayer link:
St Augustine's of Canterbury, Downend;
Our Lady of Lourdes & St Bernadette, Kingswood;
St Lawrence, Chipping Sodbury with St Paul, Yate

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:
Keith Newman, Jack Timbrell, Nick Nieland, Kathleen and John Clark, Donald Hawkins, Theresa Sewell, Sheila Crosbie, Paul Buckley, Anthony Marsh, Anne Clarke, Frances Kent, Merv Haines, Marion Pierce, Dennis Curtis 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 Ezekiel describes a vision of the Temple in Jerusalem where God's healing and life-giving presence is represented by a stream issuing from the Temple building.
2nd Reading Paul describes the Christian community as God's building. Each person is a temple of God; a dwelling-place of God's Spirit.
Gospel Jesus cleanses the Temple of the money-changers, the traders and the sacrificial animals they are selling. This is a prophetic gesture, pointing to the necessary purifying of the relationship between God and his people.

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

Holy Souls envelopes November marks the beginning of the month of Holy Souls. It is an important part of our faith praying for those who have gone before us. There are brown Holy Souls envelopes available at back of church. Please do take one and include the names of any loved ones, family or friends inside the envelope and a donation and place them in the brown basket at the foot of the altar. You will also see the names of all the people who passed away in the past 12 months. Mass will be offered for these intentions (Holy Souls) throughout November. Thank you.

SYNOD 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. 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-3.00pm 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 knitted and crocheted Poppy display for our church in 2026. We opened up the challenge to our parishioners, and many got involved: the 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.

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

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.

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:

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 plus the awful traffic congestion should put you off driving!
*Please contact the Parish Office by email or phone if you are able to come to the Mass and celebration, so we know how many for Mass and to cater for.

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: 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: 26th Nov **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 25th October

Collection	£291.35
Contactless giving (DONA)	£257.00
Livestreaming	£0
Standing orders	£1298.00
Tax recovery (gift aid)	£311.20
	Total £2157.55

Weekly cost of running the Parish £2570.00