

St Gregory the Great Catholic Church

A parish in the Catholic Diocese of Clifton
10 St James' Square, Cheltenham, GL50 3PR
☏ 01242 523737 ✉ cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com

The parish office is open Monday to Friday, 9:00am till 1:00pm

Visit our website: stgregorys.org.uk

Follow us on Facebook: facebook.com/ParishStGregoryCheltenham

Parish Priest: Rev. Canon David Mills VF **Permanent Deacon:** Rev. John Andrews
Parish Office Manager: Michael Burnell

Liturgy this Week Ordinary Time – Week 29	
Sunday, 18th October *Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time* ***Collection: World Missions***	***9:30am*** ***Family Mass*** *Intentions of Helen Maduka* ***11:15am*** ***Solemn Sung Mass*** *Gerald Dolan RIP* ***5:00pm*** *Brian Gibney RIP*
Monday, 19th October *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	***9:30am*** *Roy Pendleton RIP*
Tuesday, 20th October *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	***9:30am*** *Joseph Binoy RIP*
Wednesday, 21st October *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	***9:30am*** *Liturgy of the Word with Exposition and Benediction*
Thursday, 22nd October *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	***9:30am*** *Liturgy of the Word with Exposition and Benediction*
Friday, 23rd October *Weekday in Ordinary Time*	***9:30am*** *Angela Savage RIP*
Saturday, 24th October *Our Lady on Saturday*	***9:30am*** *Deceased of the Cody family*
Sunday, 25th October *Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time* ***Collection: World Missions***	***9:30am*** ***Family Mass*** *Intentions of Helen Maduka* ***11:15am*** ***Solemn Sung Mass*** *For Vocations* ***5:00pm*** *Artie Toner RIP*
Our sanctuary lamps are burning this week in memory of: ***Sanctuary:*** *Baby Matilda Crickmore RIP* ***Our Lady Chapel:*** *Deceased family and friends of the Teesdale family*	

Confessions & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Each Saturday morning after Mass from 10:00am - 10:30am

Arranging a Baptism
Congratulations on the birth of your baby.
In the first instance you will need to speak with Canon Mills after Mass. Parents need to attend a preparation course prior to the Baptism.

Holy Rosary
The holy rosary is prayed in Church each Friday evening at 5:00pm

Arranging a Wedding
Congratulations on your engagement.
To arrange a wedding speak with Canon Mills after Mass. Couples need to give at least six months' notice of their intention to get married.

Safeguarding
Our parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance, and both National and Diocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Owen Holbrook** and, can be contacted at: psr.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@cliftondiocese.com.

Sacrament of the Sick
Hospital Visits: If you or a loved one is admitted to either Cheltenham General, or Gloucester Royal hospital and would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick, please ask for the hospital chaplaincy team on 0300 422 2222. The Sacrament of the Sick brings strength, peace and comfort, making present Christ's healing love for those who are unwell.

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Second Collection – World Missions

The second collection will be taken at all Masses next **Sunday, 25 October**. The Association for the Propagation of the Faith (APF) assists each one of the Catholic Church's 1,062 mission dioceses and territories to provide pastoral care and preach the Gospel effectively. The APF works in England and Wales with the Mill Hill Missionary Society. In England and Wales funds for the Missions are collected through the famous Red collection Boxes. These can be found in 200,000 homes and they have helped raise millions of pounds for the missions. The APF enables its supporters to live out their own missionary vocation and to take an active part in the universal mission of the Church. www.missio.org.uk

CYAN October Social

Join us at **St Thomas More** on **Saturday, 31 October** at 6:30pm, with food served at 7:00pm. This month's social will be catered, so there's no need to bring anything — just come along, bring a friend, and enjoy an evening of good food, conversation and friendship.

Whether you've been coming to CYAN for a while, or this would be your first time, you are very welcome. Come along for the food, stay for the friendship, and enjoy an evening together as a Catholic young adult community. As the evening is catered, please let us know in advance if you are coming and if you have any dietary requirements or allergies, so that we can make sure there is something suitable for everyone. Please email: cyangloucestershire@gmail.com.

Confirmation 2026/2027

Registration for the 2026/2027 confirmation programme is now open. Confirmation is a sacrament in which we choose to accept the gifts of the Holy Spirit in our lives and begin to make adult decisions about how we live out our faith in the world. Our programme is designed for young people at school in year 9 or above. If you are interested, please follow the link on the website for more information and for the registration form.

Stitch and Pray

Our next meeting is on **Saturday, 24 October**, from 1pm to 4pm in the Old Priory. We hope you can join us to add more prayers to our HugRug or work on your own stitching or craft project. Everyone is welcome.

Flame 2027

This national event will take place at Wembley Arena on **Saturday, 6 March 2027**, bringing together thousands of young people from across the country for a day of inspiration, worship and encouragement in faith. The Diocese has just under 50 of its 100 tickets remaining and would be delighted to see young people from our parish, youth groups and families attend. If you are interested, please use the following link: Register your interest

November – Month of Holy Souls Mass offering envelopes

During the month of November, we pray for the Holy Souls in purgatory. We also remember those dear to us who have died, family and friends, and the deceased of our parish. Remember that purgatory is on the threshold of heaven, it is where we encounter the healing fire of God's boundless love and mercy. It prepares us for the fullness of life with God. Holy Souls envelopes are available in the church. Please place the names of your deceased relatives or friends as well as the Mass offering you might wish to make and return to the Presbytery. Alternatively, place your envelope in the Sunday collection. ***Please do not leave your envelope in church.*** Intentions will be prayed for at all Masses throughout the month of November.

First Holy Communion Programme 2026/2027

Parents of children in school year 3 who would like them to join the First Holy Communion programme are invited to a meeting this **Tuesday, 13 October at 6:30pm in St Gregory's school**. To register your child and see further details of the programme please follow this link: First Holy Communion 2026 – 27 – St Gregorys Church If you have any questions about the programme please contact: pastoral.cheltenham.stgregorythegreat@Cliftondiocese.com

Magnifica Humanitas

Magnifica Humanitas is the first encyclical letter of Pope Leo. There will be a day exploring Magnifica Humanitas on **Saturday, 24 October at St Brendan's College, Brislington.** Speakers will be Bishop Bosco, Dr Austen Ivereigh and Professor Carmody Grey (tbc). The day starts at 10:00am (refreshments from 9:30am) and finishes at 4:00pm - please take a packed lunch. You can register for the day on this link

Essential Training for Catechists

Starting **Saturday, 5 December**, from **9:00am–12:00 midday**, this short online course offers three morning sessions exploring the foundations of catechesis*. Together, we will discover: the essential nature and key principles of catechesis; the different sources of catechesis; practical ways to prepare and deliver effective catechesis.* The course is open to everyone involved or interested in catechesis, whether working with adults, young people or children. Register here: Zoom Registration Come and deepen your understanding, confidence and skills as a catechist.

SVP Coffee Morning

We warmly invite you to join us for a coffee morning hosted by the St Vincent de Paul Society on **Thursday, 22 October** at 10:00am. Find out more about the work that we undertake in the community.

The Book Club

The Book Club meets once a month to read and prayerfully reflect on spiritual writings. All are welcome, on the third Monday of every month at **7:00pm**. If possible, please read the selected text in advance. Our next meeting will be **Monday, 19 October** where we shall be reading the Popes homily at the Grotto in Lourdes

Musical Rosary

Join us for a Musical Rosary on **Saturday, 24 October at 6.00pm**, led by Deacon John. Following each of the Glorious Mysteries, our organist, Dr August Guan, will perform the corresponding Rosary Sonata by Heinrich Biber, offering a beautiful musical reflection on the mysteries being prayed. All are warmly welcome to this special evening of prayer and meditation through music.

The Faithful Fellowship (16-18Yrs)

Our Faithful Fellowship group welcomes A-level, college, and university students who want to pray together, explore meaningful conversations, and occasionally take part in charitable projects. Join us for our next bring-and-share gathering of food, prayer, and conversation on **Sunday, 18 October**. We begin with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in Church at 5:45pm with the meeting finishing at 7:30pm**.**

Cheltenham Laudato Si' Circle

The October meeting takes place on **Tuesday, 27 October** at Uplands, Malvern Rd, GL50 2JH, 6:30pm – 8:00pm. All welcome. Bring a poem on the theme of Creation. For further details email: cheltlaudatosicircle@gmail.com or phone Martin Davis, 01242 244182.

Catenian County of Gloucester Circle

The Catenians are an association of Catholic gentlemen dedicated to faith, family, and friendship. We support the Catholic church, local parishes, young people, and charitable causes. Lifelong friendships are forged through monthly meetings and social events. Catholic gentleman interested in joining are warmly invited to attend a Circle meeting. Dinner will be provided, courtesy of the Circle. The local County of Gloucester Circle meets at 7 pm on the third Wednesday of each month at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Cheltenham. For more information about the Catenians please visit our website or contact Edward Kaminski on edwardkaminski@btinternet.com

Of your charity, *pray for the souls of Eflinda Gill and Roy Pendleton who have recently died.* ***May they rest in Peace.***

Remember in your prayers those whose anniversaries occur this week*: Keith Maddox, Mary Link, Ana Martinez, Dorreen Hart, Michael Muldowney, Michael Jarvis and Eileen Martin.*

The Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

Nicene Creed

Solemn Mass
Credo III - No 503

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, ***(bow) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.***
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins, and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.
Amen

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Entrance Antiphon
To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

Collect
Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform ours will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

First reading Isaiah 45:1,4-6
Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:

'For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not know me.
I am the Lord, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not know me,
that people may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is none besides me;
I am the Lord, and there is no other.'

Responsorial Psalm Ps 96 (95)
℟: ***Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.***

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory,
and his wonders among all the peoples. ℟

For the Lord is great and highly to be praised,
to be feared above all gods.
For the gods of the nations are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens. ℟

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and power;
ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts. ℟

Worship the Lord in holy splendour.
O tremble before him, all the earth.
Say to the nations, 'The Lord is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness. ℟

Second reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b
Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: grace to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia. Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life. Alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 22:15-21
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
At that time: The Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle Jesus in his words. And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?' But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. And Jesus said to them, 'Whose likeness and inscription is this?' They said, 'Caesar's.' Then he said to them, 'Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.'

Prayer over the Offerings
Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon
Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.
Or:
The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.

Prayer after Communion
Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday 15th October 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Like so many of you, I was deeply saddened to hear the news of Pope Leo XIV's recent diagnosis and surgery. At a time when the Holy Father carries such great responsibility for the life and mission of the Church, I know that he will be very much in our thoughts and prayers.

I have written personally to Pope Leo on behalf of the whole Diocese of Clifton, assuring him of our affection, our closeness to him at this difficult time, and our heartfelt prayers for his full and lasting recovery.

Earlier this summer, I experienced some problems with my own health which required surgery and a period of recovery. One of the things that sustained me most during that time was knowing how many people were praying for me. I remain enormously grateful for that kindness. There is something deeply reassuring about knowing that, especially when we feel vulnerable, we are being held in the prayers of others. I hope that we can now offer that same gift to our Holy Father.

I would be grateful if every parish and community in the Diocese could remember Pope Leo in prayer, particularly at Mass over the coming days. I also encourage our families, schools and religious communities to join in praying for his recovery. I offer the following simple prayer, which you may wish to use in your parishes and homes.

Prayer for Pope Leo XIV
Loving and merciful Father,
We entrust to your tender care our Holy Father, Pope Leo.
Be close to him in his illness, strengthen him in his recovery and fill his heart with your peace.
Bless those who care for him, restore him to full and lasting health, and renew his strength for the ministry to which you have called him.
May he always know the love and prayers of your people throughout the world.
Through the intercession of Mary, Mother of the Church, keep him safe in your loving care.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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One of the beautiful things about belonging to the Church is that we are united across every distance by our faith in Christ and our care for one another. Our Holy Father has asked us to pray for him, and this is a particularly important moment for us to respond to that request with generosity and love.

May the Lord bless Pope Leo, restore his strength and grant him many more years of joyful and fruitful service to the Church.

With my prayers and every blessing,

+ Bosco

Rt. Revd. Bosco MacDonald
Bishop of Clifton