

CONTACT US *Parish Priest - Fr Philip Thomas*

Parish Administrator – Elaine Wright

ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH,

Telephone 01285 652087 / Website: www.stpeterscirencester.org

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ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Please contact Fr Philip through the relevant Parish Office;

PARISH NEWSLETTER: Could you please send any items for the Parish Newsletter to Elaine in St Michael's Parish Office by Wednesday @12.00noon.

Items for the Newsletter need to be in WORD not PDF. Thank you.

WANT A CHAT? A NEW SERVICE FOR PARISHIONERS OF ST

MICHAEL'S This notice is to inform you of an interesting, new development taking place shortly within the Parish. A confidential telephone service, 'Want A Chat', will be available to all parishioners in St Michael's in the New Year. It is available for everyone, including those in the Parish who possibly may be feeling a bit lonely, isolated, or are unable to get to Mass and just want a chat or a catch-up with someone from the Parish. Others may want contact with people outside the family, or possibly want to discuss in confidence some issue they have. The service, which is time limited, is open to all parishioners for most of their issues. It will not, however, be an advisory service, purely a kindly listening service. Watch out in the bulletin for further details.

VOLUNTEERS FOR 'LISTENING AND BEFRIENDING SERVICE' @ ST.

MICHAEL'S NEEDED Following our discussions earlier this year, we shall be launching a telephone befriending listening service in the New Year for parishioners. We are now looking for some additional volunteers to make the service to parishioners sustainable over the longer term. The duties are not onerous. The basic requirements are to be a good listener, discrete and organised in handling this commitment (which is unlikely, estimate, to consume more than a couple of hours a week of anyone's time). The normal statutory checks will apply. If you are interested in helping with this important, new initiative, please speak to Maggie Marum or Catherine Elliott for more information. Alternatively, please give us your name and telephone number and one of us will get back to you shortly.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES 2023 These are available in the porch for £6.00 each; please give the money to Elaine or in her absence the duty Sacristan



St Peter's church
7 St Peter's Road
Cirencester
Gloucestershire
GL7 1RE

St Michael's church
Silver Street
Tetbury
Gloucestershire
GL8 0DH



ADVENT IV – YEAR A - O ADONAI

Sat 17th Dec 6.00pm Vigil Mass in St Peter's
(Frank & Breda Mitten RIP; Greta Lloyd RIP)
Sun 18th Dec 9.00am Mass in St Michael's (Pro Populis)
11.00am Mass in St Peter

WORSHIP THIS WEEK *Readings etc. from the 17th Dec. found by date of the month*

Mon 19th Dec Late Advent Feria (O Radix)

FR PHILIP'S DAY OFF PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

Tue 20th Dec Late Advent Feria – (O Clavis David)
9.30am Mass in St Peter (Jill Gardner Int)

Wed 21st Dec Late Advent Feria (O Oriens)

10.00am Mass in St Michael's

CHRISTMAS "BIG CLEAN" IN ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Thu 22nd Dec Late Advent Feria – (O Rex Gentium)

9.30am Mass in St Peter's (Patricia O'Connor Int)

CHRISTMAS "BIG CLEAN" IN ST PETER'S CHURCH

Fri 23rd Dec Late Advent Feria (O Emmanuel)

9.30am Mass in St Peter's

Sat 24th Dec Christmas Eve

9.30am Mass in St Peter's

Sat 24th Dec **NATIVITY OF O.L.J.C. IN THE FLESH**

5.00pm Mass of the Vigil in St Peter's

9.00pm Mass of Christmas Night in St Michael's
(Graham Wright RIP)

Sun 25th Dec 9.00am Mass of Dawn in St Michael's

11.00am Mass of the Day in St Peter's (Pro Populo)

CONFESSIONS

PLEASE RING TO ARRANGE AN APPOINTMENT; THANK YOU

A WARM WELCOME We welcome visitors, newcomers and parishioners, to our celebration of Mass. Do join us for coffee and refreshments after both Masses in the hall.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

MASS PROPERS ADVENT IV– YEAR A - O CLAVIS DAVID

Entrance Antiphon Drop down due from above, you, heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

First Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14 *The maiden is with child*

Responsorial Psalm Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.

Second Reading: Romans 13: 11-14 *Jesus Christ, descendant of David, Son of God*

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin shall conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means ‘God-is with us.’ Alleluia.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24 *Born of Mary, betrothed to Joseph, Son of David*

Communion Antiphon Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and His name shall be called Emmanuel

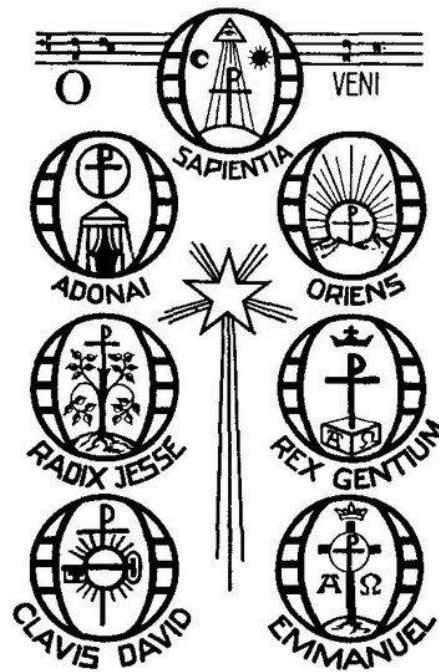
THE ADVENT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Whilst the rest of the world is getting to the end of its secular Christmas, we in church we continuing our Advent build up. The last week, Late Advent, is marked by the use of the Great O’s. They are solemnly sung at either end of the Gospel Cantic Magnificat, the high point of Vespers or Evening Prayer. They also form the Alleluia Verse each day at Mass. These ancient compositions are woven from Old Testament quotations and tell us about Who the Messiah will turn out to be :-

- the Wisdom of God in human flesh,*
- Lord of Sinai & Giver of the Law of Moses,*
- The Key and Prince of David’s royal line,*
- the Promised Root of Jesse,*
- the Rising Sun*
- The King of the Nations,*
- God with us.*

Most of us remember these as the verses of

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, which we will sing with gusto this Sunday.



Sat 24 th Dec.	5.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass in St Peter’s
Sun 25 th Dec.	9.00pm Mass of Christmas Night in St Michael’s 9.00am Mass of Dawn of Christmas in St Michael’s 11.00am Mass of Christmas Day in St Peter’s Noon Mass of St Stephen in St Peter’s
Mon 26 th Dec	Noon Mass of St John, Apostle, Evangelist in St Peter’s
Tue 27 th Dec	Noon Mass of the Holy Innocents in St Michael’s
Wed 28 th Dec	Noon Mass St Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr in St Peter’s
Thu 29 th Dec	Noon Mass Holy Family in St Peter’s
Fri 30 th Dec	Noon Mass in St Petr’s St Sylvester, Pope in St Peter’s NO VIGIL MASS ON NEW YEAR’S EVE EVENING
Sat 31 st Dec	SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD 9.00am Mass in St Michael’s 11.00am Mass in St Peter’s
Sun 1st Jan	

Fr. Philip and all our parishioners wish you a blessed Advent season, a happy and peaceful Christmas, and a New Year, filled with God’s Blessings, Peace, Happiness, Health, and Fortune

THANK YOU’S IN ADVANCE OF CHRISTMAS Thank you to all those who prepared the festive lunch on Thursday and to those who attended. Thank you for the table top donations and those who supported it. Please come into the hall after Mass today for mince pies, the Parish Raffle draw and our bi-monthly 100 draw. Proceeds of the meal, raffle and table top sale will be donated to parish funds, Mary’s Meals, and CenterPoint UK Homeless Charity. Thank you for supporting our parish fundraising. **WE THANK YOU FOR COMING TO THE TWO “BIG CLEANS” HAPPENING THIS WEEK**

LITTLE WAY TRUST ‘The Bishop and Trustees of the Diocese of Clifton are looking to appoint 8 Foundation Directors to form the Trust board of the new emerging Little Way Catholic Educational Trust, consisting of the Catholic Schools in the County of Gloucestershire It will be one of the new Multi-Academy Trusts within the Diocese and therefore will be an exciting opportunity for all concerned. Applications from existing Foundation Governors/Directors and from those without previous school governor experience, would be welcome.’ For further information please contact Bill McEntee our Governance Officer at bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com or Paul Kehoe School Partnership Officer at paul.kehoe@cliftondiocese.com at the Diocese.

CIRENCESTER BANNER TRAIL Banner Trail is now in the Abbey Grounds. a map showing the 8 locations is on the notice board. We hope they will provoke curiosity and that folk will find the link to the CTiC website and list of Christmas Services