

ST PETER'S CIRENCESTER & ST MICHAEL'S TETBURY

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Priest: Fr Maria Selvan MSFS

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Parish Administrator: Elaine Wright

6th Sunday of Easter

Dear Friends,

"Life is like having a cup of coffee; you sit by the window, lift the cup, take a careless sip and find no sugar in it. We are too lazy to go for the sugar and we somehow manage with that sugarless cup. On finishing, we find undissolved sugar crystals, settled at the bottom! That is life! We don't make any effort to value what is around or within us. We need to look around..." Maybe, the sweetness you are looking for is much closer than you think! How often our spiritual life is also lived similarly? We go through the rigours of spiritual practices but they sometimes become mere routines.

We perform many chores of religious exercises but they sometimes turn out to be ritualistic. Spiritual life becomes tasteless and loses its fascination but Jesus, in the Gospel of the Day invites us to have a deeper excitement and happiness in life, by abiding in His love. He tells us, **"These things I have spoken to you, that my joy maybe in you, and that your joy may be complete"** (Jn. 15:11). The Lord wishes each of His followers to live a life of immense joy and happiness. Jesus, Himself lived a very joyful life. What was the recipe for His happiness?

- ❖ A life that was lived in perfect communion with His Heavenly Father, seeking union with the Father through moments of solitude in prayer, raising His Heart to the Father in gratitude and thanksgiving at every situation of life.
- ❖ A life that was lived in absolute obedience to the Will of His Father, willing to shed any personal comforts or desires to be faithful to the mission entrusted and readiness to undergo any amount of pain and suffering, even death, to be totally committed.

Jesus hands over this same recipe to us, to discover true joy and happiness in life. Let us stir up our lives to savour the sweetness of joy, peace and serenity...

... to taste the joy that is guaranteed by obeying God's commandments.

... to taste the peace that is assured by letting our lives be a symphony of service to others.

... to taste the serenity that is promised by always abiding in the loving presence of the Lord.

6th Sunday of Easter

Date & Time	Place	Masses Requested	Saints & Feasts
Sat 4 th May 5.30pm	St. Peter's		Adoration followed by Mass
Sun 5 th May 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael's St. Peter's	Fr. Maria - Int. Fousta Caravana - RIP	6th Sunday of Easter
Mon 6 th May	No Mass		
Tue 7 th May 9.30am	St. Peter's		
Wed 8 th May	No Mass		
Thu 9 th May 9.30am 11.00am	St. Peter's St. Michael's		Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord
Fri 10 th May 9.30am	St. Peter's		

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

In St. Peter's Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm

In St. Michael's Wednesday 10.45am to 11.15am and by appointment, please ring to arrange. Thank you.

A Warm Welcome: today is Sunday 5th May. As always, we welcome visitors and newcomers to join our "regulars," asking Almighty God to bestow His blessings and graces on us all. You are most welcome to join us for coffee and tea in the Parish Hall.

Help Please... A parishioner would like to be able to attend the 11.00 Mass on Sundays. If anyone is able to offer a lift from the Somerford Rd. area, please could you contact Julia on 07885 189098, in the first instance. Thank you.

Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is on Thursday 9th May 2024 and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be in St. Peter's @ 9.30am and in St. Michael's @11.00am. Please try and attend one of these Masses.

Bishop Declan Lang: This week sees the retirement of Bishop Declan, who has been Bishop of Clifton for twenty-three years. As we give thanks for his leadership; please remember him in your prayers. If you would like to contribute to a present for him, please see the following site: <https://donate.mydona.com/cliftondiocese> by Monday 20 May 2024.

Bishop Elect Bosco MacDonald will be ordained, as the tenth Bishop of Clifton. Born and grew up in Bath, attending St. John's Primary school followed by St. Brendan's school, Bristol. Fr. Maria will be attending the ordination, along with Elaine, our Administrator representing St. Michael's Parish. Cathy and Pinky will be representing St. Peter's Parish. Please remember Bishop Bosco in your prayers as he embarks on the next step of his Ministry.

Living the Common Good: We are inviting you to join us on Saturday 18th May at St. Brendan's Sixth Form College (Broomhill Road, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 5RQ) for Living the Common Good: Discerning Challenges and Responses. It will be a day of formation and community, bringing people together in prayer to discern the practical ways to live the common good in our parishes, pastoral areas, and diocese. We are blessed to have Jenny Sinclair from Together for the Common Good guiding us through our discernment process. Please see poster on notice board for more information.

Mass in the Cathedral as a celebration of Marriage and Family Life: The bishop is celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on **Saturday 25th May** at 12 noon inviting all families to join him to celebrate the joys and challenges of family life. In addition, we will celebrate those couples celebrating a significant anniversary during 2024. If you are, or know of a couple celebrating special anniversaries during 2024, please do let us know. You just need to send names to this email: adult.education@cliftondiocese.com with the address so that a personal invitation can be sent to them from the bishop, including the number of years celebrating. It is always a wonderful Mass at the Cathedral, and it will be good to see you.

The Eucharist: A bond of love which can never be undone. There is an opportunity on **Saturday 8th June** at **St Bernadette's Secondary School, Whitchurch, Bristol**, for the whole diocese to deepen our understanding and love for the Eucharist as we grow in our desire to be a people of communion, participating together as the Body of Christ so that we may be the Body of Christ to the world. It is particularly appropriate for parishioners who are Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and would fulfil the requirement for the annual retreat in preparation for recommissioning. It is also a helpful introduction to those who might like to support the priest in this ministry. Fr. Michael McAndrew will lead us in our reflections and conversations. The day will include a time of prayerful Adoration with words, music, and silence. Refreshments will be available from 9.30am. Attendees are asked to bring a packed lunch. We will finish by 4pm. Please use the Event britelink: <https://cliftoneucharist.eventbrite.co.uk/> to register for the day. You are most welcome!

For the Attention of St. Michael's: Save the Date! 1st June 2024 at 7pm for 7.30 sit down. We are going to have an authentic Curry Evening. The theme is 'Indian', please sign up at the back of the church as we will need to know numbers and if you can help with food please put your name on the list in the porch. If you need a lift on the night please put a note on the form in the church. All welcome!



missio
Today. Tomorrow. Together.

Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries are holding special Mission Masses in each one of the new Pastoral Areas of the Clifton Diocese in 2024.

Fr. Gary Brassington, Diocesan Director for Missio in Clifton, invites all Missio volunteers, supporters, and the wider Diocesan community to come together in prayer for our global Church.

Br. Eddie Slavinski MHM will be joining Fr. Gary to share his own experience as a missionary, and to encourage us all to support the work of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries through prayer, solidarity, and donations through the Red Box.

Full list of Masses:

[Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries are holding special Mission Masses in each one of the new Pastoral Areas](#)



Gaza priest's separation from his flock: Podcas



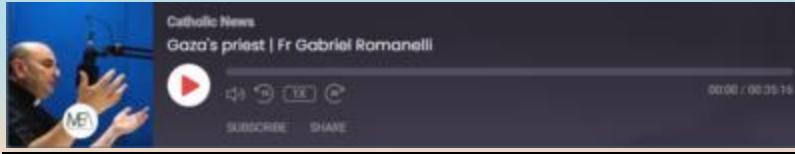
When Father Gabriel Romanelli travelled to the West Bank to get some urgently-needed medicine for a j j l e c s e d d e k i i j e C v e j a r a n r k o o a d e i e d a a o a l n p a t r k i d e t k g t k n k r a n six months.

Father Gabriel has just spent a week in the UK, in London and Glasgow meeting with Christian leaders and politicians to highlight the plight of the near 500 people still sheltering in the compound of the Holy Family Church.

In a [special podcast](#), James Abbott from the Catholic Bishops' Conference discussed with him about his desire to be with his parish community in the north of Gaza in their hour of need, the lack of food, water j i a e e a p d a L k l a o d u l d k j a t h o j l o p n h k j a n j t k n p d a l a k l t a p d a j a a t k n h o p e c peace, what Catholics in England and Wales can do, the light of faith in the darkness, and much more. They are joined in the podcast by Dr. Hary Hagopian.

Listen to the full podcast below:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/podcast/gazas-priest-fr-gabriel-romanelli/>



Offertory Collection

Last Week:

St. Peter's: £954.32 (incl. via the Dona Machine)

Sudan Emergency Fund: £498.92

April Standing Order: £1225.00

St. Michael's: £76.90

Sudan Emergency Fund: £123.00

April Standing Orders: £123.00

100 Club Winners: £48.4; £32.21; £16.18

Thank You