

## **St Peter's Cirencester & St Michael's Tetbury**

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**21<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Dear Friends,**

The listeners of Jesus were shocked at the idea of eating the flesh and drinking the blood, which was too repulsive for them. Many of them walked away in protest. Some of them surrendered in faith and accepted the gift Jesus offered although they did not fully understand what was offered to them as a gift. Jesus challenged His disciples, asked them whether they too were going to walk away. Peter, as always, had great wisdom and he said, "Lord, to whom shall we go... you have the words of eternal life".

**Peter made his choice. Now join Peter and make your choice!**

**From the beginning of scriptures, we read about great men and women being called to make difficult choices and they in turn called their people to make hard choices. Moses and the prophets and finally Jesus offered people choices between life and death; way of the just and way of the wicked; good and bad; foolishness and wisdom, way of the kingdom and way of the world and so on.**

**Jesus challenges us to make difficult choices, make the difficult journey, walk the path of trials, face testing times, enter through the narrow door...**

The way to the kingdom is not easy, but it is just the right way, the way made to fit our needs! We must make difficult choices and be faithful to the choices we make. The choice is ours. Once the choice is made, the question is: is that your final choice, your final answer to the call?

Take a moment: think of all the people whose lives once characterized by “no” to God and to God’s goodness and then transformed into a decided “yes”, into a final answer “yes”.

Peter did; Thomas did. Thomas Merton, one of the great mystics of our times moved from “No” to “Yes”. Orphaned at 16, he travelled Europe at 18 maintaining a bohemian lifestyle. A vowed communist at 20, a reporter for New York times at 24 and Trappist monk at 26. Some of you may remember John Newton’s dramatic conversion during a storm at sea. He was a slave trader. His “yes” to God is memorialized in “Amazing Grace”

**Take a moment... and say, “Yes” to God and Gods’ way!**

**Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)**

When	Where	Masses Requested	Saints & Feasts
Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> Aug 5.30pm	St. Peter’s	Dr. Maria Barker - RIP	Adoration followed by Mass
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Aug 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael’s St. Peter’s		<b>Twenty First Sunday</b>
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Aug	<b>No Mass</b>		
Tue 27 <sup>th</sup> Aug 9.30am	St. Peter’s		<b>St. Monica</b>
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Aug 10.00am	St. Michael’s		<b>St. Augustine</b>
Thu 29 <sup>th</sup> Aug 9.30am	St. Peter’s	Pete Williams - RIP Hugo Shepherd - Good Health	<b>The Beheading of St. John the Baptist</b>
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Aug 9.30am	St. Peter’s	Stefan Watts - RIP	

**SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**

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

In St. Michael’s Wednesday 10.30am to 11.00am and by appointment, please ring to arrange.

Thank you.

**A Warm Welcome:** today is Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August. 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.

**Rest in Peace:** Please remember in your prayers all who have died recently, especially Fr. Leo Dolan, a retired priest of our Diocese who passed away in Ireland.

**Curia Conference - Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2024** - Save the Date - Following the successful event held back in September 2019, we will be hosting a Curial Conference this autumn to provide an opportunity for parish colleagues and volunteers to meet with members of the Curial departments and attend a variety of presentations and workshops. The event will be held on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October at St Bernadette’s Secondary School, Bristol from 10.00am to 2.30pm and further details will be available at the beginning of September.

**Education Sunday** is celebrated, including a second collection, on the second Sunday of September each year. The Catholic Education Service has provided the following information: Education Sunday falls on the second Sunday of September (8<sup>th</sup> September, 2024) just as the new academic year starts. It is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 176 years ago in 1848, and provides an opportunity to celebrate and give

thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools and universities places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead. Resources for Education Sunday 2024 are now available at [Education Sunday \(catholiceducation.org.uk\)](http://Education Sunday (catholiceducation.org.uk))



# SEASON OF CREATION

Commencing next Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September until 4<sup>th</sup> October (the feast of St Francis of Assisi) we enter the season of creation. We are invited to wonder at the beauty of creation and to grow in our understanding of our encounter with God through his handiwork. The season also gives us chance to reflect upon our responsibility towards our common home and towards those who are poor. It is a season of prayer and a season of action, changing a mindset, maybe, and committing ourselves to creating a better world through the care we take. The heavens proclaim the glory of God and the firmament shows for the work of his hands. Day unto day takes up the story and night unto night makes known the message.



## Offertory Collection

**Last Week:**

**St. Peter's:** £585.15 (incl. via the Dona Machine)

**St. Michael:** £81.40

**Thank You**