

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

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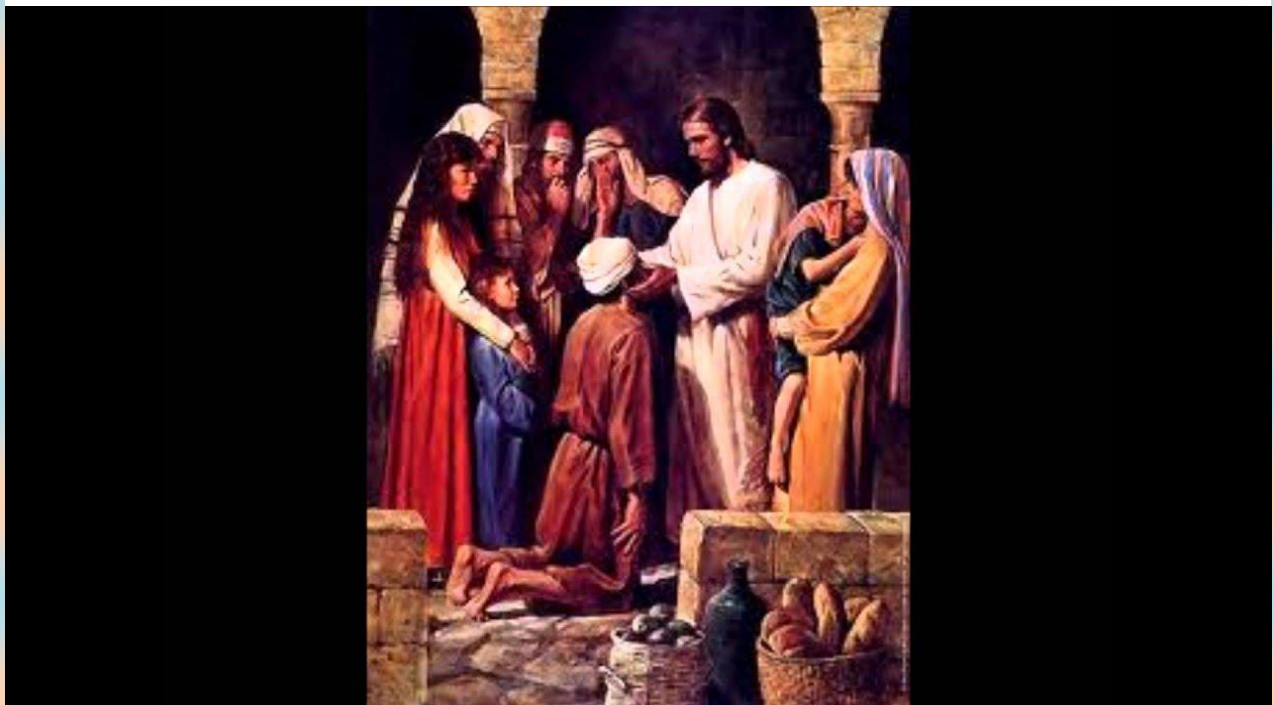
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Parish Administrator: Elaine Wright

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday  
of  
Ordinary  
Time



**Dear Friends,**

Jesus went into the district of Decapolis which was largely a gentile territory. Jesus' ministry was open to all, not just to the Jews. This excerpt from Mark presents Jesus opening Himself to people beyond Jewish circles (Mark 7:31-37).

Then we read about a man whom Jesus opened. People brought a deaf man to Jesus for healing. Jesus took him aside, away from the crowd, touched him and healed him. The man who was opened and the people who witnessed the healing went about opening themselves and proclaiming the good news that they came to know, despite being asked not to tell anyone about this experience.

Isaiah's vision of hope for a fragile and broken world is now fulfilled in Jesus. The deaf-mute is set free from his handicap, from his inability to hear and communicate. It is interesting to note that the words of Jesus to the man were "be opened" rather than "be healed" or "speak" or anything similar. Jesus "opened" the man and freed him. A door that was closed and sealed was now open for the man... he was free! When one door closes another opens!

It is also interesting to note that Jesus asked the people to keep the healing of the deaf man "closed", not to tell anyone. Sometimes, it is prudent to be closed. We are invited to discern how closed and open we need to be in different situations. In this situation Jesus did not want publicity, didn't want to draw attention to Himself. The authorities were on the watch for anything to entrap him. It was the prudent thing to keep the matter quiet.

**Be opened! Be opened to receive the good news and to proclaim the good news!**

**Be open to the Holy Spirit to help you discern how closed and open you need to be in different situations.**

## **September 8 - Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

According to tradition, this feast probably began with the consecration of the basilica of St. Ann in Jerusalem. The September birth was chosen because the Eastern Church begins its Church year in September. The Birth has been assigned to September 8<sup>th</sup>, both in the East and in the West, which is nine months after the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8<sup>th</sup>. The feast was brought to Rome toward the end of the 7<sup>th</sup> century by Eastern monks. Gradually, it spread to the other parts of the West.

Scripture does not give us an account of Mary's birth. However, according to the apocryphal Gospel of James, Anna and Joachim, the parents of Mary, were infertile but prayed for a child. They received the promise of a child who would advance God's plan of salvation for the world. Although it is not an actual birthday, it is a way of honouring the gentle and holy woman who said "yes" to God's call and let God's word of love become flesh in her and make a gift of the "word-made-flesh" to the world. It is also a challenge and an inspiration for us to welcome God's word of love into our hearts and let it transform our life. Let us make this a joyful day for us and a day of blessing and grace for all we meet.

LET US CELEBRATE  
*The Nativity of the*  
**BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,**  
 FOR FROM HER ROSE  
 THE SUN OF JUSTICE,  
 CHRIST OUR GOD.

*Antiphon from the Roman Missal*



Happy Birthday  
 Dearest  
*Mother Mary*  
*We Love You!*

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

When	Where	Masses Requested	Saints & Feasts
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug 5.30pm	St. Peter's		Adoration followed by Mass
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Sep 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael's St. Peter's		<b>Twenty Third Sunday</b>
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> Sep	<b>No Mass</b>		<b>St. Peter Claver</b>
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup> Sep 9.30am 11.00am	St. Peter's St. Michael's	Funeral Service of Czeslaw Wicher	
Wed 11 <sup>th</sup> Sep 10.00am	St. Michael's		
Thu 12 <sup>th</sup> Sep 9.30am	St. Peter's		<b>The Most Holy Name of Mary</b>
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Sep 9.30am	St. Peter's	Richard Harrison - RIP	<b>St. John Chrysostom</b>

**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 8<sup>th</sup> September. 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.

**Education Sunday** is celebrated, including a **second collection, this Sunday.**

**Upcoming Youth & Family Game Night at St Peter's Parish Hall!**

🎲 **Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 - 9:30 PM** 🎮

Looking for a fun and relaxing way to spend your Friday evening? Look no further! St Peter's Parish Hall is hosting a **Youth & Family Game Night**. All young people and families are invited to St. Peter's Parish Hall for a fun evening of board games, table tennis and nibbles! Please join us from 7.00 - 9:30pm. Please contact Patty for more details at [Pattyhuckin01@gmail.com](mailto:Pattyhuckin01@gmail.com)

**Please pray** for Czeslaw Wicher who passed away recently and whose funeral will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> September (Tuesday) at 11.00am at St. Michael's Tetbury. *Eternal rest grant unto him Oh Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him, may he rest in peace.*



**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.

**OSCOTT 2024 REMUS EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS THE BREAD OF LIFE ADOREMUS**

**NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PILGRIMAGE & CONGRESS I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE** The 2024 National Eucharistic Congress ADOREMUS AT OSCOTT The National Eucharistic Congress will take place at St Mary's Seminary Oscott this year to support preparations for the Jubilee Year. On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September the Bishops of England and Wales are inviting all Parishes to have a period of Exposition to unite the faithful of the country in focusing on the Eucharist in anticipation of the Jubilee Year with renewed and deepened devotion.



**Harvest Fast Day is on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October**

The vastness of global struggles can feel overwhelming. However, we are not asked to singlehandedly solve everything, but simply to respond to the needs we see before us. In the parable of the sheep and the goats, the King says, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' As Pope Francis says, "In God, no act of love, no matter how small, will ever be lost."

**For the attention of St. Michael's**

On Sunday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of September we invite parishioners to bring some harvest produce for a stall sale in aid of CAFOD. If you have a glut of courgettes or apples, plants or Jam or even flowers. Maybe some will be inspired to make a cake? We would love it if you bring along your extras and we can put it to a good cause through CAFOD. Thank you!

**Secondary RE Adviser - Schools & Colleges Department:** The department are seeking to expand the team by appointing a part time, term-time only Secondary RE Adviser to support the RE Lead. The successful applicant will have recent and relevant experience of teaching and/or advising RE in the secondary phase (and preferably post 16) with a willingness to contribute to the Primary work of the Diocesan team. Successful candidate will need to offer RE advice, training and consultancy to schools, Single academy trusts, and our three Multi academy trusts, Bristol, but will require extensive travel around the Diocese, as well as some evening work. For further information and application form, visit: [Working for us Clifton Diocese](#). If you would like to discuss the role further, please contact Mary Cox, Director of Schools and Colleges, or Paula Asquith, HR, on 0117 902 5599, and date for application is: 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024 In-person interviews in Bristol: 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024.



## Offertory Collection

**Last Week:**

**St. Peter's:** £394.65 (incl. via the Dona Machine)

**St. Michael:** £124.15

# Thank You

