

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

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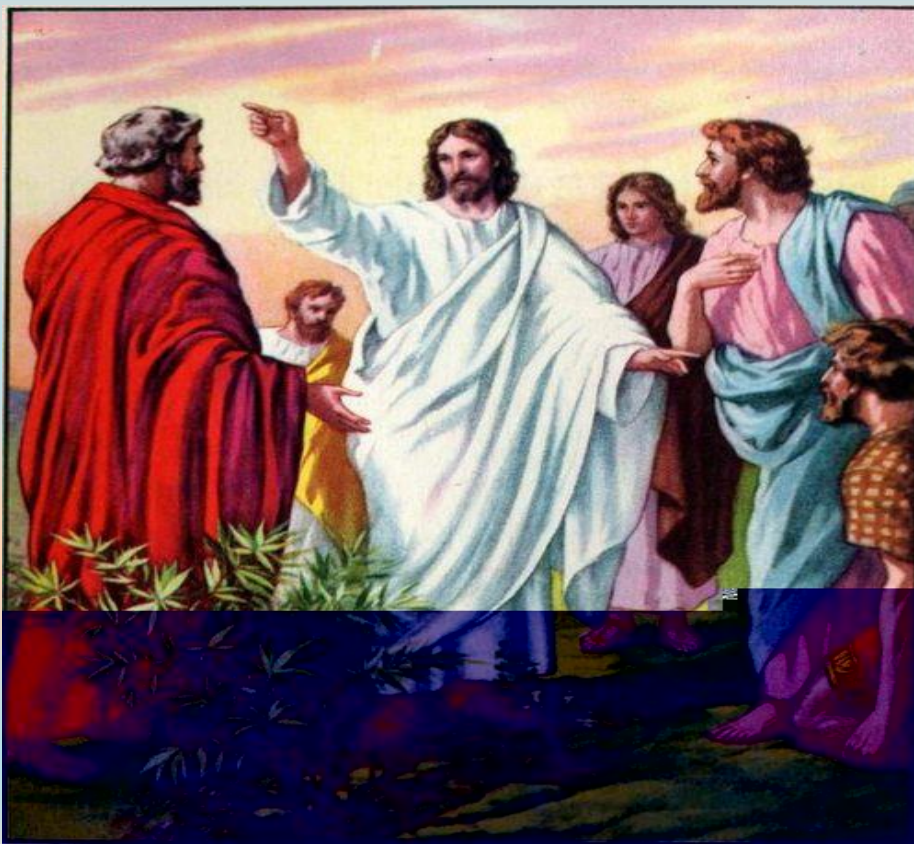
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Parish Administrator: Elaine Wright

# EIGHTH SUNDAY



**Dear Friends,**

*Jesus told his disciples a parable, "Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? No disciple is superior to the teacher; but when fully trained, every disciple will be like his teacher." Luke 6:39-40*

Are you "fully trained?" What does it mean to be fully trained? Jesus makes it clear that those who are fully trained will be like their teacher. Of course, we must become like our Lord, who is the one and only Teacher. So, are you like Him in every way?

Being fully trained as a Christian is different than being fully trained in an occupation. For example, a doctor is fully trained when all the necessary lessons are learned, and the practical aspects of medicine are put into practice. That is why that person becomes a doctor, just like the doctors who were their teachers. But the Christian life is not something we master by learning many teachings of the faith so that, by our expertise, we can then put them into practice using our natural talents. For a Christian to be fully trained, it is necessary that the Divine Physician fully possess them, live within them, and act through them. Thus, Christian training is the practice of allowing God to become one with you so that it is God who acts in and through you.

This form of “training” first takes on the goal of freeing us from spiritual blindness. We must see Christ and come to know Him. Again, this is not a matter of simply learning various truths about God in an intellectual way. It’s a matter of coming to know the Truth Himself. We must see and know the Person Who is Christ Jesus. This is true sight. Blindness, however, can always set in again when we take the eyes of our soul off the Saviour.

Seeing Christ, however, is not enough. Seeing must be followed by doing. That is why our Lord goes on to say in today’s Gospel that “every tree is known by its own fruit” and that a “good person out of the store of goodness in his heart produces good.” Seeing Christ Himself, within your soul, will produce that “store of goodness,” and this will make you more “fully trained.” Only then can you produce good fruit, for it will be Christ Himself producing the good fruit in and through you.

**So back to our original question: “Are you fully trained?” Do you daily keep your eyes on a Person, Jesus Himself? And if so, do you allow Him to act in your life and, through you, in the lives of others? If you cannot answer these questions with a confident “Yes,” then you might have more blindness in the spiritual life than you realize.**

### Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

When	Where	Masses Requested	Saints & Feasts
Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar 5.30pm	St. Peter’s		Adoration followed by Mass
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael’s St. Peter’s		<b>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Rosary at 10.40am followed by Mass
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar	<b>No Mass</b>	<b>Fr. Maria’s Day off</b>	Weekday in Ordinary Time
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar 9.30am	St. Peter’s		Weekday in Ordinary Time
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar 10.00am 6.30pm	St. Michael’s St. Peter’s		<b>Ash Wednesday</b>
Thu 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar 9.30am	St. Peter’s	Luke Brennan - RIP	
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar 11.00am	St. Peter’s		<b>Mass followed by Stations of the Cross and Soup lunch in the Parish Hall</b>

**SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION**  
 In St. Peter’s Saturday 5.30pm to 6.00pm  
 In St. Michael’s Wednesday 10.30am to 11.00am

**A Warm Welcome:** today is Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. 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.

# ASH WEDNESDAY



**Mass and Distribution of Ashes  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**St. Michael's Tetbury @ 10.00am  
St. Peter's Cirencester @ 6.30pm**

**"Repent, and believe in the Gospel"**

**"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you  
shall return."**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>**

Come together in faith and fellowship this Friday at **St. Peter's Church** for a spiritually enriching morning. **Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 AM**, followed by the **Stations of the Cross**, a powerful Lenten devotion reflecting on Christ's journey to Calvary.

Afterwards, join us in the **Parish Hall** for a warm and welcoming **Soup Lunch**- a perfect opportunity to share a meal, reflect, and connect with fellow parishioners.

All are welcome - come and be part of this meaningful time of prayer, reflection, and community!

### **TO PARISHIONERS AT ST. PETER'S WHO DONATE BY MONTHLY STANDING ORDER**

Due to the implementation of a new Parish Accounting and Gift Aid System, it is required that donations are paid directly into the parish bank account, rather than via a diocesan bank account. The Diocese will shortly be writing to all current Standing Order Donors asking them to complete a new Standing Order made payable directly to the parish and cancel their existing Standing Orders to the Diocese. This change will benefit the parish as they will receive your donation directly each month without a processing delay. This only applies to those that were set up prior to October 2024.

If you do not currently donate via standing order and would like to do so, then please speak to Fr. Maria after Mass or contact our Parish Finance Administrator, Michael Burnell on 01242 800242 or via email:  
[\*michael.burnell@cliftondiocese.com\*](mailto:michael.burnell@cliftondiocese.com)

**Your donations are extremely valuable to our parish, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing generosity and support.**

### **JOIN US FOR THE EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION AT RAU**

We warmly invite you to the Eucharistic Celebration at the **RAU** on **Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> March, at 7:00 PM**, and again on **Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May, at 7:00 PM**. With students away in April, these gatherings will be a wonderful opportunity to come together in prayer and community.

After each Mass, stay for **refreshments, including coffee, tea, and delicious cake** - because every good gathering deserves a sweet treat! Bring a friend, share in the joy, and make it an evening to remember.

**All are most welcome!**

## **SPECIAL ONE-DAY RETREAT FOR ALTAR SERVERS & CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES!**

Mark your calendars! 📅 On **Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**, from **9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, all **Altar Boys and Girls** and **Confirmation Candidates** are invited to a **powerful and enriching retreat** at **Browns Hill Monastery**.

This special day will be **animated by the Bernardine Sisters**, who will guide you through **prayer, reflection, and faith-filled activities** to deepen your spiritual journey. Expect a day of **inspiration, fellowship, and renewal** as we take time to grow closer to God.

**Let's set this day apart for God!**

See you there! **Come ready for a grace-filled experience.**

## **JUBILEE YEAR 2025**

Year of Hope Further to Pope Francis's announcement that 2025 will be the year of hope, please pick up a leaflet, if you did not collect one last weekend which has been produced by the Diocese. It contains Pope Francis's Jubilee Prayer, Bishop Bosco's message and other 'Jubilee information'. We hope to have details of how we can commemorate this year of Jubilee as a parish shortly.

## **RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

Celebrating the Father's Mercy, Bishop Bosco invites you to join him during the Season of Lent to celebrate the Liturgies of Reconciliation at five venues across the diocese. These venues are:

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March: Immaculate Conception, Stroud.**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March: St Peter, Swindon.**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March: St Gregory the Great, Cheltenham.**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April: St George, Taunton.

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> April: St. Francis, Nailsea.

*With each Liturgy starting at 7.00pm.*

There will be priests available at each venue to celebrate sacramental reconciliation. You will be most welcome at any of the venues.

### **FOR SALE / AUCTION**

A large ceramic pot and tray for the garden is no longer in use at St. Michael's. If anyone is interested in making an offer for it, please contact Elaine at the parish office 01666 502367 or 01285 652087. The pot and tray are in St. Michael's church hall for viewing. At one time it may have been a water feature, but we have not tested the electrics. Please feel free to inspect it.

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025**

**FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

**A SERVICE FOR EVERYONE**

**JOIN WITH CHURCHES TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE  
THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER.**

**STARTING AT 2.00PM IN THE COXWELL ROOM AT  
CIRENCESTER BAPTIST CHURCH WITH  
REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARDS.**

**AN OFFERING FOR THE WORK OF WORLD DAY OF  
PRAYER WILL BE TAKEN DURING THE SERVICE**

**TETBURY AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER**  
**LENTEN LUNCHES**



**COME OUT OF THE COLD, INTO THE WARM  
AND ENJOY SOME HOMEMADE SOUP**

**IN ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH HALL,  
SILVER STREET, TETBURY  
COMMENCING FRIDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025  
AT 12.30PM**

**SUGGESTED DONATION £5.00  
IN AID OF**



**Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development**

**AND**

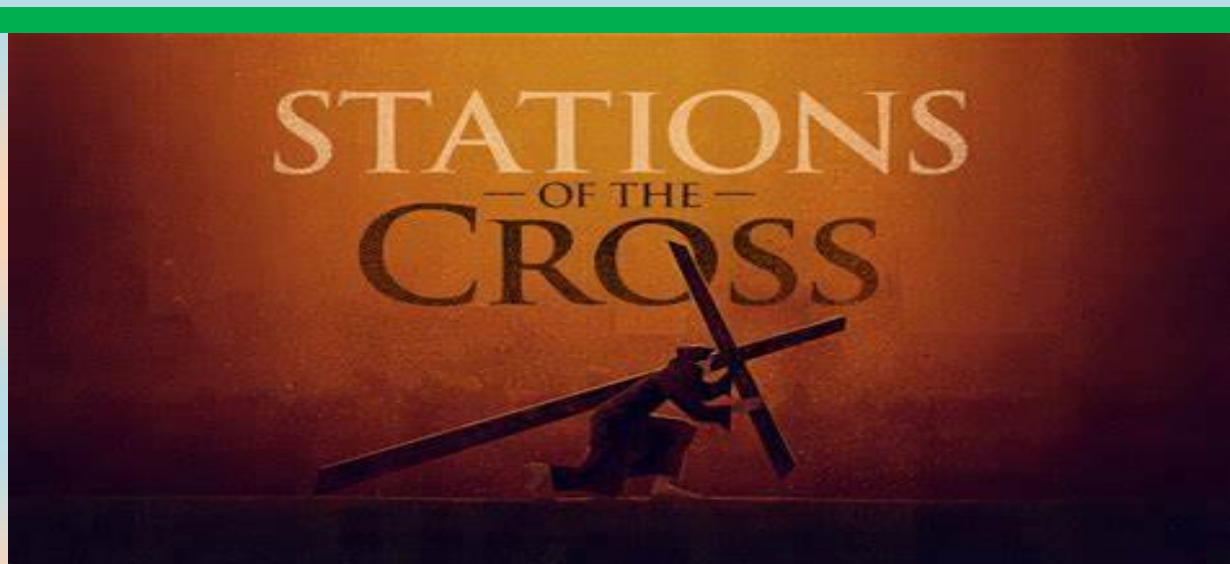


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**PLEASE COME AND JOIN US  
WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2025  
COOK ISLANDS**



**FRIDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2025 @ 2.00PM  
ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
TETBURY**



**LENT 2025**

**Please join us in St. Michael's Church,  
Tetbury for**



**Stations of the Cross**  
**After Wednesday morning Mass @**  
**10.30am commencing after Mass on**  
**Ash Wednesday**  
**5<sup>th</sup> March 2025**  
**Parishioners of St. Michael's and St.**  
**Peter's are welcome as part of**  
**our Lenten preparation**

**CAFOD**

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of February the PM announced a further cut in the International Aid budget. This will have a significant effect on the world's poorest and most vulnerable communities.

There are things you can do:

1. Please write to your MP and ask them to take action to ensure that the UK does not turn its back on those in most need.
2. Lent, Family Fast Day is on March 14<sup>th</sup>
3. I will do the Great Lent run/walk during Lent to help CAFOD to continue to support those in need around the world.

Thank you as always for your generous support for CAFOD.  
Mary Dignan, Rep. for CAFOD at St. Michael's Tetbury.

**Cardinal assures Pope Francis of 'fervent and heartfelt' prayers of the Catholic community**

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, President of the Bishops' Conference, has written to Pope Francis to assure him of the prayerful support of Catholics in England

and Wales.

The Holy Father remains in Gemelli Hospital in Rome, contending with pneumonia and a respiratory tract infection.

Full letter: [Cardinal assures Pope Francis of 'fervent and heartfelt' prayers of the Catholic community](#)



### **2025 Lourdes Pilgrimage - Dates confirmed!**

The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

As usual, we shall be part of the Catholic Association Pilgrimage. Tagney tours will be taking bookings for hotels and flights. Details are yet to be finalised, but we shall be travelling from Birmingham airport direct to Tarbes-Lourdes airport.

Please check our website for further details: [Lourdes | Clifton Diocese](#)



## Offertory Collection

### Last Week:

**St. Peter's:** £453.27 (incl. via the Dona Machine)  
Magazine Donation: £24.00  
Second Collection: £133.25  
Standing Order for Feb: £1,396.00  
**100 Club Winners: £30 – 119, £20 – 92, £10 – 198**

**St. Michael:** £190.05  
Magazine Donation: £5.00  
Second Collection: £43.00  
Standing Order for Feb: £825.00

**THANK YOU**