

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

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# **FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**



**Dear Friends,**

In Luke 15:1-3, 11-32, we read one of the most familiar stories of the Gospel, the parable of the prodigal son. This is a story of running away from home, turning around in repentance, and

being embraced by forgiving love. We meet a father who lets his son make his own choices and regretfully lets him go his way and welcomes him back, without conditions, on his return.

We meet a son who rejects the love of the family and chooses to abandon everything that the family represented for him, encountering personal failures and eventually turning around in repentance and seeking forgiveness and healing.

We meet another son who fails to understand the heart of his father and refuses to forgive and accept his repentant brother. This is a very moving and inspiring and challenging story.

This story is a “Gospel” in itself. It is the Gospel, the good news of God’s forgiving, healing, steadfast, unconditional and all-embracing love.

**Learn to recognize your own failures and sinfulness and return home to God!**

**Learn to forgive your brother from the heart!**

**Learn to trust in the unconditional, forgiving, all-embracing love of God in Jesus.**

**Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C)**

| When   | Where                            | Masses Requested             | Saints & Feasts  |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Mar 5.30pm                  | St. Peter’s                      | M.M.John Mudikunnel-RIP      | Adoration followed by Mass   |
| Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> Mar 9.00am<br>11.00am       | St. Michael’s<br>St. Peter’s     | James & Bridget Blaney - RIP | <b>Fourth Sunday of Lent</b><br>Rosary at 10.40am followed by Mass   |
| Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> Mar                         | <b>No Mass</b>                   | <b>Fr. Maria’s Day off</b>   | Weekday of Lent  |
| Tue 1 <sup>st</sup> April 9.30am                 | St. Peter’s                      | Catherine Terese McKAY - RIP | Weekday of Lent  |
| Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 10.00am                | St. Michael’s                    | Matthew Sheppard - RIP       | St. Francis of Paola   |
| Thu 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 9.30am                 | St. Peter’s                      | Hugo Shepherd – Int.         | Weekday of Lent  |
| Fri 4 <sup>th</sup> April 11.00am<br><br>12.30pm | St. Peter’s<br><br>St. Michael’s |                              | <b>Mass followed by Stations of the Cross and Soup lunch in the Parish Hall</b><br>Soup Lunch in the Parish Hall |

**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 30<sup>th</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.



## EASTER COLLECTION

Traditionally the Easter collection, along with that at Christmas, are the only collections given to the priest during the year and is an important way in which the parishes support the unsalaried priests of the Diocese. Donations can be made via the Dona machines. Alternatively, you can also write a cheque made payable to 'Fr. Mariaselvan Alexander', or you can also insert cash into any envelope or ones kept at the church porch for this purpose, then post it through Presbytery door, alternatively bring with you when you attend any of the services during the Holy Week or any other mass and put in the collection bags. Thank you

## SECOND COLLECTION

This Sunday we have a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection for the Priests' Retirement Fund for our diocese. This annual collection helps support our sick and retired priests. It allows us to help retired priests living on their own with rental costs and utility bills; it goes towards care home fees where needed; and enables us to help with medical costs. We currently pay out over £300,000 per year to support our sick and retired priests. Your generosity is much appreciated, and we do hope that you are able to make a generous donation.

## Prepare Your Heart for Easter – Reconciliation Service at St. Peter's

As we journey towards the joy of Easter, we are invited to pause, reflect, and renew our hearts. On **Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM**, St. Peter's will be holding a **special Reconciliation Service** - a beautiful opportunity to receive God's mercy and grace.

To ensure everyone has the chance to make confession, we will have **extra priest available**. Whether it has been a while or you regularly receive the Sacrament, this is the perfect time to experience the peace and renewal that comes with reconciliation.

Let us come together in faith, prepare our hearts, and embrace the true meaning of Easter. **All are welcome!**

## St. Michael's Mother's Day Cake sale

30<sup>th</sup> March calling all bakers to contribute to the Mother's Day cake sale. All varieties of baked goods are acceptable. Bread, scones, tea cakes, sponges etc.

Looking forward to your creations!

Proceeds for St. Michael's church hall, to improve storage areas.

## The Sound of Music Film Night

COME AND SING ALONG  
TO THE CLASSIC ...

# THE SOUND OF MUSIC SING-ALONG FILM NIGHT

AT ST PETER'S PARISH HALL  
SATURDAY, 05 APRIL 2025

RAFFLE, SNACKS  
& DRINKS WILL BE  
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30PM  
FILM STARTS AT 7PM  
£5 PER TICKET  
FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO  
TOWARDS REPAIRS NEEDED AT  
ST PETER'S PARISH HALL

To book tickets, visit  
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-cirencester/>

Thank you to all who have purchased tickets for The Sound of Music Film Night & Sing Along. We have now sold out of the tickets for this event. However, please stay tuned for upcoming information about the next parish event & fundraiser, a Murder Mystery & Dinner Evening, on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> June.



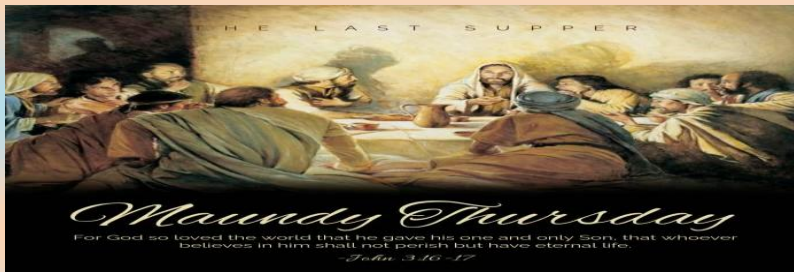
# Holy Week



Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April  
St. Michael's at 9.00am  
St. Peter's at 11.00am



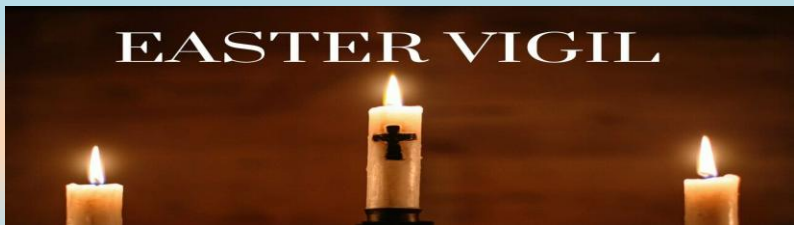
Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April  
Chrism Mass  
Clifton Cathedral at  
11.00am



Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April  
St. Peter's at 8.00pm



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April  
Stations of the Cross at  
10.00am  
St. Michael's at 3.00pm  
St. Peter's at 3.00pm



Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April  
St. Peter's at 8.00pm



Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> April  
St. Michael's at 9.00am  
St. Peter's at 11.00am

**Wish you all a Blessed Holy Week and a Blessed  
Easter**

### **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.

### **Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass**

Bishop Bosco is looking forward to celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May (12 noon) and is inviting all families to join him to acknowledge the joys and challenges of family life. In addition, we will celebrate those couples with significant anniversaries this year. If you are, or know of a couple, celebrating a special anniversary during 2025 please do let us know. You just need to send the names to our email address:

[adult.education@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com)

with an address so that a personal invitation can be sent out from the bishop, including the number of years celebrating.  
It is always a wonderful Mass at the Cathedral, and it is always good to see so many of you there.

ADULT EDUCATION AND EVANGELISATION



A FUTURE full of  
**HOPE**  
MARRIAGE & family life



*"Every encounter with Christ, who in sacraments gives us salvation, invites us to 'go' and communicate to others the salvation that we have been able to see, to touch, to encounter and to receive and which is truly credible because it is love."*

*Pope Francis, General Audience, 6 November 2013*

**"God has poured out his love into our hearts"**

*Romans 5:5*



Join the Bishop for Mass in the Cathedral as we celebrate the gift that is Marriage & Family Life on Saturday 17 May at 12noon.

All are welcome.

If you are celebrating a significant anniversary this year, newly married, or looking forward to marriage in 2025, then please contact us: [adult.education@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:adult.education@cliftondiocese.com) or 0117 902 5595.

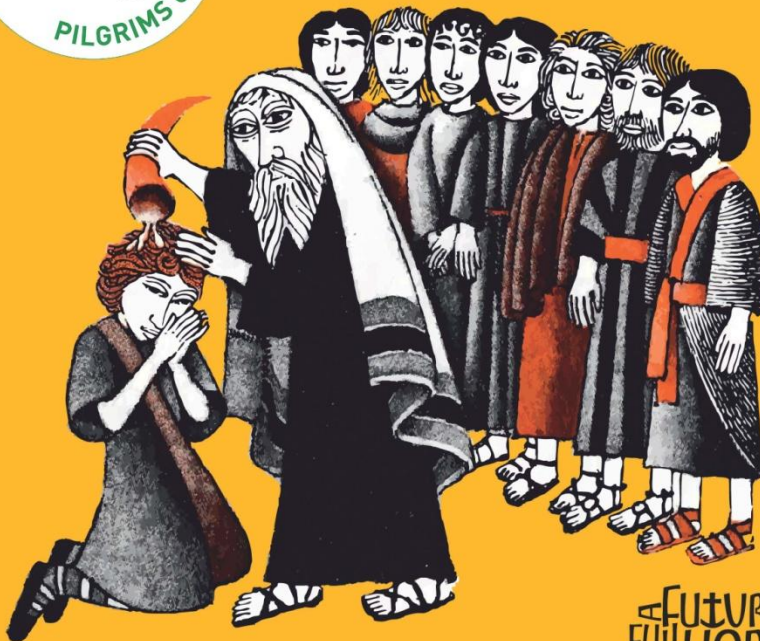
**CELEBRATING**  
**marriage & family life**





DEPARTMENT OF ADULT EDUCATION AND EVANGELISATION

EVERY ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST,  
WHO IN SACRAMENTS GIVES US SALVATION,  
INVITES US TO "GO"  
& COMMUNICATE TO OTHERS THE SALVATION  
THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SEE,  
TO TOUCH, TO ENCOUNTER & TO RECEIVE  
& WHICH IS TRULY CREDIBLE  
BECAUSE IT IS LOVE.



A FUTURE  
FULL OF  
HOPE  
CLIFTON DIOCESE

EMBRACING THE MERCY OF GOD



A FUTURE full of

HOPE



A Lent Retreat day  
to reflect upon and  
experience Reconciliation  
as the Sacrament of Hope.

Our speakers will be  
Fr Brendan Callaghan SJ  
and Margaret & Barry  
Mizen.


The day will provide  
the opportunity for  
conversation and  
reflection on the two  
presentations, finishing  
with a Service of  
Reconciliation and the  
opportunity for individual  
confession with priests  
from around the Diocese.

Saturday 5 April

St. Bernadette's  
Catholic Secondary  
School, Whitchurch

Refreshments from  
9.30am, please bring a  
packed lunch. Our day  
will end by 3.30pm.  
All are most welcome!

To register for the day  
please click on the  
Eventbrite link on the  
latest news of our  
diocesan website.

 CLIFTON  
DIOCESE  
cliftondiocese.com



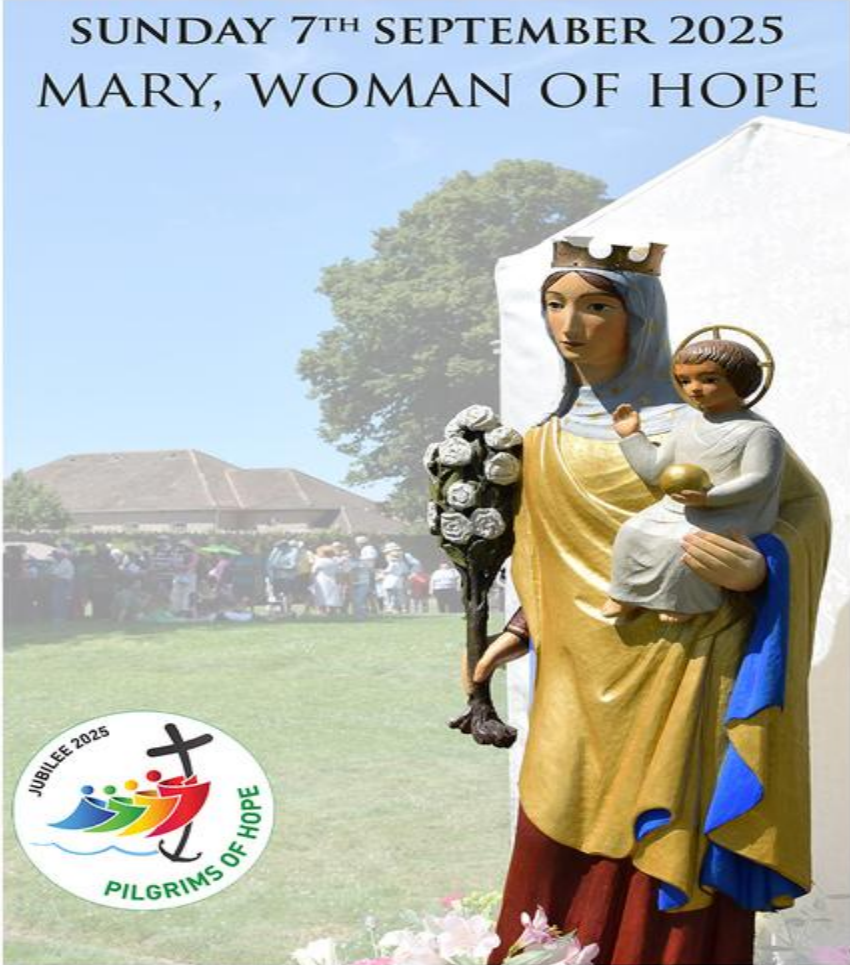


**Annual Pilgrimage to Glastonbury: Please note new date:  
Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

“Mary, Woman of Hope”

This year’s pilgrimage will take place on Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and will be centred around the theme of ‘Mary, Woman of Hope’, aligning with the Jubilee Year’s theme of “Pilgrims of Hope.”

As well as the usual Rosary Procession around Glastonbury town centre in the afternoon, there will be an additional Procession in the morning to celebrate the Jubilee from the Abbey grounds to the top of Glastonbury Tor. Full details at: [Glastonbury Pilgrimage | Clifton Diocese](http://Glastonbury Pilgrimage | Clifton Diocese)



**GLASTONBURY PILGRIMAGE**  
**SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025**  
**MARY, WOMAN OF HOPE**

**HOPE**  
A FUTURE full of  
GLASTONBURY pilgrimage

*2025 Programme*

**SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GLASTONBURY**

11.00am Rosary  
11.30am Exposition  
Adoration  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
2.30pm Benediction

**ABBEY GROUNDS**

11.00am - 12.30pm  
**JUBILEE PROCESSION**  
from the Abbey to the Tor


11.30am – 2.30pm  
**HEALING PRAYER**  
at the Chapel of Healing

1.45pm  
**ROSARY PROCESSION**  
from the Abbey through the town centre

3.00pm  
**MASS in the Abbey**  
celebrated by  
Bishop Bosco MacDonald

for more information:  
[glastonburyshrine.co.uk](http://glastonburyshrine.co.uk)

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE**

 **CLIFTON DIOCESE**  
[cliftondiocese.com](http://cliftondiocese.com)



## Joyful Union at St. Peter's

Love was in the air last Thursday as **Jethro James Murphy** and **Angelina Fernandes** exchanged their vows at **St. Peter's**, beginning their beautiful journey as husband and wife. Surrounded by family, friends, and the blessings of God, their special day was filled with love, faith, and joyful celebration.

We extend our heartiest congratulations to the newlyweds and pray that their married life is filled with love, laughter, and the choicest blessings from above. May their journey together be strengthened by faith and guided by God's grace.

Let us keep **Jethro and Angelina** in our prayers as they embark on this wonderful new chapter of their lives!



## Offertory Collection

### Last Week:

**St. Peter's:** £385.72 (incl. via the Dona Machine)

CAFOD: £25.00

Second Collection: £131.01

Lent soups: £63.70

**St. Michael:** £117.30

CAFOD: £10.00

Second Collection: £18.35

Lent soups: £66.30

# THANK YOU