

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

7, St. Peter's Road, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 1RE

Telephone: 01285652087

cirencester.stpeter@cliftondiocese.com

www.stpeterscirencester.org

Silver Street, Tetbury, Glos. GL8 8DH

Telephone: 01666502367

tetbury.stmichael@cliftondiocese.com

www.stmichaelstetbury.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Maria Selvan MSFS

maria.alexander@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Administrator: Elaine Wright

Parish Finance Administrator: Michael Burnell

michael.burnell@cliftondiocese.com



Dear Friends,

The season of Lent is slowly coming to its culmination as we prepare ourselves to celebrate the mysteries of the Easter Triduum. The Holy Week is a week of contrasts and paradoxes, and it is precisely in them that the grace and beauty of the Holy Week are to be found. Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem ends with betrayal and crucifixion; He arrives riding on a colt; ends by being dragged across the streets and made to carry a cross. He is welcomed by the crowd by throwing their cloaks on the ground and given the sent off by throwing insults at Him; His being acclaimed as a king ends with shouts of "**Crucify him.**" The worst in all these is not just the anonymous crowd, but even the disciples go from joining him in this triumphant procession into Jerusalem to arguing among themselves as to who is greatest among them, to denying any kind of knowledge about him, and finally to betraying him. Yet, it is in the midst of such contradictions, that we hear Jesus' words in John: "**It's accomplished.**" Herein lies a clear message of Easter: Not only that redemption is won bitterly, from hard, unyielding things -- that Christ wrestles salvation from unwilling flesh, bone and wood, but that it is the very redemption of our own world of betrayals, denials and crucifixions that is being constantly accomplished in Christ.

Again, the narrative that leads from Palm Sunday to Good Friday, a narrative that embraces wild,

misplaced enthusiasms, fractured loyalties and agony and death, is what Jesus knew and felt. He experienced the whole range of emotions that we feel: triumph, hope, doubt, rejection, even betrayal; and yet it is through this experience that He brought himself closer to us. Jesus faces the worst that we can be and the worst that can happen to us. Ours is a faith that does not direct us first to a book, or to a feeling; rather we are directed to encounter the one thing we have the best chance of recognising - a human being like ourselves. Through this Easter Week, we are being reminded that hope looks like this, faith looks like this, God looks like this. Hence, we are being invited to come and experience:

- (1) **The beauty of the Last Supper - the washing of the feet and the breaking and sharing of the Body of Christ with each other, as Jesus did with his disciples, in order to be a bread broken in humble service.**
- (2) **The brutality of Good Friday – the man who stood for “truth,” inviting all his anointed to stand guard against the powers of evil relentlessly, to stand upright in truth and commitment to goodness, in order to keep the world, awake to God.**
- (3) **Finally, the redemptive joy of the Easter Sunday – to an experience of new life and grace in the midst of death and brokenness.**

Wish you all a Grace-filled Easter Triduum!

Palm Sunday (Year C)

When	Where	Masses Requested	Saints & Feasts
Sat 12 th April 5.30pm	St. Peter's	Margaret, Derek Hooper and Kim Henderson - RIP	Adoration followed by Mass
Sun 13 th April 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael's St. Peter's		Palm Sunday Rosary at 10.40am followed by Mass
Mon 14 th April	No Mass	Fr. Maria's Day off	Monday of Holy Week
Tue 15 th April 9.30am	St. Peter's		Tuesday of Holy Week
Wed 16 th April 11.00am	Clifton Cathedral	Chrism Mass	Wednesday of Holy Week
Thu 17 th April 8.00pm	St. Peter's		Maundy Thursday
Fri 18 th April 10.00am 10.00am 3.00pm 3.00pm	St. Peter's St. Michael's St. Peter's St. Michael's		Stations of the Cross Stations of the Cross Solemn Liturgy of the Passion
Sat 19 th April 8.00pm	St. Peter's		Easter Vigil
Sun 20 th April 9.00am 11.00am	St. Michael's St. Peter's		Easter Sunday

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 13th April. 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.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection this weekend for the Easter Flowers.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION:

There will be the traditional retiring collection after the Good Friday Liturgy for the Holy Places and Christians in the Holy Land.

FEET WASHING

We would like 12 volunteers to take part in the ceremony of Feet Washing at the Maundy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper. Those wishing to join may write your name on the paper kept at the back of the Church. Thank you.

A WORD OF SINCERE THANKS

We are delighted to share with you that our first fundraising event, *The Sound of Music*, raised an impressive **£1,601.62**. On behalf of the parish, I extend my heartfelt thanks to the Fundraising Committee - Melissa, Patty, Anna, Olivia, Shaun, and Lina - for their meticulous planning and dedication in bringing the event to life.

I would also like to sincerely thank everyone who supported the committee and generously donated food and resources. Your cooperation and kindness made this event a great success.

Thank you all for your continued support.

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

PILGRIMAGE TO ST. ALDHELM'S MALMESBURY

On the occasion of the Jubilee year and the canonization of Blessed Carlo Acutis, we are thrilled to invite you to join us to (Stained Glass Window for Carlo Acutis) St. Aldhelm's, Malmesbury

The date and time are now confirmed: **Saturday, 26th April at 11:00 am, with a concelebrated Mass at St. Aldhelm's RC Church** (26 Cross Hayes, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BG), followed by refreshments at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School Hall, a 3-minute walk from the Church, at Holloway, Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9BB.

For parking, there is a car park at Cross Hayes, right in front of the church, though it can be busy. The long-stay car park (Malmesbury SN16 9JT) might be a better option.

All the three parishes (St. Peter's, St. Michael's and St. Aldhelm's) will take part in the liturgy, and everyone is welcome! To help us with catering, please sign up by writing your name on the paper kept at the back of the church, so we can get an idea of numbers. More details will follow.

Transport will be by your own cars, and carpooling is recommended—practical and a good way to enjoy some *company on the way!*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN CIRENCESTER (CTIC)

This year's Walk of Witness on Good Friday 18th April will start with a service in the Parish Church at 10.00a.m.

DIOCESAN SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME / JUNIOR CHOIR

DIRECTOR

Part-time – 21 hours per week (Term Time – 39 weeks)

Two-year Fixed Term Contract

This new role covers two linked aspects:

1. The Diocesan Director of the National Schools Singing Programme (NSSP) for Clifton Diocese.

2. The Cathedral Junior Choir Director at Clifton Cathedral in Bristol.

The NSSP scheme is a national scheme that seeks to encourage singing in schools in the UK. The scheme supports both Anglican cathedrals and Catholic state schools.

The successful applicant would be expected to initiate the NSSP in schools within the Diocese and be committed to both schools and choral music. Importantly, a willingness to travel to schools across our large diocese would be crucial. The aim is to introduce pupils in schools to formal sung church music, especially so that schools can join Diocesan events, at the Cathedral for example, and contribute to the singing of the Mass and other liturgies. More details: [Working for us | Clifton Diocese](#)



	<p>Sunday 13th April St. Michael's at 9.00am St. Peter's at 11.00am</p>
	<p>Wednesday 16th April Chrism Mass Clifton Cathedral at 11.00am</p>

	<p>Thursday 17th April St. Peter's at 8.00pm</p>
	<p>Friday 18th April Stations of the Cross at 10.00am St. Michael's at 3.00pm St. Peter's at 3.00pm</p>
	<p>Saturday 19th April St. Peter's at 8.00pm</p>
	<p>Sunday 20th April St. Michael's at 9.00am St. Peter's at 11.00am</p>

Wish you all a Blessed Holy Week and a Blessed Easter

Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass

Bishop Bosco is looking forward to celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 17th 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

together 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



"God has poured out his love into our hearts"
Romans 5:5



"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 which is truly credible because it is love."
Pope Francis, General Audience, 6 November 2013

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 or 0117 902 5595.

CELEBRATING marriage & family life



ENCOUNTER 2025

Encounter 2025 is a diocesan wide programme to equip and empower people to share their faith and be renewed in heart and mind. The first step is to deepen our understanding of the Holy Spirit and cultivate a closer, more intimate relationship with God - this is at the heart of what we hope to achieve between Easter and Pentecost. The programme will officially begin on Saturday, 3rd May, with a launch event at the Cathedral, open to all ages.

We are delighted to offer children's streams, ensuring families can fully

participate in this exciting journey together. Weekly sessions will follow on Wednesday evenings, live-streamed from the Cathedral, enabling everyone across the Diocese to join in, wherever they are. These will be recorded and available to view at a later date.

To find out more, please email the team at: pentecost@cliftondiocese.com



The poster features a sunset background over a beach. At the top left, a dark blue rounded rectangle contains the text 'ENCOUNTER 2025 LAUNCH EVENT' in white and yellow. To its right is a white dove with a yellow flame above it. Further right is a circular logo for 'JUBILEE 2025 PILGRIMS OF HOPE' with a colorful figure. Below this, the event details 'Clifton Cathedral | 3rd May | 9.30am - 4pm' are written in white. A central paragraph reads: 'Don't Forget the Holy Spirit Ministries presents *Encounter 2025* from Eastertide to Pentecost. Join us in an inspiring programme which will awaken your soul and empower your walk with Christ.' Three dark blue rounded rectangles on the left contain: 'With Guest Speaker Pippa Baker' (next to a circular photo of Pippa Baker), 'Family Friendly Event with Children and Youth Streams Available' (next to a circular photo of a group of people), and 'Scan QR Code to find out more and book a place' (next to a QR code). At the bottom right is the Clifton Diocese logo, which includes a shield with a cross and the text 'CLIFTON DIOCESE'.

THE JUBILEE ICON IN CLIFTON DIOCESE

To celebrate and commemorate the Jubilee Year 2025, Pilgrims of Hope, an icon was commissioned from iconographer Mulugeta Araya in Ethiopia, for the Catholic Church in England and Wales.

The icon interprets Jesus' teaching of healing and liberation in the Synagogue in Luke 4:16-21, which refers to Isaiah 61:1-2: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me..."

You are warmly invited to visit, meditate on and pray at the following Churches:

28th-30th April: St. John the Evangelist, Bath

1st-2nd May: St. Nicholas of Tolentino, Bristol

3rd May: Encounter 2025 event

4th-6th May: Holy Rood, Swindon

7th-9th May: The Shrine of Our Lady of Glastonbury

The Jubilee Icon webinar: to explore the meaning and symbolism of the Icon, you are warmly invited to the webinar. Please register here: [The Jubilee Icon in Clifton Diocese Tickets, Wed 23 Apr 2025 at 19:30 | Eventbrite](#)



Offertory Collection

Last Week:

St. Peter's: £417.64 (incl. via the Dona Machine)

Easter Flowers: £62.80

Lent soups: £36.50

The Sound of Music: £1601.62

St. Michael: £88.50

Easter Flowers: £47.00

Cake Sale: £10.00

CAFOD: £25.00

Lent soups: £332.50

THANK YOU
