



Holy Rood Catholic Church

2 Groundwell Road
Swindon SN1 2LU
Tel: 01793 522062

Clifton Diocese Registered Charity No: 1170168



Parish website: www.holyroodswindon.co.uk
 Deanery website: www.swindoncatholicdeanery.co.uk
 Diocesan website: www.cliftondiocese.com
 Parish email: swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com
 Youth Ministry email: hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com
 1st Holy Communion email: fhcg.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Priest: Canon John Cunningham: john.cunningham@cliftondiocese.com
 Assistant Priest: Fr Thomas Lawes: thomas.lawes@cliftondiocese.com
 Administrator: Mrs Anna Cummins – Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am – 1pm **Closed 2nd June**
Please contact the office by phone or email regarding administrative requests

Sunday 29th May 2022 - Year C Seventh Sunday of Easter

Confessions on Saturday 11.00am-11.30am & 4.30pm-5.00pm

Saturday 28 th May (Vigil)	6.15pm	Romuald & Zofia Kondratowicz (RIP)	
Sunday 29 th May	8.00am	Shubert & Cleema (Thanksgiving)	
	9.30am	Angela Vicente (Thanksgiving)	
	11.00am	Alice Freeman (RIP)	
	5.30pm	People of the Parish	
Monday 30 th May	8.00am	Lina & Vicente Crasto (Thanksgiving)	<i>Weekday of Easter</i>
	5.45pm	Wilson & Olinda Rebello (RIP)	
Tuesday 31 st May	8.00am	Nesbern A Ribeiro (Thanksgiving)	<i>Feast of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
	5.45pm	Vitorino Dias (Birthday)	
Wednesday 1 st June	8.00am	Clarina Desouza (RIP)(1 st Ann)	<i>Memorial of St Justin</i>
	5.45pm	Stanislaw Jocz (RIP)(22 nd Ann)	
Thursday 2 nd June	10.00am	Lysandra Marques (Intention)	<i>Weekday of Easter</i>
Friday 3 rd June	10.00am	Alexandre Barreto (RIP)	<i>Memorial of St Charles Lwanga & Companions</i>
Saturday 4 th June	8.00am	Margaret Murphy (RIP)(Ann)	<i>Weekday of Easter</i>
	6.15pm	Bronislaw Suchecki (RIP)	

This Week's Readings: Acts 7:55-60; Ps 96; Apoc 22:12-14,16-17,20; John 17:20-26

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to You; of You my heart has spoken: Seek His face; hide not Your face from me, alleluia.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: The Lord is King, most high above all the earth.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: Father, I pray that they may be one as We also are one, alleluia.

Next Week's Readings: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 103; 1Cor 12:3-7,12-13; John 20:19-23

NOTICES

Last Week's Collection: Main Collection £2104 Green Envelopes £72 Swindon Youth for Christ £830. Thank you for your generosity.

Returning to Mass on Pentecost Sunday: Bishops of England and Wales have decided that with effect from Pentecost Sunday the obligation to attend Sunday Mass and Holy Days of obligation returns. This means that watching Mass online no longer meets your obligation unless of course you are clinically vulnerable. Please follow the link or scroll down for the full message from the Bishops of England and Wales.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/spring-plenary-2022-resolution-returning-to-mass-at-pentecost/>

Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be commissioned and recommissioned at all Masses on Pentecost Sunday. If you have not been active in the readers ministry during the last 2 years and are now available to read at Mass, please contact Julia directly or through the parish office giving your present phone number and email address.

Five First Saturdays Devotion: Join us at Holy Rood on Saturday the 4th June at 2.30pm-4.00pm for devotional prayers and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Please follow the link for information of what is required for the devotion [Fatima](#)

Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate: Eric Holliday will be Ordained as a Deacon at Clifton Cathedral at 11:00 on Saturday 24th September. All are welcome. A coach will be available from Holy Rood - details to follow. Register your interest by emailing swindon.holyrood@cliftondio-cese.com or by leaving a message with the office on 522062. Please keep him in your prayers

Book Stall will be open in the parish room next weekend

Harbour Project: Thank you to those who made donations for The Harbour last weekend. The next collection will be on the fourth weekend of June.

Synod for a Synodal Church: Our dreams and aspirations for our parish and the Church will only become a reality if you, members of the Body of Christ, come forward and join in the Mission! Please let us know what you can help with by filling out a 'Volunteer expression of interest' form and returning it through the presbytery door or handing it over to Canon John or Fr. Thomas, before the end of June. Alternatively, you can email: swindon.holyrood@cliftondio-cese.com. Copies of the parish synod summary report are still available in the church.

Bishop Declan invites every parish to an evening liturgy at the Cathedral on June 22nd at 7pm when he will present Clifton's Synod report to each parish. To attend please book via the link: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/evening-liturgy-synod-tickets-327123734897>

Know Your Bible: Inviting youngsters and young adults between the age group of 15 to 35 to join the Bible study session led by Fr Joseph Edattu, on 5th June at Saint Peters Church 6pm to 9.30pm. Kindly register online <https://forms.gle/xrtZfNRSwNipr4jPS> or scan QR code from the poster.

On Fire! Conference: A two-day conference for Catholic adults to regenerate the spirit of evangelisation in the UK. Takes place at Durham University over the weekend of 9-11 September 2022. A great line-up of speakers, workshops and meals included in the conference fee; and reasonably priced accommodation also available at the university colleges. Bookings for rooms will close at the end of this month, so hurry and book your place today! For more details and to book, please visit <https://youngcatholicadultnetwork.uk/event/on-fire-conference> Transport will be organised from Clifton. Please contact Neil neilpeixoto@hotmail.co.uk or Rina rina@young-catholicadultnetwork.uk to register interest.

FUNERALS

We continue to remember all those who are unwell and those who have died, in our prayers.

Upcoming Funerals at Holy Rood:

Maria Fryszka (RIP) 01/06/22 at 12noon

Michael Warner (RIP) 15/06/22 at 12noon

Umberto Nicola Masi (RIP) 17/06/22 at 11.00am

Returning to Mass at Pentecost

Spring Plenary 2022 Resolution

An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales

This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity – “The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.” It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. “Virtual viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord’s Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops' Conference

Friday 6 May 2022



Reflection

In today's Gospel Jesus prays that those who believe in Him may all be one. St. Francis de Sales uses several images to express the bond of love that must bring us together as one.

It was a fervent, holy love that united the hearts and wills of the first Christians. Many grains of wheat are ground and kneaded together to make a single loaf of bread. In the loaf, the grains of wheat can no longer be separated individually. Many grapes are pressed together to make one wine. It is impossible to distinguish what wine came forth from which cluster of grapes. Similarly, the holy love of the first Christians was made from many hearts, yet their wills and hearts were all blended as one.

Together we constitute the image of one portrait, for we bear the image of God in ourselves. Our Lord came into this world to teach us what we need to do to preserve in ourselves this divine resemblance that unites us as children of God. Out of love, He gave us the means to reach the highest degree of union that He desired for us, namely to be made one with Him, as He and His Father are one.

In this life we may not be able to attain this divine union, but we must do all that lies in our power to strive towards it: the more we are united with God, the more we shall be united to one another. Jesus gave us only precepts that he himself first practiced. He loved us and showed us by his example how we ought to love our neighbour so that we might not have an excuse to think that it is impossible to love one another.

Like the first Christians, we must honour God's image in each of us and be open to one another in holy love, always strengthening this gentle bond of charity among us. Let us summon up the courage to live up to this divine semblance in us. In this way, we may experience and grow more deeply in God's love, the life of abundance that our Lord came to bring to all, so that we may be one.

(Adapted from the writings of St. Francis de Sales.)