



# Holy Rood Catholic Church

2 Groundwell Road  
Swindon SN1 2LU  
Tel: 01793 522062

Clifton Diocese Registered Charity No: 1170168



**Parish Priest:** Fr Lucas Rodrigues [lucas.rodrigues@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:lucas.rodrigues@cliftondiocese.com)

**Assistant Priest:** Fr Mark Furtado [mark.furtado@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:mark.furtado@cliftondiocese.com)

**Deacons:** Eric Holliday [eric.holliday@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:eric.holliday@cliftondiocese.com)

Jose Almeida

**Parish Administrator:** Mrs Anna Cummins [swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com)

**Office Hours:** Monday – Thursday 9am – 1pm

## Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Year A Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Confessions on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November: 11.00am-11.30am & 5.00pm-5.30pm**

<b>Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>6.15pm</b>	Paul Potheary & Margaret Thomas (RIP)	
<b>Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Joe & Jovita De Souza (Wedd Ann)	
	<b>9.30am</b>	Joanna D'Sousa (Thanksgiving)	
	<b>11.00am</b>	Patricia Crosby	
	<b>5.30pm</b>	People of the Parish	
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Sebastiao De Souza (RIP)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
<b>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Avito De Souza & Maria Magdalene Cardozo (RIP)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Antonio Sebastiao Fernandes (RIP)	<i>Solemnity of All Saints</i>
	<b>12noon</b>	Holy Souls	<i>Holyday of Obligation</i>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	Richard Tworek (RIP)(17 <sup>th</sup> Ann)	
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Deceased Fiore & Miele Families	<i>Commemoration of all the Faithful</i>
	<b>12noon</b>	Deceased Tworek, Modyn, Szatkowski, Kondrat & Sztajer Families	<i>Departed</i>
	<b>7.00pm</b>	Belita Fernandes (Birthday)	<i>(All Souls' Day)</i>
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Nora & Ernie Hewlett (RIP)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
	<b>5.45pm</b>	Amanda & Roque Potato (RIP)	
	<b>6.15pm</b>	Praise & Worship in Konkani	
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Deceased Jose Luis Demelo Family	<i>Memorial of</i>
	<b>6.15pm</b>	Aninha Fernandes (89 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)	<i>St Charles Borromeo</i>

**Sunday Readings: Ex 22:20-26; Ps 17; 1Thes 1:5-10; Matthew 22:34-40**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:** Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM:** I love you, Lord, my strength.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON:** We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

**Next Week's Readings: Mal 1:14-2:2,8-10; Ps 130; 1Thes 2:7-9,13; Matthew 23:1-12**

### Notices

**Collections: 22/10/23** Main Collection £3432.08 Green Envelopes £94.50 World Mission Sunday £ 1790.65

**Confession:** There will be an extra opportunity for Confession on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November from 6.15pm – 7.30pm. There will be a number of priests available to hear your Confession in English or Konkanni.

**Altar Servers Practice:** 5<sup>th</sup> November at 3pm-4.15pm.

**Welcomers/Stewards** Fr Lucas invites existing welcomers, and parishioners who would like to join this ministry, to help welcoming and managing the church during services, to a meeting in the Church on the 4th November at 10.00am

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

**Holyween:** We will be celebrating Holyween at St Peters Church, SN5 7ES on the 4th November from 1.45pm – 4.00pm. Join in the fun with Catechisis, Bible Quiz, Action Songs and come dressed as your favourite Saint (prizes to be won). All are welcome.

**Blessing of the Graves: Stratton St Margaret Cemetery**, 5th November at 12-1pm. **Wroughton Cemetery** 5th November at 12–12.30pm and **Whitworth Road Cemetery** 5th November at 2-3pm. **Kingsdown Cemetery** 12th November at 2-3pm.

There will also be blessing of the graves in Polish at **Kingsdown Cemetery** on Saturday 4th November at 3pm and **Whitworth Road Cemetery** on Sunday 5th November at 11.30am

**Praying for the Holy Souls in November:** During the whole month of November, the Catholic Church prays particularly for those who have died. In the first week of November, you can pray for the poor souls in Purgatory in a special way. From 12 noon on 1 November until midnight on 2 November one plenary indulgence (applicable only to the Holy Souls) may be gained by visiting a church or oratory and reciting the Our Father and the Creed there.

**1st - 8th November:** The faithful who visit a cemetery and pray for the dead, may gain a plenary indulgence (applicable only to the Holy Souls) once per day from 1st to 8th November.

**Conditions for gaining a plenary indulgence:** 1. Go to Confession (in the week preceding or the week following 1st November) 2. Receive Holy Communion (any day from 1st – 8th November) 3. Pray for the Pope's intentions (one Our Father, and Hail Mary or any other prayer of one's choice). Please pick up a leaflet from the porch for more information.

**Missio Red Boxes** at Holy Rood the APF treasurer will be in the parish room at all Masses over the weekend of 18th /19th November. Please bring your red box with you and your offering will be counted and the box returned at the end of Mass. If you need your box collected from your home, please contact Deacon Eric anytime.

**Youth Night Vigil** 24th November, 8.00pm – 10.00pm.

**Formation**, training & social event for committed adorers, Saturday 2nd December - morning & lunch: if you are currently a committed adorer or are considering joining (see leaflets in the porch to find out what's involved) you are warmly invited to join us for this event to learn more about the devotion of Adoration and to spend some social time with fellow adorers. More details to follow - but do save the date!

**Harbour Collection:** This weekend. Please leave your donations of biscuits, coffee and sugar in the black box in the main porch. We will deliver them to the Harbour so they can provide hospitality to the refugees and asylum seekers who come to them for help and support.

**Book Stall** open before all Masses this weekend and after Masses on Saturday evening and Sunday morning. Selling a large range of Christmas cards, and other items for advent and christmas in addition to bibles, prayer books, candles.

**Perpetual Adoration:** do you feel called to serve the parish and enrich your own prayer life via this devotion? Signing up is now open again via this [link](#). Once you have signed up, please wait for one of the team to get in touch with you before you start attending. When signing up, if possible, please give priority to these slots where adorers are currently needed: Monday to Thursday 7-8am; Tuesday 9-10am; Wednesday & 8-9pm; Thursdays 4-5pm, 6-7pm & 7-8pm; Fridays 9-10am. Please note that the coordinators are now aiming to recruit up to 4 people for each hour since this makes it easier to manage occasional absences and holidays.

**Marys Meals:** Children are bearing the brunt of the immense suffering caused by hunger. It is estimated that more than 35 million children are suffering from acute food insecurity in our world today. Please follow the link for more information and to donate [Stop Child Hunger | Mary's Meals UK \(marysmeals.org.uk\)](http://marysmeals.org.uk)

**Saying Goodbye (part of the Mariposa Trust)** are coming to Malmesbury Abbey on the 11th November at 4pm with a very special Baby loss remembrance and support service. Please follow the link [www.sayinggoodbye.org](http://www.sayinggoodbye.org) or see the poster in the porch for more information.

## Upcoming Funerals at Holy Rood

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

Jenny Lynn Fasulo (RIP) 10/11/23 at 11.00am

## Parish Contact Information

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1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion email: [fhcg.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:fhcg.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com)  
Synod Team email: [listening.holyrood@Cliftondiocese.com](mailto:listening.holyrood@Cliftondiocese.com)  
Parish website: [www.holyroodswindon.co.uk](http://www.holyroodswindon.co.uk)  
Diocesan website: [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com)

## Reflections

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us to love God and neighbour. These two commandments are the foundation of Christian Spirituality and permeate the writings of St. Francis de Sales: To show us more vividly how ardent God's desire is for our love, God demands that love from us in wonderful terms: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all of your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment." We often think that God is so great and we are so little that we are incapable of loving God. So as not to be discouraged and turn away from God's love, we are told that we are highly capable of loving God with all our strength, even after sin.

To love God above all else means we need to place God above all our idols, for our heart runs after many material things and spiritual consolations. As soon as we have obtained them, it seems that we have to do it all over again. Nothing can ever satisfy our heart. God wills that our heart not find a place of permanent rest in our idols. Then our heart is free to return to God from whom it comes. Bees can only rest upon flowers in bloom. So it is with our heart. Our heart finds rest solely in God's love. Why then do we detain our heart's desire for God's love, and pursue other loves?

The Commandment to love God is higher than the Commandment to love the neighbour. But our nature offers greater resistance to the love of neighbour. Yet, when we trust in our Saviour's love, we can be more courageous in loving the image of God that is frequently veiled from us in our neighbour. We come to recognize the resemblance of the Creator in each other. For, the pure love of God is to love what is of God in all creatures. Let us then imitate Jesus, who taught us more through His works than His words, how to love our God with all our heart, soul, and mind, and our neighbour as we do our own self.

(Adapted from the writings of St. Francis de Sales, especially *Treatise on the Love of God*).

