



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



Parish Priest: Fr Lucas Rodrigues lucas.rodrigues@cliftondiocese.com

Assistant Priest: Fr Mark Furtado mark.furtado@cliftondiocese.com

Deacons: Eric Holliday eric.holliday@cliftondiocese.com

Jose Almeida

Parish Administrator: Mrs Anna Cummins swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am – 1pm

Sunday 19th November 2023 - Year A Thirty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Confessions on Saturday 25th November: 11.00am-11.30am & 5.00pm-5.30pm

Saturday 18 th November	6.15pm	Clara Rodrigues (RIP)	
Sunday 19 th November	8.00am	People of the Parish	
	9.30am	Joanna Teresa D'Sousa (Thanksgiving)	
	11.00am	Alan Walsh (RIP)	
	5.30pm	Robert Frame (RIP)	
Monday 20 th November	8.00am	Jose De Sousa (Birthday)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
	9.00am	Konkani Mass – Fr Agnelo (Feast) Mass	
	7.00pm	Konkani Mass – Fr Agnelo (Feast) Mass	
Tuesday 21 st November	8.00am	Sophia Wambui (Good Health)	<i>Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
	12noon	Mario Trinci (Requiem Mass)	
Wednesday 22 nd November	5.45pm	Godwin Afonso (Birthday)	<i>Memorial of St Cecilia</i>
Thursday 23 rd November	9.15am	Benny Sullivan (RIP)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
Friday 24 th November	8.00am	Agostinho De Braganca & Madalena De Souza (Wedd Ann)	<i>Memorial of St Andrew Dung Lac and Companions</i>
	5.45pm	Sylvia D'Souza (RIP)	
	6.15pm	Praise & Worship in Konkani	
Saturday 25 th November	8.00am	Clive Siqueria (Birthday)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
	3.00pm	Konkani Mass	
	6.15pm	Romeo & Anita (Thanksgiving)	

Sunday Readings: Prv 31:10-13,19-20,30-31; Ps 127; 1Thes 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON: The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia! Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life. **Alleluia!**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON: To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Next Week's Readings: Ez 34:11-12,15-17; Ps 22; 1 Cor 15:20-26,28; Matthew 25:31-46

Notices

Collections: 12/11/23 Main Collection £3316.81 Green Envelopes £84.50 Cathedral Appeal £658.87
Second Collection next weekend is for the Catholic Youth.

World Day of the Poor: In 2017 Pope Francis established this Sunday, the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary time, for us to focus on the poor. This year we are asked to read and reflect on the phrase from Tobit 4:7: "Do not turn your face away from any of the poor."

Choirs and Musicians Commissioning: As we come to the end of this year in the Church's life and approach the Feast of St Cecilia, the Patron Saint of Musicians - especially of church musicians, it's a good opportunity to acknowledge the service of those in music ministry in our parish. All those involved will be commissioned / recommissioned at Masses this weekend.

Missio Red Boxes The APF treasurer will be in the parish room at all Masses this weekend. Please bring your red box with you and your offering will be counted and the box returned at the end of Mass.

Mill Hill Mission/ red box secretary, volunteer secretary needed: please speak to Deacon Eric in the parish room this weekend (or give your contact details to the office) if you would like to support the work of the Mill Hill missions.

Youth Night Vigil 24th November, 8.00pm – 10.00pm. For those in school yr 9 plus, teenagers, young adults, youth, and working youth.

St Francis Xavier: In preparation for the Feast of St Francis Xavier, Novena Masses will be held in the Church in English and Konkani, beginning on Saturday 25th November. Please see the notice board for more information.

Altar Servers Training: for MC's and all new servers on Sunday 26th November 2023, 3.00pm-4.15pm.

Harbour Project: Our monthly collection will take place next weekend, 25th/26th November. Donations of coffee, biscuits and sugar enable the Harbour to provide hospitality to the many asylum seekers and refugees who come to them for help and advice.

Perpetual Adoration Re-launch: do you feel called to serve the parish and enrich your own prayer life via this devotion? Signing up is now open again with new times available via this [link](#). Paper sign up sheets will be available in the porch on the first weekend in December 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 any slots where there are currently just 2 named adorers.* 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.

Formation, training & social event for committed adorers and those interested, Saturday 2nd December in Holy Rood Infant School Hall, Groundwell Road entrance. 10.30am – 1.15pm: if you are currently a committed adorer or are considering joining 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.

Old iPads needed for music group: might you have an old ipad which you no longer use, iOS 13 or above? If so, the 5.30 Laudate Music Group would love to have it since our musicians are now paper free. Please see one of the group after 5.30 Sunday Mass or leave your details with the office. Many thanks.

Christmas Jesse Tree collection: In recent years this parish has given generously to the Night Shelter on Queens Drive by having a collection of clothes, food essential and toiletries. Different groups have taken responsibility for this. Would you, your family or parish group like to take responsibility this year? If so please speak to Deacon Eric or give your contact details to the office.

Starting School? If you have a child born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020, then now is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from September 2024 onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of Swindon Borough Council. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you must also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of 15 January 2024.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal: Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Upcoming Funerals at Holy Rood

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

Patricia Barrett (RIP) 04/12/23 at 12noon

Parish Contact Information

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Reflections

In today's Gospel Jesus tells us that it is just as important and useful to serve Him faithfully with one talent or many. Here are some Salesian thoughts on using our talents:

What went wrong with the servant who buried his one talent? He wasted much time examining his ability to do his master's work. Focusing on his own lack of talents became an obstacle to faithfully perform the task asked of him. He was clinging to a false sense of security. He feared taking the risk that a spiritual journey demands.

In orienting our talents to serve God, we need to be patient with everyone, but first of all with ourselves. Like most of the saints, it will take us years to free ourselves of our selfish desires, including our desire for false security. Gradually though, we discard our disordered affections, and open ourselves to what God desires for us. We are then free to perform our everyday activities with the confidence that we are doing God's will. Our true security and happiness is in God — who provides us with all that is necessary to establish the reign of God in the midst of our daily tasks.

Jesus tells us that those with one talent are just as useful and important as those with many talents in doing God's work. The bees give us a good example. Some gather honey, some watch over the hive and others keep it clean. But they all eat the same honey. We too, the strong and the weak, work together in Christ. Faithful servants do all they know to be pleasing to God, who fills their emptiness. They reveal their divine potential for union with God through their everyday tasks. They recognize that God reigns in the midst of their daily activities. Happy are they who use their talents to establish God's love in their midst. God will never let them be unfruitful! Even if they do only a little for God, God will shower abundant blessings on them in this life and in the next.

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

