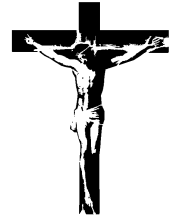


# Holy Rood Catholic Church

2 Groundwell Road  
Swindon SN1 2LU  
Tel: 01793 522062



Clifton Diocese Registered Charity No: 1170168  
Parish website: [www.holyroodswindon.co.uk](http://www.holyroodswindon.co.uk)

**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 [jose.almeida@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:jose.almeida@cliftondiocese.com)

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

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

## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 - Year B – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Confessions on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January: 11.00am-11.30am & 5.00pm-5.30pm

<b>Saturday Sunday</b>	<b>January 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6.15pm</b>	Evelyn Gomes (Thanksgiving)	
	<b>January 14<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	People of the Parish	
		<b>9.30am</b>	Thanksgiving to St Anthony	
		<b>11.00am</b>	Deceased Souls of 128 William St	
		<b>3.00pm</b>	Konkani Mass	
		<b>5.30pm</b>	Joaquim B Fernandes (RIP)(3 <sup>rd</sup> Ann)	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Mario Trinci (RIP) Mary Ronalds	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>January 16<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Lourenco Afonso (RIP)(3 <sup>rd</sup> Ann) Eduarde Mc Bride	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
		<b>9.00am</b>	Konkani Mass – Goan Chaplaincy	<i>Feast of St Joseph Vas</i>
		<b>7.00pm</b>	Konkani Mass – Goan Chaplaincy	<i>Feast of St Joseph Vas</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>January 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5.45pm</b>	Delia Flaherty (RIP) Teresa Ornelas	<i>Memorial of St Anthony</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>January 18<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9.15am</b>	Eileen Howley (RIP) Holy Souls	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>January 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Anarita D'Souza (80th Birthday)	<i>Memorial of St Wulstan</i>
		<b>5.45pm</b>	Assao Rodrigues (RIP)	
		<b>6.15pm</b>	Charismatic Prayers (Konkani)	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>January 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8.00am</b>	Abigail Fernandes e Mendonca (Thanksgiving)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
		<b>9.00am</b>	B&Q Thanksgiving Mass (Konkani)	
		<b>2.00pm</b>	Altar Server Training (New)	
		<b>3.00pm</b>	Altar Server Training (Experienced)	
		<b>6.15pm</b>	Maura Cleary (Good Health)	

### Sunday Readings: 1Sm 3:3-10,19; Ps 39; 1Cor 6:13-15,17-20; John 1:35-42

<b>ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:</b>	All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!
<b>RESPONSORIAL PSALM:</b>	Here I am, Lord! I come to do your will.
<b>GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:</b>	<b>Alleluia, alleluia!</b> Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. <b>Alleluia!</b>
<b>COMMUNION ANTIPHON:</b>	You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

**Next Week's Readings: Jon 3:1-5,10; Ps 24; 1Cor 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20**

## Notices

May God bless you for your generous donations to the Church.

Last weeks Collections: 07/01/23 Main Collection £3457.96 Green Envelopes £94.50.

**Registering at the Parish:** If you would like to register yourself and your family as parishioners belonging to Holy Rood Parish, please follow this link [REGISTER](#) and complete the registration form.

**Harbour Project Collection:** The next collection of coffee, biscuits and sugar will be next weekend. This enables the Harbour staff to provide hospitality for refugees who come to them for help and advice.

**Confirmation Meeting** at Holy Rood Church on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 12.30pm. For parents of candidates who are enrolled on the 2024 Confirmation Program.

**Parish Meeting** on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm after the evening Mass. All parishioners are welcome to attend this meeting. A call to share, listen and plan to parish pastoral life at Holy Rood. Also to know more about the Pilar Fathers, and the functioning of the Goan Chaplaincy at Holy Rood Church.

**Readers Meeting and Session,** for all who are involved in the ministry of Proclaiming the Word of God, to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> February at 6.15pm after the evening Mass. Would you like to Proclaim God's Word at Our Church? You are most welcome to attend this session.

**Lenten Retreat** All parishioners are welcome to attend our parish Lent Retreat which will be held on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024. More information will follow soon.

**Marriages:** If you are planning to get married in the UK, or overseas, and need the Parish Priest to prepare your paperwork, you need to book an appointment 6 months before the wedding to guarantee that your paperwork is completed in time.

**Baptisms** take place on Saturdays at 12.30pm. If you would like to have your baby/child baptised at Holy Rood Church, please contact the parish office to enrol yourself onto the Baptism Preparation Course.

**The Catenian Association** is an international group of Catholic men who meet every month for prayer and fellowship. They help young people and strengthen each other's faith. Each local group is called a Circle and there are many Circles in India mainly in Goa and around Delhi. Locally Swindon Circle meets on the first Wednesday of every month in the Village Inn Shaw Ridge. If you would like an invitation to attend a meeting and find out more about the Catenians please contact Stephen Lake email [sflake@outlook.com](mailto:sflake@outlook.com) or text/tel. 07768604957

**Swindon Night Shelter:** Thank you to the kind parishioners who donated gifts for our homeless and vulnerably housed brothers and sisters. We have supplied four "car boot full's" of food and clothing (and passed on £200) to the team at the night shelter. Their grateful thanks are recorded on their facebook page [\(3\) Facebook](#). Holy Rood Church thank the drivers and the confirmation candidates who helped with labels, packing and moving the gifts. God bless you!

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity:** 18th-25th January. Our Churches in Swindon centre have a special service on Tuesday 23rd January at 7pm at Central church. (Near the Library). See posters for more information.

**Walking Pilgrimage to Walsingham, Norfolk - a major shrine to Our Lady, Holy Week & Easter 2024** Would you like to join us this year? Marguerite and Deacon Eric Holliday from Holy Rood, Swindon are involved in leading the local Oxford group this year. Click [here](#) for more information. And to register please go to the [website](#) and search 'Oxford Leg'. Whether you are looking to deepen your faith, find fellowship with friends or just to take some time to think, we look forward to meeting you on Pilgrim Cross. You can also speak to Marguerite or Eric 07505 368 218.

### Upcoming Funerals at Holy Rood:

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

Elesboao De Souza (RIP) 24/01/24 at 10.00am (Konkani)

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Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Barrett: 07394 583185 [psr.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:psr.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com)

Youth Ministry Leader: Carol Torres: 07585227725 [hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com)

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)

Diocesan website: [www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com)

## Reflection

This Sunday we begin the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Our New Year's resolutions have already gone the route of ordinariness. Yet St. Francis de Sales tells us that we are called to live an ordinary life in an extraordinary way. One element of this extraordinary way is our good desires to live a holy life. Francis notes:

What other flowers do we have in our heart but good desires? As soon as good desires appear, we need to prune away all the dead and useless obstacles that stop us from living a holy life. Bad habits come galloping on horseback as they enter our heart but leave slowly on foot. In this enterprise we must have courage and patience. After striving to be holy for a while, we generally recognize that we are still subject to many imperfections. It is easy then to become dissatisfied, disturbed, and discouraged. Yet we must not let our heart give in to the temptation of giving up everything and going back to our old way of life.

On the other hand, there are those who think themselves perfect before they have scarcely begun. They try to fly without wings and are in great peril of a relapse on being too soon out of the physician's care. The work of growing holy ought not to end until God calls us to our eternal home. We must not be disturbed by our imperfections. Unless we see them, how can we transform them? Our victory does not consist in being unconscious of them but in recognizing them. We are always victorious if we continue to struggle to overcome them. We are never conquered unless we lose courage. Imperfections and venial sin cannot deprive us of spiritual life. Thus, we must have a good opinion of those we see practicing virtues imperfectly, since we know that the saints themselves have often practiced them in this manner.

(St. Francis de Sales, *Introduction to a Devout Life*).

