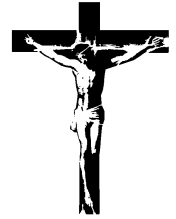


Holy Rood Catholic Church

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 jose.almeida@cliftondiocese.com

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

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am – 1pm

Sunday 21st January 2024 - Year B – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday Sunday	January 20 th	6.15pm	Maura Cleary (Good Health)	
	January 21 st	8.00am	Joaquim Fernandes E Mendonca & Sarita Fernandes (Thanks)	
		9.30am	Brenda, Belita & Lazaro (Thanks)	
		11.00am	Maria Stalker (RIP)	
		5.30pm	People of the Parish	
Monday	January 22 nd	8.00am	Souls of 34 Rayfield Grove Relatives of Margaret Tuczynski	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
Tuesday	January 23 rd	8.00am	Holy Souls Valanka Fernandes (Birthday)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
Wednesday	January 24 th	10.00am	Elesboao De Souza (RIP)	<i>Requiem Mass (Konkani) Memorial of St Francis de Sales</i>
		5.45pm	Barbara Hickey (RIP)(11 th Ann)	
Thursday	January 25 th	9.15am	Noah Rodrigues (Thanksgiving) Maria Aurora Gomes (RIP)	<i>Feast of the Conversion of St Paul</i>
Friday	January 26 th	8.00am	Benefactors of the Parish	<i>Memorial of St Timothy & St Titus</i>
		5.45pm	Holy Souls	
		6.15pm	Charismatic Prayers (Konkani)	
Saturday	January 27 th	8.00am	Maclynn Pires (21 st Birthday)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time Month Mind Mass (Konkani)</i> <i>(Konkani)</i>
		9.00am	Elesboao De Souza (RIP)	
		11.00am	Confessions until 11.30am	
		12.30pm	Baptism	
		3.00pm	Diego & Maria (Golden Wedd Ann)	
		5.00pm	Confessions until 5.30pm	
		6.15pm	Deceased Souls of 19 Wells House	

Sunday Readings: Jon 3:1-5,10; Ps 24; 1Cor 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	O Sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength & honour in his holy place.
RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	Lord, make me know your ways.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:	Alleluia, alleluia! The kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News. Alleluia!
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

Next Week's Readings: Dt 18:15-20; Ps 94; 1Cor 7:32-35; Mark 1:21-28

Notices

May God bless you for your generous donations to the Church last week, **14/01/24**, which amounted to:
Main Collection **£3277.08** - Green Envelopes **£114.50** - December Card Donations **£3,670.69**

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.

Book Stall: This weekend. From 5pm -6.10pm and after 6.15pm Mass and the Sunday morning Masses. Books of prayer and reflections for Lent available. Cash sales only.

Harbour Project Collection: The next collection of coffee, biscuits and sugar is this weekend. This enables the Harbour staff to provide hospitality for refugees who come to them for help and advice. Please leave your donations in the box in the main porch.

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

Tea and Chat: You are welcome to come to the parish room from 2-3.30 pm on Monday 29th January to meet other parishioners.

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

Parish Meeting on Wednesday 7th 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 Pillar 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 21st 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 2nd 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 or text/tel. 07768604957

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.

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Parish email: swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com

Safeguarding Officer: Ruth Barrett: 07394 583185 psr.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com

Youth Ministry Leader: Carol Torres: 07585227725 hrym.swindon@cliftondiocese.com

1st Holy Communion email: fhcg.swindon.holyrood@cliftondiocese.com

Synod Team email: listening.holyrood@Cliftondiocese.com

Diocesan website: www.cliftondiocese.com

Reflection

In today's Gospel we experience Jesus preaching "the kingdom of God is at hand," as He invites several fishermen to come after him. St. Francis de Sales notes: God has many ways of calling men and women to service. God uses preaching more than any other form to convert individuals. Through the ministry of preaching God has touched the hearts of many people, and called them to special vocations. Preaching is like a divine seed cast into the ground of our hearts by the words of preachers.

God touches others while they are reading good books. Still others when they hear the holy words of the Gospel while being read. There are others who were disturbed by the misfortunes, troubles and sufferings that befell them in the world. Still, even if God is all-powerful and can do anything, God does not want to take away the gift of freedom given to us. Whenever God calls us to service, He wants us to come willingly and not out of force or compulsion.

Nonetheless, even if some people come to God's service because they are disgusted with the world or because some sorrows and afflictions trouble them, they can still give themselves to God freely and willingly. Our sufficiency is from our Redeemer who taught us how to be fit ministers and capable of doing God's will. One who abides in Christ partakes of his divine Spirit, who is in the midst of our hearts as a living fountain. Through the love the Holy Spirit pours into our hearts, the frail reeds of our actions are turned to gold. Our hearts, flooded with the love of the Holy Spirit, produce sacred actions that tend towards immortal glory and carry us to it.

(Adapted from the writings of St. Francis de Sales, especially his *Spiritual Conferences*, I. Carneiro, Ed.)

