



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 7th January 2024 - Year B – Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Confessions on Saturday 13th January: 11.00am-11.30am & 5.00pm-5.30pm

Saturday Sunday	January 6 th	6.15pm	Maura Cleary (Good Health))	
	January 7 th	8.00am	Paddy Brennan (RIP)	
		9.30am	Giovanni Maddena (RIP)(16 th Ann)	
		11.00am	People of the Parish	
		12.30pm	Parents Meeting – First Holy Communion	
		5.30pm	Barbara Teresa Polewka (RIP)	
Monday	January 8 th	8.00am	Gail Rodrigues (RIP) Menino Paulo Fernandes (Thanks)	<i>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</i>
		4.00pm	Ruth Abbot (RIP)	<i>Reception into Church</i>
Tuesday	January 9 th	8.00am	Liria Pereira (RIP) Jacinto Fernandes (RIP)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10.30am	Ruth Abbot (RIP)	<i>Funeral Service</i>
Wednesday	January 10 th	5.45pm	Milton Fernandes (Thanksgiving) Ronald Denzil Demelo (Thanks)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
Thursday	January 11 th	9.15am	Holy Souls William & Antonietta (Wedd Ann)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
		4.00pm	Lourenca de Melo (RIP)	<i>Reception into Church</i>
Friday	January 12 th	8.00am	Angelo Bozzuto (RIP)	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
		11.00am	Lourenca de Melo (RIP)	<i>Requiem Mass in Konkani</i>
		5.45pm	Maria Fatima De Souza & Benedito Pinheiro (RIP)	
		6.15pm	Konkani Chrasmatic Prayers	
Saturday	January 13 th	8.00am	Souls of 34 Rayfield Grove	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12.30pm	Baptism	
		1.30pm	Baptism	
		6.15pm	Evelyn Gomes (Thanksgiving)	

Sunday Readings: Is 60:1-6; Ps 71; Eph 3:2-3,5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON:	Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.
RESPONSORIAL PSALM:	All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:	Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!
COMMUNION ANTIPHON:	We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

Next Week's Readings: 1Sm 3:3-10,19; Ps 39; 1Cor 6:13-15,17-20; John 1:35-42

Notices

<p>Collections: 24/12/23 Main Collection £1802.80 Green Envelopes £57.50 31/12/23 Main Collection £3482.89 Green Envelopes £125.50</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>Crib: Our beautiful Crib will be removed from the church on the 8th January.</p>
<p>Catholic Women's League: Meeting next Wednesday 10th January 12.30 - 2.30pm in the Parish Room.</p>
<p>Cake and Bake Sale after the 9:30am Mass on the 7th January. Run by the Confirmation candidates for charity. Anyone who wishes to donate any cakes or any bakes for the sale are very welcome to bring them before Mass to the parish room.</p>
<p>Altar Servers Training: Saturday 20th January at 2.00pm – 3.00pm for servers who have recently joined this ministry and at 3.00pm – 3.45pm for experienced servers.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>On Friday 12th January, the eve of the 27th anniversary of the founding of The Good Counsel Network, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God's grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support. www.GoodCounselNetwork.com</p>
<p>Pilgrim Cross is an Easter pilgrimage for all ages that walks every year to Walsingham - an ancient site of pilgrimage in Norfolk. We live and walk in community for one, three or seven days before spending an amazing weekend celebrating Easter in the ruins of Walsingham Abbey. Please click here for an expression of interest form and some FAQ's for Oxford leg.</p>
<p>Upcoming Funerals at Holy Rood: We continue to remember all those who are unwell, and those who have died, in our prayers.</p>

Parish Contact Information

<p>Parish Priest: Fr Lucas Rodrigues: lucas.rodrigues@cliftondiocese.com Assistant Priest: Fr Mark Furtado: mark.furtado@cliftondiocese.com Deacon: Eric Holliday: eric.holliday@cliftondiocese.com 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</p>

Reflection

Today we experience the infant Jesus being visited by Magi, who carried news of God's presence in Jesus back to their foreign lands. St. Francis de Sales notes:

The Magi from the East came to find pleasure, not in the city of Jerusalem, but in a small cave where they found God humanised in the Child lying in a manger. Like the Magi, let us come close to the divine crib and listen to our Saviour as he speaks to us. Let us follow the many inspirations and affections that arouse us to God's love.

Some people think that a certain art is needed to grow in holy love. There is no art to loving God. We need only to practice pleasing God in the simplicity of our heart, without trouble or anxiety. Holy simplicity leaves the result of its actions to Divine Providence.

The single and only aim of simplicity is the pure love of God. Simplicity, contrary to deceit, requires that our interior self and our exterior actions be in conformity with one another.

We are called to labour faithfully in the exercise of divine love, without shame, sadness or anxiety. Embarked then, in the exercise of our daily tasks, carried along by the wind of our simple and loving confidence in God, we shall make the greatest progress. Without stirring from our place then, we shall draw nearer and nearer to home, as do those who sail the high seas with favourable winds. Every event and variety of accident that may happen will be received calmly and peacefully. Even though our journey through life is full of dangers, let us be confident in following the Star of Bethlehem, who desires to fill us with His love. In this way, we'll be like the Magi who confidently followed the Star of Bethlehem, Who leads us to eternal glory.

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

