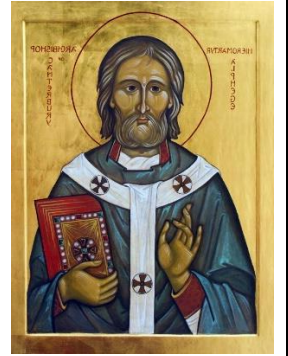


**Parish of
Our Lady and St Alphege, Bath
together with
St Joseph's, Peasedown St John**

Parish Priest: Father Alex McAllister SDS
The Presbytery, Oldfield Lane, Bath BA2 3NR
01225 424894 / 07788 415200
bath.stalphege@cliftondiocese.com
www.saintalphege.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Alice Fouad Office: Behind Parish Hall



Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord

25th December 2022

**The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son
and they will call him Emmanuel**

Mass Times at St Alphege

or St Joseph's, Peasedown if indicated

Sat 24th	Christmas Eve	
	10.00	Anne Creevy
	18.30	Preceded by Carols at 18.00 (Peasedown)
	22.00	Preceded by Carols at 21.30
Sun 25th	Christmas Day	
	9.00	(Peasedown)
	11.00	Those who died during the year
		NB No Evening Mass on Christmas Day
Mon 26th	St Stephen	
	10.00	Maureen Dyson
Tue 27th	St John	
	10.00	Maureen Dyson
	11.00	(Peasedown)
Wed 28th	Holy Innocents	
		No Mass
Thu 29th	St Thomas á Becket	
	18.00	McSorley family
Fri 30th	Holy Family	
	12.00	Connor McKee +
Sat 31st	Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas	
	10.00	Agnieszka Duda & family
Sun 1st	Mary, the Mother of God	
	9.00	(Peasedown)
	11.00	Sara Timothy
	18.00	Nesbit family



The Nativity, *Fra Angelico 1439-43*

When the Song of the Angels is Stilled

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among brothers,
To make music in the heart.

Howard Thurman

Sunday Coffee

Coffee is served in the Parish Hall after 11.00 Sunday mass
Confessions..... Saturday 10.30 and at Call
Choir Practice..... 19.00 Wednesdays in Hall
Psalter Week 1
Sunday Readings:..... Year A
Weekday Readings: Year 1
Baptisms & Marriages: Contact the Parish Priest
Mothers Prayer Group..... Tuesdays 9.00-9:45 Term Time
Diocesan Prayer League Holy Rood, Swindon

Cycle of Prayer: Ordinary Time: Advent/Christmas
Openness to the Word of God, Migrants and Refugees,
Expectant Mothers



First Communion

We will be beginning classes for our First Communion candidates on 22nd January 2023 directly after Sunday Mass. Please fill in a form available at the back of the Church and return to Father Alex. Candidates should be in Year 3 or above. The First Communion Mass itself will take place on Sunday 14th May 2023.

**How many observe Christ's birthday!
How few, his precepts!**

Benjamin Franklin

Diocese of Clifton Yearbook

The Diocesan Yearbook is now available at the back of the Church. Copies cost £6 each.

St Alphege Cards

Cards with a picture of our St Alphege icon are available at the back of the Church @ £1.50.

Converting to Catholicism

In the New Year Father Alex will be starting classes for those wishing to become Catholics. These classes will lead up to reception into the Church at Easter. If you are interested, please speak to him so that a suitable time can be arranged.

BC – AD

This was the moment when Before
Turned into After, and the future's
Uninvented timekeepers presented arms.

This was the moment when nothing
Happened. Only dull peace
Sprawled boringly over the earth.

This was the moment when even energetic Romans
Could find nothing better to do
Than counting heads in remote provinces.

And this was the moment
When a few farm workers and three
Members of an obscure Persian sect
Walked haphazard by starlight straight
Into the kingdom of heaven.

UA Fanthorpe

The Beacons

Thank you so much to all of you who came to our Christmas community gathering. You raised over £100 for the SVP and it was a great atmosphere. Please come and join us for our New Year celebration on Monday 16th January. We will be raising money for the Bath branch of the British Heart Foundation and welcoming the new year in with a glass of wine as well as nibbles and cake.

**Christmas Day
is a day of joy and charity
May God make you very rich in both**

Forthcoming Dates

Epiphany 6th January
Beacons 16th January
First Communion Classes start 22nd January
Talk on St Thomas More 27th January

St Thomas More



Dr Giles Mercer will be giving a talk entitled 'Why was St Thomas More Executed?' in the Parish Hall at 19.00 on Friday 27th January. Refreshments before and after. He recently gave this talk to Winchester Catholic History Society where it was very well received.

Sunday Coffee

More volunteers are needed to help prepare the tea and coffee after 11.00 Sunday mass. Please let Father Alex know if you can help.

Little Church

There will be no Little Church over Christmas and New Year, it will resume on Sunday 8th January.

Thanks

A big thanks to all our servers, choir members, cleaners, flower arrangers, Christmas Tree erectors, Crib organisers and everyone else who has contributed to getting the Church ready for the Christmas liturgies. Your work is appreciated by us all.

Recently Deceased

Mrs Sheila May Mullins who died on 11th December, aged 88 years of Hillside View, Peasedown St. John. Funeral at Haycombe Crematorium, on Wednesday 4th January at 11.30.

Mr William Samuel Hewlett of Sladebrook Road, Bath who died on 11th December aged 94 years. Requiem Mass at 10.00 in St Alphege on Thursday 5th January, followed by burial in Honiton, Devon.

**Exchanging gifts on Christmas day,
Remembering our brother,
Reflects our recognition of
The Christ Child in each other!**

Christmas Crib

All gifts at the Crib are given to the Clifton Children's Society. Please support the important work of our adoption agency as generously as you can.

Christmas Offerings

The Christmas Offertory Collection customarily goes to the priest and forms a considerable portion of his annual income. Father Alex thanks you for your generosity and assures you and your families of a warm remembrance in his prayers at this blessed time. Envelopes are available at the back of the Church.

Weekly Collections

Last Week: Plate £294.14, Gift Aid Envelopes £87

Upcoming Second Collections

8th January: Friends of the Holy Land, 22nd January: SPUC, 5th March CAFOD

