

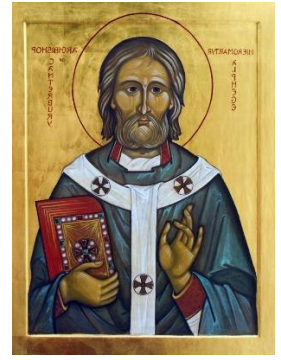


**Parish of  
Our Lady and St Alphege, Bath  
together with  
St Joseph's, Peasedown St John**

**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**

**Hall Bookings: Isabella Lo (Parish email above)**



**Twenty third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**10th September 2023**

*Where two or three gather in my name I am there*

**Mass Times at St Alphege**

or St Joseph's, Peasedown if indicated

<b>Sat 9th</b>	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.00	
<b>Sun 10th</b>	<b>Twenty third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
	9.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
	11.00	Canon Michael English
	18.00	Helen O'Toole +
<b>Mon 11th</b>	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.00	
<b>Tue 12th</b>	<b>Feria</b>	
	10.00	
	11.00	(Peasedown)
<b>Wed 13th</b>	<b>St John Chrysostom</b>	
	No Mass	
<b>Thu 14th</b>	<b>Exaltation of the Cross</b>	
	10.00	School Mass
	18.00	
<b>Fri 15th</b>	<b>Our Lady of Sorrows</b>	
	12.00	
<b>Sat 16th</b>	<b>SS Cornelius &amp; Cyprian</b>	
	10.00	Charlotte Cummins (First Vows)
	13.00	Mass in Shona Language -Josephine Zindi
<b>Sun 17th</b>	<b>Twenty fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
	9.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
	11.00	David Lintern +
	18.00	



**Prayer**

In the Gospel this Sunday Jesus says, 'If two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.' In these words, Jesus gives us a powerful encouragement to use intercessory prayer.

The Lord himself is telling us that we ought to ask God directly for the things we need. Maybe we might start out by asking for material needs but anyone truly committed to the spiritual life will surely move on from these sorts of prayers to others more outwardly directed.

We move on and in time we find ourselves asking God for other things such as protection for our loved ones or for peace in the home or for the welfare of others or that the dead may rest in peace. We find ourselves too praying for more general things such as peace in the world or food for the hungry. So, while we are young, we might pray mostly for ourselves and our own needs but as we get more mature, we focus more and more on the needs of others.

However, we should take Christ's words at face value and pray for absolutely anything we need whether it be for ourselves or for others. God may not grant all that we ask at the particular time we want it, but what we will be doing is entering into a dialogue with him. And this is the most important thing of all. Every Christian ought to be in constant dialogue with the Lord. As we go about our daily duties we should be continually thinking of God and asking him questions and telling him of our needs. This is the very best way to come close to him.

*Father Alex*

**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 ..... 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.Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary,  
 Charlton Kings

**Cycle of Prayer: Ordinary Time Summer**

A Deeper Understanding between Christians and Jews,  
 Those who suffer Persecution, Oppression, and Denial of  
 Human Rights, Europe, Human Life, Seafarers



The next Parish Quiz Evening is on Friday 29th September at 19.00 in the Hall. Teams are limited to five persons (two children = one person) with twelve tables in total. Entry £3 per adult and £1.50 per child. Prizes: 1st £50, 2nd £25. Drinks and light refreshments available. Donations of raffle prizes most welcome. Sign the list at the back of the Church to register your team. Test your wits and have a fun evening.

**You'll never love life  
unless you love people**

**SPUC Meeting in Bath**

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is holding a Campaign Meeting to help stop abortion in the UK. The meeting is on Wednesday 27th September, at 19.00 in St John's Church Hall. The focus will be on current campaigns including the issue of abortion coercion. SPUC is hoping to start a local branch in Bath. Please come along to find out more. For information contact Katherine 01892 542616 or [katherinehampton@spuc.org.uk](mailto:katherinehampton@spuc.org.uk)

**Free Money for your Church!**

Anyone who is a UK Taxpayer can Gift Aid their contribution and secure an additional 25% for the Church. This costs you nothing extra! The easiest way to do this is by setting up a standing order to pay directly into the St Alphege bank account. If you do not wish to set up a standing order, or commit to a regular weekly or monthly donation, then you can use the Gift Aid envelope system. Numbered Gift Aid envelopes can be put into the collection whenever you attend church, but do not have to contain the same amount, or be put in the collection, every week e.g. if you are away or on holiday etc. This gives you complete flexibility over the amount and timing of your donation. All donations are treated in strictest confidence. For the truly Ad Hoc donation there are envelopes at the back of the church which allow you to Gift Aid one off contributions. Please do use the Gift Aid system if you are eligible to do so – it really will bring in much needed income for the Church – for which we are very grateful. If you wish to pursue either of these options please contact Maureen Dyson, either via Father Alex or by email at [GA.bath.stalphege@cliffondiocese.com](mailto:GA.bath.stalphege@cliffondiocese.com).

**School Mass**

The School Mass for the beginning of the new academic year will be at 10.00 on Thursday 14th September.

**Shona Mass**

There will be a Mass for the Zimbabwean people in the Shona language at 13.00 on Saturday 16th September.

**We are only learning to know God when  
we realise that he cannot be known**

*St Thomas Aquinas*

**Forthcoming Dates**

Quiz .....	29th September
Diocesan Day .....	7th October
OT Talk Abraham .....	27th October
OT Talk Moses .....	17th November
OT Talk David .....	1st December
OT Talk Elijah .....	8th December

**Autumn Talks**

The two series of talks that we have held on Matthew in Autumn 2022 and on the Elizabethan Jesuits in Spring 2023 have both proved to be successful so we would like to continue with another four talks in the Autumn. This time the theme will be 'Important Figures from the Old Testament'. A lot of Catholics don't know too much about the Old Testament so this will be an opportunity for us all to become a bit more familiar with the Hebrew Scriptures. These are the dates, topics and speakers: 20th October, Abraham by Monsignor Jeremy Rigden; 17th November, Moses by Father Alex McAllister; 1st December, David by Anne Barrett and 8th December, Elijah by Dominic Bailey

**New Gift Aid Envelopes.**

The new numbered gift aid envelopes, which come into use at the beginning of October, are available from the table at the back of the church. You should have the same number as last year. Any problem please see Maureen Dyson.

**Sister Pontiana**

Sister Pontiana wishes to express her heartfelt thanks to all those who gave so generously to her recent second collection. She is very grateful and will be using all the money she has been given in support of the projects which bring such hope to children and the poor and disadvantaged of her community. Her Sisters in Christ & herself will pray for you. God Bless you all.

**St Joseph, Peasedown Talk**

On Friday 15th September at 18.30 there will be a Chinese Supper then a talk by Anne Barrett on a renowned Jesuit missionary to China Matteo Ricci. Anne is studying his life as part of a University course and has given the talk elsewhere. Matteo Ricci was hugely talented and his legacy in world history is enormous, even if too often overlooked or underappreciated. Beforehand we can enjoy a Chinese supper together. Volunteers are welcome to make Chinese dishes to share, and the rice dishes and refreshments will be bought in. Donations welcomed for parish charities. Information from [cbyork@btinternet.com](mailto:cbyork@btinternet.com)

**No one can be perfectly free till all are free;  
no one can be perfectly moral till all are moral;  
no one can be perfectly happy till all are happy**

*Herbert Spencer*

**Accommodation Required**

Two responsible Ukrainian ladies are looking for a two-bedroom flat. If you know of one, please inform Frances Rimmer or Father Alex.

**Heritage Open Days**

The Church will be participating once again in the annual Heritage Open Days. The Church will be open all day on Saturday 9th, Thursday 14th and Saturday 16th September. Dr Giles Mercer will give a guided tour of the Church at 14.30 on those days. All welcome. The Eyre Chapel at Perrymead Cemetery is also open 9th & 10th September from 11.00 to 16.00.

**Upcoming Special Collections**

Home Missions 17th September, World Missions 22nd October

**Sunday Collection**

Last week loose: £292.16, Gift Aid Envelopes £67

**Readers**

11.00: Veritas n/w Karen, 18.00; Duncan n/w Dominic