



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

Parish Priest: Monsignor Robert Corrigan STB MTh

Robert.corrigan@cliftondiocese.com

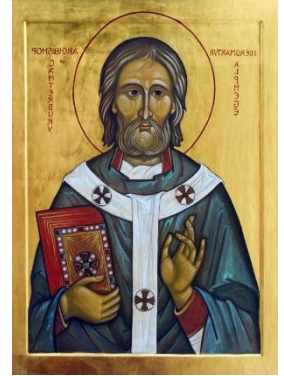
01225 424894

bath.stalphege@cliftondiocese.com

www.saintalphege.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Isabella Lo (Parish email below)

bath.stalphege@cliftondiocese.com



18th Sunday of the Year B

4th August 2024

**Mass Times at Our Lady & St Alphege
& St Joseph's, Peasedown**

Sun 4th	18th Sunday of the Year	
0900	People of the Parish	<i>St Joseph's PSJ</i>
1100	People of Our Parish	
1800		
Mon 5th	Weekday in Ordinary Time	
	No Mass	
Tue 6th	Feast of the Transfiguration of the Lord	
1000		
1100	People of the Parish	<i>St Joseph's PSJ</i>
Wed 7th	Weekday in Ordinary Time	
1000	Jane Floyd +	
Thur 8th	St Dominic	
1130	Exposition & Rosary	<i>St Joseph's PSJ</i>
1730	Exposition & Confession	
1800	For Vocations to the Priesthood	
Fri 9th	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	
12.00		
Sat 10th	Feast of St Lawrence	
1000		
1030	Confession – Sacrament of Reconciliation	
1200	Sacrament of Baptism	
Sun 11th	19th Sunday of the Year	
0900	Parishioners	<i>St Joseph's PSJ</i>
1100	People of the Parish	
1800	James Reilly +	

Information

Coffee is served in the Parish Hall after 11.00 Mass
Psalter Week 2 / Readings Sun B / Weekdays Year 2
Baptisms & Marriages - please speak with Fr Robert

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer
St Mary on the Quay, Bristol

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for August

For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

The month of August

The Church dedicates the month of August to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The Immaculate Heart is often venerated together with the Sacred Heart of Jesus (the devotion we celebrate in June), and with good reason. Just as the Sacred Heart represents Christ's love for mankind, the Immaculate Heart represents the desire of the Blessed Virgin to bring all people to her Son. There is no better example of the Christian life than that offered by the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through deepening our devotion to her Immaculate Heart, we can join the Mother of God in drawing closer to Christ her Son.

Offerings for Sanctuary Lamps

For the week beginning Sunday the 4th of August the **Sanctuary Lamp** is offered as a prayer in "Thanksgiving for blessings received".

If you wish to donate a Lamp for a prayer intention please put your offering in an envelope & write the chosen lamp, your name & the intention on the envelope, though such a donation can be anonymous as well.

Asbestos

During the coming week work will be undertaken to remove Asbestos from the store beside the Church as well as in the loft of the presbytery. The company have said they are happy to work round the Mass times but there will be extra equipment in and around the entrance to the Church and we may need to use the door on the right rather than the normal entrance doors. The work was agreed to by the Fabric and Finance Committee, though there wasn't an option not to undertake it with the Diocesan Property Office giving direction as how much work should be undertaken. The work will be paid for by drawing down on Parish Reserves.

Open Days

St Alphege Parish will again participate in the Heritage Open Day scheme organised by BANES Council, by which buildings of special heritage importance are opened to the public. At 2.30pm for one hour on Friday 6 September, Thursday 12 September, and Saturday 14 September Giles Mercer will give a guided tour of the church to members of the public. The architect's intentions, focused on worship, prayer, Our Lady and St Alphege, will be explained. This proved popular last year. Parishioners are warmly welcome to join one of the groups. Please do advertise this in advance.

Back to School

Although the school holidays have only just started it won't be long before the practical preparation for the next term starts. If you are having problems with back to school costs, for example, uniform, shoes or stationery the SVP can help. Please get in contact with the SVP (you can find all the members on the SVP notice board) or speak with / email Fr Robert to see what support is available.

SVP National Raffle

The national SVP summer raffle is currently underway. If you would like to take part tickets are £1 each. If you would like more information please see the poster on the SVP noticeboard. Lizzie Creevy will be selling them until 1st September (except for the 9th to 16th August).

Catholic Mothers Bath and West Wilts

A new group for mothers to meet once a month for mass at St John's the Evangelist, Bath and then afterwards in the hall to share tea, cake, faith and fellowship. Children are most welcome. It was wonderful to meet so many mothers at our first meeting, and we look forward to coming together again on Monday 12th August after the 9.30 mass. Contact Amy on 07872382979 to find out more.

Taize at Ammerdown

On the first Weds of the Month between 7 – 8 pm there is a Taize event with time for worship, prayer, and meditation with music and readings as well as time of stillness and prayer. Next meetings are, 6th August, and 4th September.

March for Life

Sat 7 September in London. Mass at St George's, Cathedral Southwark at 11am. The March commences from The Emmanuel Centre at 1.30pm ending at Parliament Square. The dangers of pills by post abortions, buffer zones and censorship of pro-life students at universities are some of the subjects highlighted at this year's March for Life - the theme being Abortion isn't Healthcare. More information at marchforlife.co.uk

Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in St Mary's Church on Friday 6th December. The preparation course for the Sacrament of Confirmation is suitable for those in Year 9-13 (from Sept 2024) and is open to members of St Alphege's Parish and Peasedown St John. The preparation course runs for 6/7 weeks at St Mary's Church on Tuesday evenings 7.00-8.15pm (dates to be finalised). To register your interest please email bath.stmary@cliftondiocese.com and let Fr Robert know as well (cc the e mail or have a word after Mass).

Sunday Collection

Last week Plate £214.15 Gift Aid Envelopes £113
Second collections (Bishop's Charitable Fund): £105.97

Readers

11.00: Veritas, 18:00: Jean

Children's Liturgy of the Word - Little Church

This week: Bibian and Veritas

Consecration Candles in St Alphege Church

The more eagle eyed may have noticed that two of the consecration candlesticks in the Church are missing. You will see on the left and right of the Sanctuary that there are two carved stone consecration crosses set into the wall with holes above them where the candlesticks should be. In the walls of the Church you will find another ten crosses each with a candlestick. I found one of the two which are missing while rooting around in the backs of sacristy cupboards, but sadly the 12th is lost. Having spoken with the Fabric Committee I have asked Ironart of Bath to make a copy so that we can again complete the set.

Why does this matter? Well on the **7th of October 2024** we will celebrate the **Platinum Jubilee of the Consecration** of our Church. More details to follow but there will be a **Mass on the Monday evening** with a simple reception afterwards in the Church Hall. While the consecration Mass in 1954 started at 0900 and lasted until 1400 we won't take that long!

As we celebrate this Jubilee the 12 consecration candles have an important significance. The Rite of a Dedication of a Church says that *"The anointing of the church signifies that it is given over entirely and perpetually to Christian worship. In keeping with liturgical tradition, there are twelve anointings, or, where it is more convenient, four, as a symbol that the church is an image of the holy city of Jerusalem."*

In her history of the Church Caroline Shaw writes that *"Twelve new consecration crosses had been carved in stone specially for the occasion ... each cross had been paid for by a family or an individual in the Parish. The Bishop anointed each consecration cross with holy oil... and as he did so he intoned the words "let this Church be sanctified and consecrated". A candle was then lit in front of the cross as a sign of this.*

So on the 7th of October these candles will all be lit again as a sign and reminder of the dedication of our Church and its community to Christ, and also as a sign of the light of Christ in the world.

The cost of the new candlestick will be £200; if anyone wants to make a donation towards this as the families of our parish did before, it would be greatly appreciated. Their names are recorded in a book held in the display case at the back of the Church which would be updated.

And as we move towards the Jubilee Year of Hope we will be asking how the light of Christ may burn more brightly within our lives as individuals and as a parish community. Part of the Jubilee Year Hymn says *"Like a flame my hope is burning, may my song arise to you: Source of life that has no ending, on life's path I trust in you Every nation, tongue, and people find a light within your Word.*

May these candles, restored to their proper place help us give thanks for the inheritance we have received, and inspire us on our pilgrim journey, that we may grow in faith, hope, and love and be led to know how we may better share our faith in Christ with all whom we meet.