

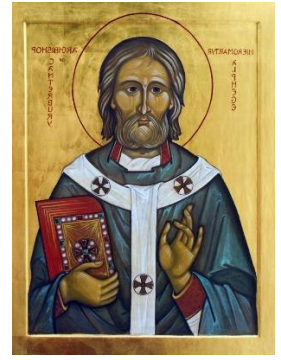


Parish of Our Lady and St Alphege, Bath together with St Joseph's, Peasedown St John

Parish Priest: To Be Appointed
The Presbytery, Oldfield Lane, Bath BA2 3NR
01225 424894

bath.stalphege@cliftondiocese.com
www.saintalphege.org.uk

Parish Administrator: Isabella Lo (Parish email above)



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4th February 2024

He cured many

Mass Times at St Alphege

or St Joseph's, Peasedown if indicated

Sat 3rd	Feria	
	No Mass	
Sun 4th	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	9.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
	11.00	Children's Mass Jo Zindi+
	18.00	
Mon 5th	St Agatha	
	No Mass	
Tue 6th	St Paul Miki and Companions	
	10.00	Ann Alford+
	11.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
Wed 7th	Feria	
	No Mass	
Thu 8th	Feria	
	No Mass	
Fri 9th	Feria	
	10.00	Maureen Dyson
Sat 10th	St Scholastica	
	No Mass	
Sun 11th	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	9.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
	11.00	Moira Horton+
	18.00	Hal McKee+

Information

Coffee is served in the Parish Hall after 11.00 Sunday mass
 Confessions..... Sunday 10.30 or on request
 Choir Practice..... 19.00 Wednesdays in Hall
 Psalter.....1
 Sunday Readings:..... Year B
 Weekday Readings:..... Year 2
 Baptisms & Marriages:.....Contact the Parish Priest
 Diocesan Prayer League.....Holy Rood, Swindon,
 St Peter, Sacred Heart, Royal Wootton Bassett

Cycle of Prayer: Ordinary Time Winter

Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, Victims of Human
 Trafficking, The Sick and those who care for them,
 The Unemployed



Christ Healing Simon Peter's Mother-in-Law,
John Bridges

Observing Lent

The season of Lent is upon us next week. The relatively early Easter means that the gap between Christmas and Ash Wednesday is rather short. Many of us may have not even thought about how we will observe the coming penitential season.

There is a little clue for us in today's Gospel. We hear how Jesus, after an intensive time of healing the people, takes himself off to the hills to commune with his Father. Perhaps this is how we should be spending Lent; taking extra time in prayer, spending more time alone with the Father.

As we prepare to observe the traditional Lenten practices of prayer, fasting and alms-giving, it is essential that we do not separate them from their focus which is the person of Jesus and the Gospel he brings. If we make our penances the focus in their own right, we will not produce the spiritual fruits we desire.

It is only by making Christ the centre of our Lenten observance that we will be ultimately overwhelmed by graces.

Father Alex McAllister

**Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024
23rd August to 30th August**

The Clifton Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes is taking place this year in late August with pilgrims coming from all over the Diocese to embark on this journey. Details can be found on the Diocese website Lourdes | Clifton Diocese or by contacting lourdes@cliftondiocese.com /0117 902 5590 for an information pack. Please be aware the deadline for deposits is 31st March 2024, with payment is full by 31st May 2024.

**People who are brutally honest
often get more satisfaction
out of the brutality
than out of the honesty**

Father Tibor and Father Ian

We welcome Fr Tibor who will be looking after our Parish until a permanent Parish Priest has been appointed. Masses, as published in the Bulletin, will be shared between Fr Tibor and Fr Ian until further notice.

Father Alex

We continue to be grateful to our supply priests following Fr Alex's departure from the parish. As most - but perhaps not all - know, Fr Alex has had to return to his religious Order on 31 December due to health issues. He is being looked after by his Order. We pray for his full return to good health. Those who would like to send Fr Alex cards and messages of thanks and prayerful good wishes are asked to give them to the parish office, where they will be forwarded to Fr Alex.

**When the sea was calm all ships alike
showed mastership in floating**

Shakespeare



Aid to the Church in Need

Steve Riedlinger, Community Outreach, for Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) will be visiting the parish on the 11th February.

ACN is a Catholic charity that supports suffering and persecuted Christians around the world with over 5000 projects in more than 140 countries each year. Steve will be talking about the projects, sharing stories from ACN's project partners and explaining how we can help in prayer and giving.

Mass Intentions

At the moment there will only be weekday masses on Tuesday and Fridays at the normal times. All Mass Intentions that have already been booked for other weekdays will be progressively moved to a Tuesday or Friday over the coming weeks. This may take some time to satisfy the current bookings but we hope that you will bear with us in these exceptional circumstances. If you are NOT happy with this arrangement please let the parish office know.

Forthcoming Dates

Beacons.....19th February



First Holy Communion

The remaining dates for the First Holy Communion sessions are: February 4th and 25th, March 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th, April 21st and 28th, May 12th (with an additional practice after Mass). The First Holy Communion Mass will be on Sunday 19th May 2024.

Please do pray for Abigail, Audrey, Chimbudike, Eloy, Holly, Isaac, Isabelle, Mabel and Sofia who are preparing to make their First Holy Communion.

Year of Prayer

Pope Francis has asked us to keep 2024 as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Holy Year of 2025. At St John's Church they will be holding a series of talks on prayer. The talks will be held in St John's Church on Tuesdays at 19.00. The remaining dates for the talks are as follows: 20th February The Prayer of Jesus, Fr Dermot Power; 30th April The Prayer of the Desert, Fr John Udris; 28th May The Prayer of St Benedict, Fr Mark Hargreaves OSB; 25th June The Prayer of St Dominic, Sr Hyacinthe OP; 23rd July Window on the Divine -Icons, Tamara Penwell; The Prayer of St Martin & St Clare, Fr Maximilian Martin OFM Conv; 29th October The Prayer of Carmel, Fr Michael McAndrew; 26th November The Prayer of St Ignatius Fr James Hanvey SJ.

**Decisions become easier when
your will to please God outweighs your
will to please the world**

Gift Aid

All UK tax paying parishioners are urged to consider gift aiding their contribution to our church. Regardless of how you currently make that contribution, there will be a way in which 25% of its value can be recovered through the Gift Aid scheme, from HM Revenue & Customs, at NO additional cost to yourself. This is additional revenue which our church desperately needs.

Existing gift aid donors are reminded that they have an ongoing responsibility to ensure that they still qualify for the Gift Aid scheme, ie that they pay more tax in a tax year than the sum of their charitable contributions for that year. Any questions please contact Maureen Dyson through the Parish Office.

Children's Mass

There is a children's mass on Sunday 4th February at 11 am and we hope it will be so well received that it will happen on the 1st Sunday of each month. Guitars will replace the organ and children will be invited to play musical instruments and take part in the liturgy. Thank you for supporting it as we feel it's essential we encourage the children who are the future of the Church.

Upcoming Special Collections

11th February Aid to the Church in Need, 25th February CAFOD

Sunday Collection

Last week Plate £219.07, Gift Aid Envelopes £49

Readers

11.00: Anne, 18.00: Dominic