

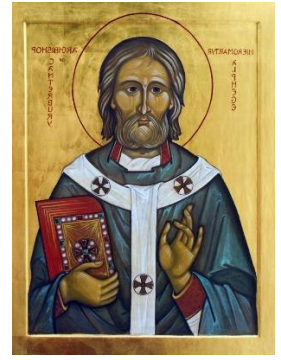


**Parish of
Our Lady and St Alphege, Bath
together with
St Joseph's, Peasedown St John**

**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)



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

11th February 2024

The Leprosy left the man at once, and he was cured

Mass Times at St Alphege

or St Joseph's, Peasedown if indicated

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+
Mon 12th	Feria	
	No Mass	
Tue 13th	Feria	
	No Mass	
Wed 14th	Ash Wednesday	
	10:00	Agnieska Duda
	11.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
Thu 15th	Thursday after Ash Wednesday	
	No Mass	
Fri 16th	Friday after Ash Wednesday	
	10.00	Brother David Chadwick
Sat 17th	Saturday after Ash Wednesday	
	No Mass	
Sun 18th	First Sunday of Lent	
	9.00	Parishioners (Peasedown)
	11.00	Josie Cook+
	18.00	



What is Lent?

A few years ago, it used to be fashionable in certain circles to greet people by saying, 'Have a happy Lent!' This was not something I ever liked very much, because I think that it made the penitential season of Lent sound just like Easter, which really is the proper liturgical season for rejoicing.

But I suppose that greeting found its origin in the Preface for the First Sunday of Lent which used to say, 'each year you give us this joyful season when we prepare to celebrate the Paschal Mystery with mind and hearts renewed.' However, the new translation of the mass puts it a bit more accurately: 'each year your faithful await the sacred paschal feasts with the joy of minds made pure.' This makes things much clearer; it stresses that Lent is principally a time of purification. So, it is not the season that is joyful but the fact that it leads us to purify our lives. The joy that is referred to is more like serenity than pleasure. It is the serenity that comes from having kept a good Lent, having borne the hardships of penance and fasting and having put quite a bit of extra effort into our prayer lives.

We need to be attentive to the fact that the liturgy has various moods with specific emphases for each liturgical season. The same applies to the mass which is why in Lent we don't use exactly the same music for the Kyrie, the Sanctus and the Agnus Dei as we do during the rest of the year. We use different tunes to express the very different emotions of sorrow, praise and profound devotion appropriate for the season.

Lent may be a penitential time, but that does not make it a miserable season. There is joy in it but it is a sober joy, a restrained serenity that comes from being faithful to the traditional penances which are undertaken to unite ourselves with the sufferings of Jesus. Yes, it is a sorrowful season but our sadness is moderated by the knowledge that Christ has won the victory and paid the price of our redemption.

Father Alex McAllister

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.....2
 Sunday Readings:..... Year B
 Weekday Readings:..... Year 2
 Baptisms & Marriages:.....Contact the Parish Priest
 Diocesan Prayer League.....St Mary, Swindon,

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

**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 / 0117902 5590 for an information pack. Please be aware the deadline for deposits is 31st March 2024, with payment is full by 31st May 2024.

The Lord walks among the pots and pans

St Teresa of Avila

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.



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.

He does not call those who are worthy, but those whom He pleases

St Therese of Lisieux

Ploughman's Supper

Good fun and a very hearty and tasty supper were enjoyed by all who attended the Parish Social Event on Friday evening. Our thanks and appreciation go to the Social Committee who, as well as feeding and entertaining us, raised a very welcome contribution to church funds! If you have ideas for a social event and/or would like to organise one please contact the parish office who will pass it on to the social group.

Beacons

We are very pleased to welcome Fr Tibor as our guest of honour Monday 19th February from 2 to 4pm in the hall. He has kindly accepted our invitation to speak about his life and we will be raising much needed funds for the parish. You are all most welcome to join us for what promises to be a very interesting and friendly afternoon, not forgetting delicious refreshments and an amazing raffle.

Easter Egg Hunt

Donations of Easter eggs required for the Easter egg hunt which will take place after the 11am mass on Easter Sunday. Please leave donations in the marked Box at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Forthcoming Dates

Beacons.....19th February



First Holy Communion

The remaining dates for the First Holy Communion sessions are: February 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.

**If we have been pleased with life,
we should not be displeased with death,
since it comes from the hand
of the same master**

Michelangelo

Easter Flowers

As a gesture of our faith and commitment to the future of our Parish we would like to make a special celebration of the Easter Flowers. In support of this we will be having a little extra collection for Easter Flowers on Sundays 17th & 24th March. There will be a clearly marked box on the table-at the back of the church. If everyone gave only £1 our talented, & much appreciated, flower arrangers could make a really wonderful display! Thank you in advance!

Mass Intentions

Please can all Mass intentions come through the Parish Office or directly to Lizzie Creevy who is currently organising and keeping the diary for Mass intentions. She will then be able to find the next availability for a Mass.

Family Mass

The Family Mass last Sunday was a great success. If your child would like to read the bidding prayers within the Mass please can you let Lizzie Creevy or the Parish Office know. There will be a rota for the children moving forward and a practice the week before their turn to Mass.

Upcoming Special Collections

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

Sunday Collection

Last week Plate £289.6, Gift Aid Envelopes £27

Readers

11.00: Nkechi, 18.00: Grainne

Little Church

This week Bibian and Veritas