

Parishes of Newent and The Forest of Dean

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PARISH UPDATES

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Sunday 8th September

Education Sunday

Please use this link to enable you to access all Live or Recorded videos from our

YouTube Channel: <https://youtube.com/@romancatholicchurchforesto5675>

Education Sunday is marked this year on 8th September - just after the new academic year starts. The theme for 2024 is, "He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak", taken from St Mark's Gospel (7:31-37).

Education Sunday is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 175 years ago in 1848. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead. For more information please use this link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/education-sunday/>

Education Sunday is when we celebrate and give thanks to all involved in Catholic education. We commemorate our predecessors of the 19th century, many of whom were living in poverty, who paid for our schools to be built. Their sacrifices helped re-establish the 2,175 Catholic schools, that continue to be true to their mission: they educate more pupils from the most deprived backgrounds; outperform national GCSE English and Maths averages; and are more ethnically diverse than other state-funded schools. For this success to continue, however, as throughout history, all Catholics need to be prepared to support, promote and defend Catholic education. **You can do this by becoming a school Foundation Governor or Trust Director.** Please contact Bill McEntee at Clifton Diocese via bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com if you would like to be a governor or director. In this way, we can hand on to the next generation the great legacy of those poor and immigrant Catholic communities of the Victorian era who built our schools.

Don't Forget the Holy Spirit

On Friday 27th September from 7pm - 9pm Fr Matt Anscombe will be at Our Lady of Lourdes in Ross Road, Newent GL18 1BG, speaking on the topic of the Holy Spirit. 'Don't Forget the Holy Spirit' is the title of his recent book. The evening will start with a Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit, followed by testimony, teaching, discussion and prayer. Please see attached pdf.

Everyone is welcome. Please use this link to listen to Fr Matt explaining his new book:

<https://cliftondiocese.com/news/fr-matt-anscombe-publishes-new-book-dont-forget-the-holy-spirit/>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024

If you were unable to take part in our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes this year please use the link below to view the Homilies from the Masses with the Bishops. There is also a daily reflection from one of our Diocesan Seminarians, Nohil, as well as reflections from many of the pilgrims as they journey through their week at Lourdes. There are also pictures to bring alive the Lourdes experience. <https://cliftondiocese.com/pilgrimage/lourdes/>

Tintern Vespers

Ecumenical Vespers at Tintern Abbey this Sunday 8th September at 3pm. The guest Preacher this year is Archbishop O'Toole of Cardiff, the RC prelate for Wales. Please bring a chair to sit on. Everyone welcome.



St Wulstan Pastoral Area Jubilee Event

At this year's Diocesan Day, it was announced that each Pastoral Area in the Diocese will be coming together to celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025 - 'Pilgrims of Hope' - as announced by Pope Francis. Early initial work was done by attendees on the day and now the Pastoral Area is intending to meet in person in October to flesh out the ideas and put concrete plans in place. To this end, volunteers are needed from each parish (4 from the Forest parishes and 2 from the Newent parish) to represent us at the Pastoral Area planning meetings. If you can volunteer for this good work please contact Sam in the parish office: forestrochurches@cliftondiocese.com or 01594 833173. Thank you.

Live-streaming of Sunday Mass - Marcel Guadrón has kindly offered to live-stream Mass whenever possible on Sundays starting on 15th September at 11am from St Joseph's. From this date onwards, Marcel will post in the Newsletter if there is to be a live-streamed Mass that weekend or not. Live-streamed Mass will return to normal at 9am from St Margaret Mary's from 10th November.

Parishioners attending Our Lady of Victories at Cinderford

Would all parishioners who attend the Cinderford Church please ensure that they park considerately so as not to upset our neighbours and according to the Highway Code. A local resident has complained regarding parking issues. Please therefore do not park in front of people's driveways or drive up onto the pavement to park.

Fun Bingo

Our Fun Monthly Bingo Evening supported by our Saint Vincent de Paul Conference will commence on **Friday 6th December** please save this date. It will be held monthly in our Church Hall at St Margaret Mary Church in Coleford from 7pm until 8.30pm on the first Friday in the month. Everyone will be welcome, children must be accompanied by an adult. Further details to follow.



Prayers and intentions on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela

Peter & Bev will be walking the Camino de Santiago from 14th September starting in Roncesvalles, Spain and walking 484 miles to Santiago de Compostela having already completed the 1st Stage from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port in France earlier this year.

If you want to follow the journey on-line you can do this via Facebook and Instagram where updates will be posted regularly. If anyone would like any prayers or intentions said along the journey please message them via Facebook or Instagram. You may also hand a written request to Bev by Sunday 8th September.

<https://www.facebook.com/PeterandBeverley>

https://www.instagram.com/peterandbeverleyadventures/?igsh=N2s0NTdscDirbGRs&utm_source=qr

NEWENT NEWS - OUR LADY OF LOURDES



Please remember in your prayers the house-bound and sick of the parish:

Mags Oke, Val Young, Mo Blinman, Catherine Williams, and Aroon Spencer. Prayers are also urgently asked for Pat Milsom's brother Tim, who has severe heart problems and also for Chris Roy's son in law, Phil, who has become subject to Epileptic fits.

The funeral for Paddy Arnold will take place in Our Lady of Lourdes church at 11am on Friday 20th September.

The long-awaited news for the future of our parish has arrived and it is official that Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Newent and the Forest of Dean parishes will be served by Fr Martin Queenan. This will mean that we will see much less of Monsignor Liam and Fr Stephen, though they will not totally disappear from Newent.

Fr Martin Queenan writes: My priority on arrival is to get to know the people of the parishes – your pastoral needs, your ways of doing things, your hopes for the future – and then to grow together in friendship with Jesus Christ.

I have never been to Newent, but am mindful of the historic connection to the Salesian Order. Having spent 13 happy years as Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes in Weston super Mare, I am delighted to again have the care of a parish under her patronage. In my younger years I was a keen cyclist and, on three occasions, cycled from the north of France to Lourdes.

Nowadays, instead of cycling, my exercise is walking with my two dogs – Blake, a 12 year old Black Labrador and Nandi, a lively four year old Rhodesian Ridgeback. I look forward to exploring new walking areas in the forest.

Sadly, Bishop Bosco is unable to replace me with a resident priest at Warminster. The parish will be served by priests of the pastoral area of St.Edith of Wilton.

SPECIAL EVENTS

On Saturday 7th September at Our Lady of Lourdes church, Georgina Rose, daughter of James Goodland and grand-daughter to Maria Goodland will receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

A new inter-faith group, **Inspire**, suggested by Caroline Smith from St.Mary's, Newent met for the first time last Monday with 5 members. Each member brought a poem, and we thoroughly enjoyed our discovery of new poems and poets. We felt that 5 members was an ideal number for leisurely discussion and would love to encourage the start up of similar groups within the parish.

A Ladies' Breakfast is scheduled at St.Mary's on Saturday 7th September at 9.15am. The Speaker will be Sarah Chaplin. Tickets £5.

IMPORTANT!!! Advance notice for Friday 27th September. Fr. Matt Anscombe will offer OLL and the Forest parish his talk entitled **Don't Forget the Holy Spirit**, also the title of his book. Please make a note of this date. **Flyers will be handed out this week with a link to an on-line talk by Fr Matt. Further information next week.**

We have received an advance notice from **Gloucestershire Highways Authority** for Tuesday 8th October – Thursday 10th October. We are informed that Glebe Road and the lower part of Holt's Road will be completely closed for carriageway resurfacing. Ross Road itself is not affected.

NEWENT NEWS - OUR LADY OF LOURDES

REGULAR GROUP MEETINGS

Prayer Group This successful group meets on the 2nd Monday of each month, next meeting is on 9th September. Each meeting is led by a different person with a combination of a reading, music, and spoken or silent prayer for the World, the Parish and for deeply felt personal concerns.

The Friendship and Care group channels assistance to those who need a friendly chat, practical help etc.
Contact numbers: 07291 639375 (Debbie) 01989 750847 or 07505 972 868 (Maria / Don)

Rosary, Adoration and Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament: every Wednesday in the church starting with the rosary at 10.15am and followed by silent adoration at 10.30am. and coffee at 11.00am.

Bible Study Group: this group meets at 10.30am on every third Thursday of each month at 12 Aston Bank, Aston Ingham. The next meeting will be on 19th September. to look more deeply at the Gospel of St. John

Lectio Divina: every Friday at 11.00am via Zoom with Forest Parishes. Ask Mary Francis for the link.

Taize Chants: Watch this space for Information from Martin Mason about the Taize Community, its chants and the dates for the evening gatherings at OLL for the rest of 2024



Beans on Toast Club: this After School club is usually run on the first Tuesday of each month by Lynne Heron, who appreciates the support of parishioners in encouraging children to explore the various activities she provides.

Donations to Missio

If you would like to donate to Missio you can do so by using your phone and this QR code.



SCAN ME

A VERY IMPORTANT REQUEST!!!

IF YOU ARE AMONG THE LAST PARISHIONERS TO SHUT THE CHURCH PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE KITCHEN DOOR IS LOCKED. PLEASE ALSO ENSURE THAT THE HEATING IS OFF.

JENNY HESELTINE WILL BE HAPPY TO EXPLAIN CORRECT PROCEDURE IF YOU ARE UNCERTAIN ABOUT ANYTHING.

Health and Safety

Three car parking spaces are reserved for disabled drivers/passengers. Two are in the front car park at the top of the left hand parking area, the third is close to the rear door in the back car park.

There is now an accident book in the kitchen. Please use it to record all injuries, however slight, and their treatment.

Volunteers are still sought to join the Cleaning Rota. Just two hours per month would be a great help in keeping our church clean and bright. Please contact **Mary Francis** who will be delighted to show you what is needed.

Faith Group

This social group looks at various ways to grow and strengthen our faith. We reflect and share on different aspects of our religion and how God is present and at work in our lives. This group resumes on Wednesday 13th November at 7pm - 8pm in our Church Hall at St Margaret Mary, Coleford. Everyone is welcome to come and participate. At present these sessions consist of watching a short video clip relating to a book from the bible and reflecting on how scripture is relevant and active in our lives today.

[Advance Notice - Dates for your diary](#)

[Advent Retreat Day](#) - Brownhill Monastery Saturday 14th December 2024

[Diocesan Day](#) - Saturday 19th July 2025

Next weekend is **Evangelii Gaudium Sunday**

The theme for this year's Evangelii Gaudium Sunday is 'Growing as Missionary Disciples'.

There will be a **second collection** for The Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate

Masses/Adoration/Prayer

Weekend

- Saturday 7th September - 6.00pm Vigil Mass in Cinderford - Monsignor Liam Slattery or
Father Stephen Corrigan
- Sunday 8th September - 9.00am Mass in Coleford - Monsignor Liam Slattery or
Father Stephen Corrigan- *live streamed*
- 11.00am Mass in Lydney - Monsignor Liam Slattery or
Father Stephen Corrigan
- 11.00am Mass in Newent - Monsignor Liam Slattery or
Father Stephen Corrigan

Weekdays

- Tuesday 10th September - 11.00am Adoration Service in Coleford
- Wednesday 11th September - 10.30am Adoration and Morning Prayer in Newent
- Thursday 12th September - 10.00am Adoration and morning Prayer in Lydney
- Friday 13th September - 9.00am Rosary Prayer in Cinderford

Live Mass is available from Clifton Diocese with this link:

<https://cliftondiocese.com/live-mass/>

Sunday Mass: 9.30 am (Family), 11.15 am (Solemn), 6.00 pm

Please note:

In the absence of a parish priest, should a priest be required urgently please phone St Peter's Gloucester on 01452 523603.