

Parishes of The Forest of Dean and Newent

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Parish Office 01594 833173 Forest of Dean

PARISH PRIEST FATHER MARTIN QUEENAN

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Year C) - Sunday 14th September

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

This beautiful feast is celebrated this Sunday. In 335 on 13th September, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was dedicated in Rome. The following day, the cross that Empress Helena had discovered on 14th September in 320, was venerated in a solemn ceremony. Today, we don't exalt the cruelty of the Cross, but the Love that God manifested to humanity by accepting death on the Cross. Lifting up our gaze should not enkindle fear, but gratitude, because that elevation is the measure of the love with which God loves His children, in His Son. It is the Mercy of God, therefore, which illuminates the darkness of our lives and allows us to continue on our journey.

The National Jubilee Pilgrimage 2025

This national walking pilgrimage culminates this Saturday 13th September as the four ways converge in Nottingham at the city's Cathedral of St Barnabas. The following day, the Cathedral will host a Solemn Mass for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross at 11:15am. To watch the Mass live or a recording please use this link: <https://www.stbarnabascathedral.org.uk/spiritual/watch-a-livestream-mass/> For information on the National Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope please use this link: <https://www.pilgrimways.org.uk/national-pilgrims-of-hope-walking-pilgrimage-old-version>

This Saturday 13th September our Forest Churches Fete will take place at St Joseph's, Lydney from 11.00am until 2.00pm

Come and join the fun with entertainment, barbecue, a raffle and lots of different stalls.

Donations for the fete can be brought to St Joseph's church on **THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 11th /12th September between 5.00pm and 7.00pm**. Please note we are unable to accept electrical items and bric-a-brac. Items required are bottles of wine, fancy goods, toys, books, monetary donations and cakes (on the day). Any extra help on the day would be appreciated. Please see attached flyer.

TINTERN SUNG VESPERS at Tintern Abbey on Sunday 14th September at 3.00pm

An Ecumenical Service on the Feast of The Holy Cross

Speaker: The Rt Revd Brendan Thomas OSB, Abbot of Belmont.

With the monks of Belmont Abbey and the Newport cathedral Choir. Please bring a folding chair and umbrella. Free entry to the Abbey grounds and car parking

Friends of Our Lady of Tintern website: <https://www.ourladyoftintern.co.uk/index.php>

Mission Masses: To celebrate the overseas mission of the Church and the ongoing work of Missio, during this Jubilee year of Hope, Missio will be celebrating Mass with Bishop Bosco at **7pm on Tuesday 16th September** at Holy Family Catholic Church, Southsea Road, Patchway, Bristol BS34 5DP.

PLEASE NOTE NEW DATE of Sunday 21st September at 4pm for Mass with Anointing of the Sick in Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent.

The next meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council of Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent will be held on Thursday 25th September at 7.30pm at OLL. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Saturday 27th September 10am -12 noon

Everyone is invited to a coffee morning to raise funds for Cancer. Please come along to enjoy a fun morning with cake and tea/coffee in the Church Hall at Saint Margaret Mary in Coleford. You are also welcome to take part in our Macmillan Coffee Morning baking competition by submitting one of your bakes, for the chance to win one of three titles 'Best Baker' an award for the best home-baked cake, 'Best Faker' an award for the best shop-bought entry and 'Wooden Spoon' an award for the baker whose cake did not quite turn out as planned! Suggested £2 donation for entry to the competition. Please bring yourselves and all cake donations on the day which will be gratefully received, thank you. Please see attached flyer.

Prayer Group Meeting - Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent

The next prayer group meeting is on Saturday 4th October at 10am. Everyone is welcome.

Continued

The Clifton Diocesan Annual Formation Day will take place on 11th October at St. Brendan's College, Brislington, with Mgr John Armitage (Parish Priest, Former Rector of the National Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham and Master of the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom) as our keynote speaker. There will be several workshop options for people to attend. For more information please use this link: <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/the-clifton-diocesan-annual-formation-day/>

If you are interested in going to Clifton Cathedral by coach for Fr Liam's Induction as Dean and Parish Priest on Tuesday October 14th at 6.00pm please inform Sam in the parish office, 01594 833173 or email forestrcchurches@cliftondiocese.com

Collection points will be: Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford, St Margaret Mary, Coleford and St Joseph, Lydney. If there is enough interest enquiries will be made for the cost of a coach.

**Christmas Day Dinner - Thursday 25th December at 1pm
supported by The Forest of Dean Saint Vincent de Paul Conference**

If you are alone this Christmas or in need of company please come along to our Christmas Day dinner in the Church Hall at Saint Margaret Mary, in Coleford. Dinners will need to be booked by Sunday 26th October. To book please see Tony in Cinderford, Dorota in Lydney or Bev in Coleford. Or phone 07513587332 or email SecretaryB040416@svp.org.uk. Please see attached flyer.

Link for the Video for the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Glastonbury 2025

Parishioners from the Forest of Dean & Newent joined with pilgrims across the Clifton Diocese for the Annual Pilgrimage to Glastonbury. In this 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope the theme was 'Mary, Woman of Hope'. A video overview of this year's pilgrimage can be found with this link: [Glastonbury Pilgrimage 2025](#).

A Message from his Holiness Pope Leo XIV for the 10th World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/messages/creation/documents/20250630-messaggio-giornata-curacreato.html>

Please remember in your prayers the house-bound and sick of our parishes, as well as those who have died recently.

RIP Maureen (Mo) Blinman, late of Kilcot, who died on Wednesday 10th September. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Funeral Service for Angela Fenley, late of Coalway and Clanna Country Park, at St Joseph, Lydney on Friday 26th September at 12.30pm.

WEEKEND MASSES

On Saturdays - 5pm Vigil Mass in Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent (tea/coffee after)

On Sundays - 9am Mass in St Margaret Mary, Coleford - live streamed
(tea/coffee bacon baps after in the church hall)
- 11am Mass in St Joseph, Lydney (tea/coffee after)

MASSES THIS WEEK

Tuesday 16th September - **Please note earlier time of Mass at 9.30am** followed by Adoration until 10.30am - St Margaret Mary, Coleford

Wednesday 17th September - 10am Mass preceded by Adoration at 9.30am - Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent (tea/coffee after)

Thursday 18th September - 10am Mass - St Joseph, Lydney

Friday 19th September - 10am Mass preceded by Rosary at 9.30am - Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford

Second Collection next weekend for Evangelii Gaudium Sunday

This collection supports the work carried out by the Mission Directorate on behalf of the Bishops' Conference.

Forthcoming dates for your dairy:

Mass with Anointing of the Sick - **Sunday 21st September 4pm** - Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent

CAFOD Soup Supper - Friday 3rd October - Church Hall at St Margaret Mary, Coleford (Time to follow)

Clifton Diocese Annual Formation Day - 11th October at St Brendan's College, Brislington

Mass on the Memorial of Saint Margaret Mary - Thursday 16th October 10am - St Margaret Mary, Coleford (refreshments after)

If you no longer wish to receive a copy of the newsletter via email please inform our parish administrator, Sam Buchanan, contact details at the top of the newsletter.