

Parishes of The Forest of Dean and Newent

<https://www.forestrc.co.uk/>

forestrcchurches@cliftondiocese.com or newent.ourladyoflourdes@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office 01594 833173 Forest of Dean

PARISH PRIEST FATHER MARTIN QUEENAN

Fourth Sunday of Lent (Year C) - Sunday 30th March

Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent, During Lent - Soup Lunch and Adoration

There will be soup served in the parish room after Mass on Wednesdays in Lent. There will be a collection for a local charity. Please add your name to the soup - making rota. Adoration will take place at 11.15am - 11.45am.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent

In need of any help please contact Jenny 07749478340 or email jenny.heseltine@gmail.com

Testimonies to the Holy Spirit in Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent

Have you felt the Holy Spirit working in your life? This is an invitation to share and witness to the Spirit's inspiration in many different ways. Please talk to Mary or Chris.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent - Volunteers needed to help with refreshments on Good Friday please be at church at 10am to prepare drinks or/as well as clearing up afterwards. Names to Mary or Jenny.

CAFOD - Forest of Dean Churches

The amount raised for CAFOD from the Forest of Dean Churches is £580.20. This includes any cheques that were made out directly to CAFOD. Many thanks for your donations.

MISSIO Red Boxes - Forest of Dean Churches

Please bring your MISSIO Red Boxes into church for emptying and counting. They can be handed to the Welcomers in each church.

Diocesan-wide "Encounter" programme, set to begin in Eastertide 2025.

This journey will culminate in a Vigil Mass for Pentecost—a powerful moment of renewal where we come together to strengthen our faith, open our hearts, and unite as a community empowered by the Holy Spirit. The programme will officially begin on Saturday, 3rd May, with a launch event at the Cathedral, open to all ages. For more information please see the attached pdf with this newsletter or go to: <https://cliftondiocese.com/encounter/>

Celebration of Marriage and Family Life Mass - Saturday 17th May 2025 at 12 noon

Bishop Bosco will be celebrating this Mass in the Cathedral and is inviting all families to join him to acknowledge the joys and challenges of family life. In addition, it will be a celebration for couples who have a significant anniversary this year, and a personal invitation will be sent out from the bishop if you send your names and address to this email address: adult.education@cliftondiocese.com Please include the number of years you will be celebrating.

Diocesan Day - Jubilee Celebration of Hope - Downside School & Abbey

On Saturday 19th July we will be gathering with Bishop Bosco for our Diocesan Jubilee Day of Hope. The day will start at 10.00am with refreshments and Prayer and Talks at 10.30am. Mass will take place in the Abbey Church at 3pm with the Principal Celebrant Bishop Bosco MacDonald and the Abbot of Downside Dom Nicholas Wetz OSB. For further details please use this link: <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/jubilee-celebration-of-hope/> To join for the day booking is essential through this link: [Eventbrite](#)

Jubilee visits to the Shrine of Our Lady of Glastonbury

This Shrine is one of two designated pilgrimage churches in the Clifton Diocese for the Jubilee Year. The Jubilee Icon will be touring the country throughout the Jubilee Year and will be at the Shrine from 7th to 9th May. Additionally, the Jubilee Year offers a plenary indulgence for those who make a pilgrimage to this Jubilee church.

Both individuals and groups are welcome to visit the Shrine. To arrange your visit, please either call the Parish Office on 01458 835931 (weekdays from 9.00am to 1.00pm) or use the enquiry form on the Shrine's webpage: <https://www.glastonburyshrine.co.uk/jubilee>.

Annual Pilgrimage to Glastonbury: Sunday 7th September 2025 "Mary, Woman of Hope"

This year's pilgrimage will take place on Sunday 7th September 2025 and will be centred around the theme of 'Mary, Woman of Hope', aligning with the Jubilee Year's theme of "Pilgrims of Hope."

As well as the usual Rosary Procession around Glastonbury town centre in the afternoon, there will be an additional Procession in the morning to celebrate the Jubilee from the Abbey grounds to the top of Glastonbury Tor. For more information: <https://cliftondiocese.com/pilgrimage/glastonbury-pilgrimage/>

Continued over

The National Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope - Walking Pilgrimage for England and Wales 2025

There will be a walking pilgrimage for England & Wales for the 2025 Jubilee with four main Ways converging at the Cathedral of St Barnabas in Nottingham on Saturday 13th September 2025 for shared prayer and celebration. For more information please use this link: <https://www.pilgrimways.org.uk/national-pilgrims-of-hope-walking-pilgrimage>

Jubilee for All - a new resource from CELEBRATE Trust for the Jubilee year.

CELEBRATE Trust have designed short creative activities that families can choose from to enable them to draw close to Jesus. For free copies of this resource go to: <https://www.celebratetrust.org/celebrate-prayer-resources> and click on 'Jubilee for All'. Please see pdf attached with this newsletter

Saint Wulstan Pastoral Area website

There is now a new website which is dedicated to our new Pastoral Area of St Wulstan. It will enable us to unite as one community of parishes, schools, and religious groups. This website will contain news, events and information in our Pastoral area. To find out more and to join in with our community please use this link: <https://saintwulstan.org.uk/>

Stations of the Cross - During Lent

Tuesdays - 7pm at Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford

Thursdays - After 10am Mass at St Joseph, Lydney

Fridays - 3pm at St Margaret Mary, Coleford

Sundays - 10.30am before Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent

Please remember in your prayers the house-bound and sick of our parishes.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Irene Nunn who has recently died.

Her Funeral Mass is at 10.45am on Monday 31st March at St Peter's Church in Gloucester, followed by a committal at Gloucester Crematorium at 12 noon.

WEEKEND MASSES

On Saturdays - 6.00pm Vigil Mass in Cinderford

On Sundays - 9.00am Mass in Coleford - live streamed

- 11.00am Mass in Lydney

- 11.00am Mass in Newent

WEEKDAY MASSES & SERVICES

Tuesday 1st April 9am - St Margaret Mary, Coleford - followed by Adoration until 10.30am

Wednesday 2nd April 11.30am - 12.30pm Adoration - Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent, followed by a Lent Soup Lunch. (NO MASS)

Thursday 3rd April 10am - St Joseph, Lydney followed by Stations of the Cross

Friday 4th April 10am - preceded by Rosary at 9.30am - Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford

Second Collection in all churches this weekend for 'Priests Retirement Fund'

This annual collection helps support our sick and retired priests. It allows us to help retired priests living on their own with rental costs and utility bills; it goes towards care home fees where needed; and also enables us to help with medical costs. We currently pay out over £300,000 per year to support our sick and retired priests. Your generosity is very much appreciated, thank you.

Pope Francis

Please continue to pray for the Holy Father who was discharged from hospital on Sunday 23rd March and returned to Casa Santa Marta where he will be convalescing for at least two months.

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.