

**Parishes of Newent and The Forest of Dean**  
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**Parish Office 01594 833173 Forest of Dean**  
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**PARISH UPDATES - Sunday 25th February**  
**Second Sunday of Lent (Year B)**

Please use this link to enable you to access all Live or Recorded videos from our  
**YouTube Channel: <https://youtube.com/@romancatholicchurchforesto5675>**

**[Lent Reflections](#) - continue this Saturday 24th February at 12 noon**

We will continue to meet in the Church Hall in Coleford at 12 noon for the next four Saturdays: 24th February, 2nd March, 9th March, 16th March. There will be a lunch of hot soup and a bread roll followed by a time of reflection and prayer. The focus for this Lent is 'The Lord's Prayer', free booklets will be available.



Each session is a stand alone session, therefore you can choose to attend one or more. Everyone is very welcome.

Last week's session is now available on line using this link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/we-dare-to-say/session-1/> There are also spare booklets available, please speak with Deacon Paul Dekkers to obtain a copy.

**First Holy Communion Preparation** for children aged 7 years or older in 2024 who would like to take their First Holy Communion this year. Please speak to Fiona or contact Sam at the parish office on 01594 833173 to register. Sessions will begin on **Sunday 25th February**.

**World Day of Prayer (Churches Together in Lydney Group)**

The theme this year is Palestine. The prayer service will be held at the

**United Reform Church, Tutnalls Street, Lydney, on Friday 1st March 2024 at 10.30 am.**

Refreshments will be offered after the service.

Everyone is welcome so please come and meet with other Christians in prayer for Palestine.

**Reconciliation service** at Our Lady of Victories in Cinderford on **Wednesday 20th March** at 7pm. Monsignor Liam Slattery and Fr Gerry Walsh will be available to hear confessions.

**St Joseph's requires an additional representative to join the Churches Together in Lydney group.**

This is an opportunity to pray and work together with members of the other Christian churches in and around Lydney. Current annual activities of the CTiL include Christmas Carol Service at Bathurst Park, Praise in the Park in summer, Easter witness or Passion play, World day of prayer service. How much you become involved is up to you. If you would like to know more please speak to Fiona or leave a message with Sam 01594 833173.

**Used Postage Stamps for Charity**

I would like to thank you for your stamp donations which enable us to support the following three charities; 'Against Breast Cancer', 'RNIB' and 'Support Dogs'. **[Please continue to donate your used postage stamps.](#)** The collection box for these stamps is sited in the entrance to St Margaret Mary Church. Thank you. Ted

Please use these links for more information on the above charities:

<https://www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk/>

<https://www.rnib.org.uk/>

<https://www.supportdogs.org.uk/>



## NEWENT NEWS



Please remember in your prayers the house bound and sick of the parish.  
Gail and Steve Ebsworth, Mags Oke, Val Young, Mo Blinman, Catherine Williams,  
Paddy Arnold and Aroon Spencer.

### **World Day of Prayer**

On **1st March at 1.30pm** in Glebe Chapel in Newent community centre.  
All welcome. Join us as we pray as one Christian community.

### **Christian Unity - Praying Together**

Every quarter, the churches of Newent and Gorsley meet together to pray for Christian Unity and for our area. The next prayer time will be at Our Lady of Lourdes on **Wednesday 17th April at 7.30pm**.  
Please come and pray with and meet other Christians – it's a great opportunity for us.

### **Catholic Universe**

We can obtain copies of the Catholic Universe for the offer price of £2.50 per week but we require a minimum of 5 people to subscribe.

If anyone is interested, please email Jenny Heseltine at [jenny.heseltine@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.heseltine@gmail.com)

There will be **Mass at OLL at 12 noon on Wednesdays during Lent**.

Therefore, Stations of the Cross will now begin at 11:15am

Our traditional Lent Lunch will be an outreach event this year. We will meet for soup at The Ark Cafe at 1pm after Mass. Kylie and Angharad have made us very welcome, it is great that we become a visible Catholic presence in our community. Cost: £4:85.

If you have a friend who is housebound, why not collect them and bring them along?

**Stations of the Cross will be lead every Sunday during Lent,**

starting at 10.15am, finishing around 10.45am at OLOL please come early to Mass, and join in.

**Wednesday Evenings in Lent, at St Mary's Newent:** 7.30pm Lent Course: "The Jesus Lifestyle" – based on the book by Nicky Gumbel.

**Clifton Diocese Online Lenten Course "Transformed By Love"**

<https://clifftodiocese.com/news/lenten-retreat-transformed-by-love/>

[Sign Up On Church Notice Board to Join Online Lent Group](#)

**Every Friday Throughout The Year**

Lectio Divina 11am via Zoom with Forest Parishes Ask Mary Francis for the link.

**Holy Week: Information to follow**

There is a table at the back of the church where there are books, talks (on CD) films (on DVD) and music. Please help yourself, donations welcome.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

A retreat is planned, open to all, at Brownhill Monastery on Saturday 11th May. If you are curious about how The Holy Spirit is working in our church, in the world, and through each other, this retreat is for you. Further details to follow.

Contact Sue Felton to register an interest.

[suzannahfelton@googlemail.com](mailto:suzannahfelton@googlemail.com)

<https://www.bernardine.org/brownhill-about-us>

**PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE  
FOR NEXT MEETING WHICH IS  
NOW ON MONDAY 4TH MARCH**



St Vincent  
de Paul Society  
England and Wales  
Turning Concern into Action

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL -  
Forest of Dean Conference**

The next meeting will now be on **Monday 4th March at 6.30pm** in the Church Hall, Coleford. This conference continues to look at ideas that will benefit our community. We are always open to suggestions which everyone is welcome to bring to this meeting or email our Secretary Helen on [SecretaryB040416@svp.org.uk](mailto:SecretaryB040416@svp.org.uk) with your ideas and suggestions. We continue to visit and support anyone in need bringing God's love to all people.

**Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering a Lenten retreat:**

'Transformed by Love' in six online sessions, contemplating God's grace at work in the lives of six persons, through scripture and artworks. The six sessions begin at 7.30 pm on a Tuesday evening: 20 February, 27 February, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March, 26 March.

For more information please use this link <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/lenten-retreat-transformed-by-love/>

To sign up for the series, click on this Zoom link: [Meeting Registration](#)

**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 <https://cliftondiocese.com/pilgrimage/lourdes/> or by emailing [lourdes@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:lourdes@cliftondiocese.com) or phone 0117 902 5590, for an information pack. Please be aware the deadline for deposits is 31st March 2024, with payment in full by 31st May 2024.

**Advance Notice - Dates for your diary**

**Chrism Mass** - Clifton Cathedral Wednesday 27th March at 11am

Bishop Declan will be the main Celebrant and will bless the three oils — the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick and holy chrism.

**Marriage Celebration** - Clifton Cathedral 25th May at 12 noon

**Diocesan Day** - St Bernadette's Catholic School, Bristol, 6th July

**Prayer Resources**

Pope Francis has invited the Universal Church to enter into a special Year of Prayer in 2024, this is to prepare us for the Jubilee Year of 2025. During this Year of Prayer, Pope Francis calls each of us to refresh and renew our relationship with Jesus through our prayer lives.

Fr Tom Dubois, parish priest from the Taunton Vale Catholics parishes, spoke in 2023 during the Faith Full Journey series on A Life of Ministry Rooted In Prayer. Fr Tom's approach to prayer seeks God in the depths and longings of one's heart, and is one fruitful way which might help to delve deeper into your own prayer life.

If you're interested in finding out more please use this link to the Clifton Diocese Faith Full Journey page <https://cliftondiocese.com/a-faith-full-journey/>

**'Invited' - Formation Course**

There is a new formation course in Stroud on a Wednesday evening called 'Invited'.

These formation sessions are for anyone who is interested in learning more about their faith and passing it onto others. The course will take place April to July this year at The Immaculate Conception parish hall in Stroud. For more information please click this link: ['Invited'](#).

**Requiem Mass for Jim Finnegan** - Friday 1st March at 12 noon in Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford.



Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jim Finnegan RIP  
Our thoughts and prayers are with Canon Tom Finnegan and his family at this time.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS For five weeks during Lent

CINDERFORD - Our Lady of Victories

**Tuesdays** 7pm

COLEFORD - St Margaret Mary

**Fridays** 3.00pm

LYDNEY - St Joseph

**Thursdays** after 10am morning prayer

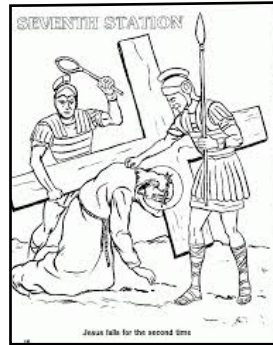
*For those who wish/or are able to stay*

NEWENT - Our Lady of Lourdes

**Wednesdays** 11.15am

**Sundays** 10.15am - 10.45 am

*Please come early to Mass to join in.*



**There will be a second collection for CAFOD this weekend.**

**CAFOD - LENT FAST DAY is on Friday 23rd February**

**For more information please use this link <https://cafod.org.uk/fundraise/family-fast-day>**

### **Masses/Adoration/Prayer in the coming week:**

#### **Weekend**

Saturday 24th February

- 6 pm Vigil Mass in Cinderford - Canon Tom Finnegan

Sunday 25th February

- 9 am Mass in Coleford - Canon Tom Finnegan - *live streamed*

- 11 am Mass in Lydney - Canon Tom Finnegan

- 11am Mass in Newent - Monsignor Liam Slattery or  
Father Stephen Corrigan

#### **Weekdays**

Tuesday 27th February

- 11.00 am Adoration Service in Coleford

Wednesday 28th February

- **12 noon Mass in Newent** - Monsignor Liam Slattery or  
Father Stephen Corrigan

Thursday 29th February

- 10.00 am Adoration and morning Prayer in Lydney

Friday 1st March

- 9 am Prayer in Cinderford

- **12 noon in Cinderford Requiem Mass for Jim Finnegan**

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.**