

## **Parishes of Newent and The Forest of Dean**

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### **PARISH UPDATES**

**Third Sunday of Easter (Year B)**

**Sunday 14th April**

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

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

### **Chrism Mass Homily and pictures**

This was Bishop Declan's last Chrism Mass and he blessed the three oils — the oil of catechumens, the oil of the sick and holy chrism which will be used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the diocese for the year.

It was indeed a great celebration but also a humbling occasion as we witness our priests and deacons renew their priestly and diaconal service.

Bishop Declan, in his Homily, reminded us that we are all anointed people. You can watch his Homily and see all the pictures on the Clifton website: <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/chrism-mass-homily-and-pictures/>

### **Good Friday Walk of Witness - Coleford**

The walk of witness from St Margaret Mary to the Clock Tower was blessed with sunshine and a lot of witnesses from all our Churches together in Coleford. It was a lovely event with a short service of the Passion, hymns accompanied by a band and prayers. This was followed by hot cross buns.

Thank you to everyone who was able to support this Witness.

### **Pentecost Novena for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit**

This Novena has been organised by our Parish for the Parishioners of the Forest of Dean and Newent.

Everyone is invited to join this online Pentecost Novena and pray together for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

This Novena will begin at 5.30pm on Friday, 10th May for 9 consecutive days concluding on Saturday, 18th May.

Please join on Zoom by clicking on the link below:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82246091630?pwd=Q2NlaUE5emZRlUWo4anhacDQxcEFvZz09>

Please feel free to join on one or more of the days whenever you are able to.

The intercessory prayers are as follows:-

Day 1: Friday, 10th May - Intercession for a growth in trust

Day 2: Saturday, 11th May - Intercession for the renewal of the Church

Day 3: Sunday, 12th May - Intercession for the unity of Christianity

Day 4: Monday, 13th May - Intercession for the renewal of society

Day 5: Tuesday, 14th May - Intercession for conversion and holiness

Day 6: Wednesday, 15th May - Intercession for reconciliation and healing

Day 7: Thursday, 16th May - Intercession for empowerment for evangelisation

Day 8: Friday, 17th May - Intercession for the victory of the Holy Cross

Day 9: Saturday, 18th May - Intercession for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit and his gifts

For a copy of this Novena from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales please go to:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/05/pentecost-novena-booklet.pdf>

It is also attached in a pdf with this online parish updates.

## NEWENT NEWS - OUR LADY OF LOURDES



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.

### **Parking Reminder - URGENT**

It is illegal and disrespectful to our neighbours to park adjacent to the dropped kerb in front of the church and the house next door. Please refrain from doing so. There have been several complaints. If inconsiderate parking persists, action will be taken. A reminder too, that it is also illegal to mount the kerb when parking where parking is permitted.

*Our Lady of Lourdes Pastoral Council*

### **Family Celebration Mass**

After Mass on Sunday 7th April we enjoyed an enthusiastic performance by the younger members of the parish presenting The Tale of Three Trees by Angela Elwell Hunt. They had also made decorations and prepared fancy cakes which the children served to us after the performance. Our younger parishioners were also prominent in serving Mass, singing, reading, and presenting the Eucharistic Offerings and the collected donations.

### **Beans on Toast Club**

The Beans on Toast after school club will continue to be run on Tuesdays by Lynne. This enjoyable and novel afternoon needs parish support. Please let Lynne Heron know if you are interested in helping. Dates next week.

## **REGULAR GROUP MEETINGS**

**Churches together - Prayer for Christian Unity:** the Churches of Newent and Gorsley meet every quarter. Next date to be advised. A great opportunity to meet and pray with other Christians!

**Adoration and Prayer:** Every Wednesday in the church at 10.30am followed by coffee in the Parish room. **PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO SERVICE THIS WEDNESDAY 17TH APRIL**

**Bible Study Group:** This group is now being restarted and will meet on every third Thursday at 10.30am starting on 16th May. The group will be led by Mary Francis and hosted by Chris Roy at 12 Aston Bank, Aston Ingham. Please contact Chris for more details [chris.roy1@protonmail.com](mailto:chris.roy1@protonmail.com)

**Lectio Divina:** Every Friday at 11am via Zoom with Forest Parishes. Ask Mary Francis for the link.

**The Parish Pastoral Council:** meets monthly on Wednesdays. Next meeting 15th May at 7pm.

### **Living Waters Pentecost Retreat, Saturday May 11th at Brownhill Monastery, Stroud**

Come to be refreshed and renewed. Further details from Sue Felton. Cost £25 to include lunch. Reserve a place with £5 deposit to: [suzannahfelton@gmail.com](mailto:suzannahfelton@gmail.com)  
Please see pdf attached with this Parish Update.

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.

### **'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'](#).

**Words of Faith:** finding the best words to witness to our Faith and answer tough questions. Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering a short online course to find the best words to give an account of our faith and answer the hard questions Catholics can be asked about God, Jesus, the Church, morality and Catholic practices. The six sessions begin at 7.30pm on Tuesday evenings from 9th April until 14th May. To find out more and to sign up for the series please use this link: <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/words-of-faith-finding-the-best-words-to-witness-to-our-faith-and-answer-tough-questions/>

### **"The Eucharist: a bond of love which can never be undone."**

There is an opportunity on Saturday 8th June at St Bernadette's Secondary School, Whitchurch, Bristol, for the whole diocese to deepen our understanding and love for the Eucharist as we grow in our desire to be a people of communion, participating together as the Body of Christ so that we may be the Body of Christ to the world.

We are delighted that Fr Michael McAndrew will lead us in our reflections and conversations. The day will include a time of prayerful Adoration with words, music, and silence. Refreshments will be available from 9.30am. Attendees are asked to bring a packed lunch. We will finish by 4pm. To register for the day please click on the Eventbrite link:

<https://cliftoneucharist.eventbrite.co.uk/> Everyone is welcome!

### **The Light of Truth Certificate in Catechesis** (A two year course)

For catechists and for those who wish to transmit the Catholic faith to others.

No previous qualification is required. A course description and how to apply can be found using this link: [www.lightoftruth.uk/certificate](http://www.lightoftruth.uk/certificate)

### **Living the Common Good: Discerning Challenges and Responses**

God calls each of us to go forth on a particular mission: Let us then pursue what leads to peace & to building up one another - Romans 14:19.

On **18th May 2024 at St Brendan's Sixth Form College**, the department of Adult Education & Evangelisation will hold 'Living the Common Good', a day of formation and community, to bring people together in prayer to discern the practical ways to live the common good in our parishes, pastoral areas, and diocese. Everyone is welcome!

For more information and how to register please use this link: <https://cliftondiocese.com/news/living-the-common-good-discerning-challenges-and-responses/>

### **Sunday 21st April is Vocations Sunday**

The National Office for Vocation has produced prayer cards, reflections and information around different vocations, whether God is calling us to married life, priesthood, religious life or single life. For information please use this link: <https://www.ukvocation.org/vocation>

On Wednesday 17th April at 7.30pm the National Office for Vocations are holding 'The Conversation' where a panel of guests discuss how they live out their vocation and the work they carry out in the Church. This will be run on Zoom and participation is free, registration however, is required. Details of the participants and how to book a place can be found through this link: <https://www.ukvocation.org/>

Information about Vocations within Clifton Diocese can be found on this link: <https://cliftondiocese.com/vocations/>

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

[Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-elect Bosco Macdonald](#) - Clifton Cathedral

Wednesday 8th May at 12 noon

[Marriage Celebration](#) - Clifton Cathedral 25th May at 12 noon

[Diocesan Day](#) - St Bernadette's Catholic School, Bristol, 6th July

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

## Masses/Adoration/Prayer

### Weekend

- Saturday 13th April - 6.00pm Vigil Mass in Cinderford - Father Michael Thomas  
Sunday 14th April - 9.00am Mass in Coleford - Father Michael Thomas  
- 11.00am Mass in Lydney - Father Michael Thomas - *live streamed*  
- 11.00am Mass in Newent - Monsignor Liam Slattery or  
Father Stephen Corrigan

### Weekdays

- Tuesday 16th April - 11.00am Adoration Service in Coleford  
Wednesday 17th April - **NO SERVICE IN NEWENT**  
Thursday 18th April - 10.00am Adoration and morning Prayer in Lydney  
Friday 19th April - 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

### **Next Sunday is Vocations Sunday**

**there will be a Second Collection for the Clergy Training Fund**

### **Live Streaming**

Please note that live streaming will take place at 11.00am from St Joseph in Lydney for the next three Sundays on 14th April, 21st April and 28th April. Returning to 9am from St Margaret Mary in Coleford on Sunday 5th May.

### **Please note:**

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