

# SS LAWRENCE AND PAUL

## CATHOLIC CHURCH NEWSLETTER



71 Broad Street Chipping Sodbury BS37 6AD & Sundridge Park Yate www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk  
 Parish Priest: Rev Jim Williams 312161 (james.williams@cliftondiocese.com) Parish Sisters Greta & Fidelis 327105 St Paul's School 866790  
 Deacon: Rev Vincent Calder 31171 (vk.calder@virgin.net) Office Secretary chippingsodbury.stlawrence@cliftondiocese.com  
 Parish Safeguarding Rep: Carol Lawler 01454 317077 (PSR.chippingsodbury.stlawrence@cliftondiocese.com)



### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024 - Proper of Season, Year B  
 DPL: Chaplaincies to HM Forces in the Diocese



SAT 4 <sup>th</sup> CS	5.00pm	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Withers Special Intention
SUN 5 <sup>th</sup> StP	11.00am	SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Casimiro Martins Intention
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> CS	9.30am	Mass	Louis Patrick Todd (Fmass)(OLOL)
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> CS	7.30pm	Vigil Mass of the Ascension [St Lawrence Church]	John Cartmell (PM)
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup> StP	2.00pm	School Mass for the Ascension	Maria Millard
Thur 9 <sup>th</sup> StP	7.30pm	Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord	Narj Family
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> CS	9.30am	Mass	Withers Special Intention
SAT 11 <sup>th</sup> CS	5.00pm	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	Helen & Family Intention
SUN 12 <sup>th</sup> StP	11.00am	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	James Kerry & Family
Tue 14 <sup>th</sup> CS	9.30am	Mass: Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle	Mary May
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> StP	9.30am	Mass	Joanne O'Brien
Thur 16 <sup>th</sup>		No Service	
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> CS	9.30am	Mass	O'Brien Family
SAT 18 <sup>th</sup> CS	5.00pm	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST	Matthew Martin
SUN 19 <sup>th</sup> StP	11.00am	SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST	Holy Spirit

Confessions: Please contact Parish Priest for appointment.

To contact a Priest: Fr. Jim Williams (01454) 312161 St Augustine's Office 0117 983 3939  
 Parish Office Our Lady of Lourdes: 0117 949 8743. To send items for the newsletter email Sian stlpnewsletter@gmail.com

### MASS TIMES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES IN COMMUNION FOR MISSION

St Augustine	Thursday 9th May Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is a Holyday of Obligation	Our Lady of Lourdes
Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Mass 6.00pm	<b>UPCOMING 2ND COLLECTIONS</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> May: World Communication Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June: Priests' Retirement Fund 16 <sup>th</sup> June: Building Fund 23 <sup>rd</sup> June: Day for Life 30 <sup>th</sup> June: Peter's Pence 14 <sup>th</sup> July: Sea Sunday	Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Mass 9.00am
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Mass 9.30am		Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> Mass 9.30am
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> Mass 7.30pm		Thu 9 <sup>th</sup> Ascension Mass 9.30am
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup> Accession of the Lord 9.30am		Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Mass 9.00am
Thu 9 <sup>th</sup> Holyday of Obligation 7.30pm		Tue 14 <sup>th</sup> Feast of St Matthias 9.30am
Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> Mass 6.00pm		Thu 16 <sup>th</sup> Morning Prayer 9.30am
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> Mass 9.30am		Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Seventh Sunday of Easter 9.00am
Please check website to confirm times: <a href="http://www.staugustinesbristol.co.uk">www.staugustinesbristol.co.uk</a>		Please check website to confirm times: <a href="http://www.ololbristol.co.uk">www.ololbristol.co.uk</a>

### ==== RETIREMENT COLLECTION FOR BISHOP DECLAN ====

We have set up an online donation button on the Diocesan website under Finance and the Dona page for parishioners wanting to contribute towards a retirement collection for Bishop Declan. Please use the link <https://donate.mydona.com/clifton-diocese> or scan the QR code. If you have any questions, please contact Lyn Murray on 0117 902 5598



### \*\*\*\*\* PARISH GARDEN FETE \*\*\*\*\*

This year our Fete will be on **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June at St. Lawrence Parish Hall and Gardens**. We need donations of bottles, gift sets, books, toys, Bric-a-Brac, cakes (nearer the time please). If you can help please see Fr. Jim or Pat O'Rourke. **We are also looking for volunteers to run our cake stall and other stalls. Many thanks.**

### A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER

With a UK general election due this year, politicians will seek our votes. As Catholics, we have a responsibility to make sure parties commit to tackling poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our constituencies. A Year of Encounter is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of candidates at key moments. See [cafod.org.uk/encounter](http://cafod.org.uk/encounter) for more information.

### THE HOLY FATHER'S Prayer Intention for May is for the formation of religious and seminarians.

We pray that religious women and men and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.



**BONUS BALL** Game 1103 w/n 41 Barbara Harriman Game 1104 w/n 10 Laura Parsons.  
 £25 each and £50 for the Building Fund. Please speak to Kay Chapman/Pat O'Rourke for more details.

CLIFTON DIOCESE is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with number 10462076. It is a registered charity with number 1170168. Registered Office: St Ambrose, North Road, Leigh Woods, BS8 3PW

# What's on?



**MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS AT ST LAWRENCE CHURCH**  
Next coffee mornings are on **Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May & Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June**

*Please speak to Pat O'Rourke  
for more information.*



**MISSIO RED BOXES** We're still collecting Red Boxes. Visit [Missio.org.co.uk](http://Missio.org.co.uk) to find out more.  
In 2023, our joint parishes raised £798.29 from Red Boxes and direct donations. THANK YOU.

## COFFEE AFTER 11.00am MASS AT ST PAUL'S STARTING AGAIN

We hope to start serving coffee after 11.00 a.m. Mass on Sundays at St Paul's - it's a good opportunity for a drink and chat with fellow parishioners.  
If you're interested in helping speak to Father Jim so a rota can be drawn up.

## CAFOD - THE POWER OF LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

Join CAFOD's International Programme Director, Fergus Conmee, to explore the power of leaving a gift in your Will to make a lasting impact in the world, at **St John the Evangelist, Bath on Wed 12 June, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.** To find out more and book your place please go to [cafod.org.uk/legacyevent](http://cafod.org.uk/legacyevent)

## CAFOD'S SUDAN CRISIS APPEAL

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, face another urgent crisis – extreme hunger.  
Please give to **CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal** in church or at [cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal)

Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers. Donations can be given via the contactless card reader at the back of the church or you can text **CAFODSUDAN** to 70450 to donate £10.

*Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us.  
If you would like to donate, but don't wish to hear more from us, please text **CAFODSUDANNOINFO** instead.*



## ENCOUNTER - DAY OF RENEWAL

There will be a special day of renewal at **St Bonaventure's, Bristol from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. starting with Mass on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May.** Mass, uplifting worship, inspiring teaching and testimonies. Sacrament of Reconciliation and prayer for baptism in the Holy Spirit. Children's stream will be available. Refreshments provided but bring a packed lunch. To give us an idea of numbers for the day, we ask you to book a free ticket for all members of your party here: [www.dftholyspirit.com/encounter-may-2024](http://www.dftholyspirit.com/encounter-may-2024)

**CLIFTON DIOCESE SAFEGUARDING:** The Diocese Safeguarding team is looking for someone to join the Safeguarding Committee and sit in on Risk Allegation Review meetings. Volunteers should have in depth knowledge and experience of safeguarding, particularly health and mental health. The role is voluntary and would require committing to a 2 hour meeting approximately five times a year for the Safeguarding Committee and Risk Allegation Review meetings. Meetings can be attended in person or online with some pre-reading. If you're passionate about safeguarding and would like to volunteer your experience and services or discuss the role further, please contact the Safeguarding Coordinator Janice Pearson on [janice.pearson@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:janice.pearson@cliftondiocese.com) or 07887 990385.

## Reflections for Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B

### 1<sup>st</sup> Reading from the Acts of the Apostles 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48.

This episode which is given to us today is one of immense importance in the Church's history. The question of whether Gentiles could be admitted was a very difficult one which was not sorted out overnight and might have destroyed the Church at its very beginning. This passage gives us an account of what might be described as Peter's conversion to the concept of accepting Gentiles into communion via Baptism. His vision of the forbidden foods being given to him to eat is the opener for Peter and then witnessing the Holy Spirit coming down on Jews and Gentiles without distinction convinces Peter and he orders Cornelius and his household to be baptised. There will be other trials within the community until it is convinced that Peter and Paul are acting on behalf of God's Holy Spirit in going out first to the Jews and then the Gentiles. It enables the Gospel to spread throughout the world as Jesus had envisioned at his Ascension.

### Psalm 97: 1-4.

This little song is proclaiming that the Lord is coming and the passage we have is extolling the glory and wonder of the Lord who is coming.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading from the first letter of St. John 4: 7-10.

This reading proclaims the absolute centrality of Love. This is not the Romantic love, but the love that comes from God. If we love, then we are begotten by God and we know God. If we are cold and calculating measuring whether it is worth our while to love someone then we cannot know God. God's love was revealed in Jesus Christ, God's only Son. In the Gospel we have the vision of that true love that enabled Jesus to sacrifice himself to cleanse us from our sins. That is the love that is being written about, the completely unselfish love that enables us to live like Jesus and become God's precious children destined to spend eternity in the glory of God's kingdom, borne entirely on Love. The love we witness exhibited by Jesus in the Holy Gospels.

### The Holy Gospel according to John 15: 9-17.

Jesus is explaining how God's love works. We must imitate Jesus' way of loving. As Jesus has loved us so we love him by keeping his commands, just as Jesus remained in his Father's love by keeping the Father's commands. Jesus' command is easy if we really get close to him. It is simply, "Love one another as I have loved you." A totally self-giving love, being selfless, putting others before our own interests. It is a love that can mean laying down our lives for our friends. The great Command is to "Love one another." We need the help of the Holy Spirit to inspire us to realise that this love is not impossible, but it is only achievable with the help of prayer, sacrifice and God's grace.

**Lord guide us to Love as you Love by the power of your Holy Spirit. Deacon Vincent.**

## Safeguarding our Vulnerable Adults and Children

All church activities are subject to safeguarding policies and procedures. We encourage everyone to access these policies which can be found in the Diocesan Resource along with important contact numbers on the safeguarding pages.

**Parish website:** <http://www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk/cliftondiocese.html> <http://www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk/safeguarding.html>



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul  
**TURNING CONCERN INTO ACTION**  
Meets regularly at St Paul's.  
To join please phone 01454 312161  
Email [csandyatesvp@gmail.com](mailto:csandyatesvp@gmail.com)

Useful links:  
[www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk](http://www.stlawrenceandstpaul.co.uk)  
[www.cliftondiocese.com](http://www.cliftondiocese.com)  
[www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va)

If you are interested in learning about the ethos, aims and works of the Legion of Mary  
Tel: 01454 321749