



Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Churchdown Gloucester

Parish Priest: **Father Paul Brandon.** Tel: **01452-713254**

E-mail: churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com



Sunday 18th February 2018 – First Week of Lent

DPL: Frome St Catharine with Mells

	Services this week	In the Church Hall
Sun. 18 Feb <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	8.30 am Mass: People of the Parish 10.30 am Mass: Peter Smyth Anniv Baptism preparation session in St Mary's school following 10.30am Mass	COFFEE CLUB after 10.30 am Mass every Sunday PRIVATE HIRE 7pm – 9 pm
Mon. 19 Feb <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass:	Craft and Coffee group All Welcome - term time 9am – 11am
Tues. 20 Feb <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass:	Coffee Club after Mass
Wed. 21 Feb <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	6.30 pm Exposition 7.00 pm Mass: World Peace	Our Ladybirds Stay and Play group All welcome - term time 9am – 11am SVP Group – 1 st Wed of mth at 6.30pm Justice & Peace – 1 st Weds of mth 7.30pm Private Hire – 2 nd Weds of mth 6.30pm
Thur. 22 Feb <i>Feast of the Chair of St Peter the Apostle</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: Fr Frank Thompson MHM RIP 2.30pm – 6.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	HALL HIRE: If you would like to book the church Hall please contact Elizabeth Thomas in the office: 01452 713254
Fri. 23 Feb <i>Weekday of Lent</i> CAFOD Lent Fast Day	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: Women's World Day of Prayer rehearsal after Mass 6.00 pm Stations of the Cross	Meditation Group from 1pm PRIVATE HIRE 7pm – 9 pm
Sat. 24 Feb <i>Weekday of Lent</i>	9.00 am Morning Prayer 9.15 am Mass: John Morrissey RIP Confessions 9.45 am – 10.15am or on request	10am Farewell gathering for Elizabeth Thomas, Parish Administrator PRIVATE HIRE 2pm – 4pm
Sun. 25 Feb <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	8.30 am Mass: People of the Parish 10.30 am Mass: Peter Smyth Anniv First Holy Communion Preparation session in St Mary's School following 10.30am Mass	COFFEE CLUB after 10.30 am Mass every Sunday PRIVATE HIRE 7pm – 9 pm

In our prayers

Anniversaries: Archie Heaton (18th), Hugh Dutton (18th), Josephine Williams (18th), Peter Smyth (18th), Leslie Nash (18th), Thomas Walsh (19th), Brian Tippetts (19th), Fr Pat Walsh (19th), Peter Davies (19th), Grace Nurse (21st), George Hobbs (22nd), Billy McDaid (22nd), Rosemary Henry (22nd), Michael Power (23rd), Julieta Ramos chin (23rd), Mary Gleeson (24th), Sheila Mills (24th), Mona Manion (25th) and Kamil Ciemniowski (25th).

Prayers for the sick: Pat Crompton, Consolacion De Dios Blanco, Carol Benson, Wynn McGhee, Terry Poole, Ian Vilanueva, Vicky Dunn, Natalie Edwards, Nigel Lamb, Doreen Baker, Anna Ryder, Keian Andersonn, Brian Phillips, Maria Kent, Edith Cull, Christopher Brown, Thomas Jayaseelan, Gordon Palmer, Michelle Cooke, Caitlin Godden, Alex Geddes, Maggie Hansell, Joan Geraghty, Bernadette Metcalf, Martin Thomas, Rebecca Lansdown, Angela Woulfe, Peter Kost, Margaret West-Sadler, Kerrie Lane, Ian Wright, Carol White, Theresa Cooper, Geraldine Armitage and Pat O'Connor.



We welcome everyone who is joining us today, and hope that you find it helpful to spend five minutes of silence and reflection before Mass: *We pray together*

God our Father, open the horizons of our minds and hearts so that we can see what hope your call holds for us. Pour out the overflowing gifts of your Spirit so that we, your church, may become a people of hope for our world. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Lady, Woman of Hope, pray for us. St Peter, Rock of Hope, pray for us. St Paul, Apostle of Hope, pray for us.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION for 11th February 2018 amounted to £372 + £398 = £770

Craft group donation £40 ~ Thank you for your generosity

CAFOD Lent Fast Day is on Friday 23rd February this year – Special giving envelopes are attached to the front of the bulletin and extras are available in the Narthex. CAFOD Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support those who don't have enough to eat. On Friday 23rd February can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal in solidarity? For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound.

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE – Mission

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

We've begun our Lenten pilgrimage and this first Sunday of Lent sends us back into the wilderness. Mark's account is short and to the point. He tells us that Jesus 'was with the wild beasts'. As we face the truth of our lives, as we seek to embrace the challenge and invitation of Jesus' own call, 'Repent', we have to face those demons, those wild beasts within. These are the things that need our focus and our attention during this season of renewal and growth – taming these wild things within us; letting go of the 'wild' things so that we grow to become more the person God calls us to be. But Jesus' first words in Mark's gospel also reveal to us the message we proclaim as missionary disciples: God's kingdom is near, God is near. May this first week of Lent allow God's nearness to come to those around us through the God we reveal in our words and our actions.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Year of Mission presentation and reflections planned at 7pm on 8th March and 17th May.

8th March – 'Discipleship' – there will be a short presentation in the church followed by refreshments and discussion in the hall.

17th May – 'Mission' – information to follow.

Please follow the links below to find interesting and useful resources:

Videos – A Year of St Mark: <https://cliftondiocese.com/diocese/future-full-hope/a-year-with-st-mark/>

Daily Lenten reflections: <https://cliftondiocese.com/lent-2018/>

For more information visit the Diocesan website:

<http://www.cliftondiocese.com/presentation-year-mission-resource-clifton-cathedral-29-november/>

Pope calls for Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace on 23rd February

Pope Francis has launched a special Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace for war-torn nations, in particular for the Democratic Republic of Congo and for South Sudan that are suffering protracted conflict, and he has invited all men and women, regardless of their religious denomination, to join him in a special Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace.

The Pope said that "Faced with the tragic protracted situations of conflict in different parts of the world, I invite all the faithful to take part in a special Day of Prayer and Fasting for Peace on February 23rd, the Friday of the First Week of Lent".

For more information please see <http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/News/Prayer-and-Fasting-for-Peace>

Sorry you're leaving...

It is with sadness that we announce that Elizabeth Thomas, our Parish Administrator, will soon be leaving us for a new role. Elizabeth has been a friendly and helpful face in our parish for many years and a gifted parish administrator – We will miss her enormously. There will be an opportunity to wish her well and say goodbye on Saturday 24th February after morning Mass in the Church Hall. It is likely there will be tea and cake involved!

We are therefore now able to advertise for a PARISH ADMINISTRATOR at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Churchdown to work Tuesday – Friday, 9.30am – 12.30pm (12 hours per week). The position involves all aspects of parish administration which need to be performed with discretion and confidentiality. The successful applicant will be computer literate with a working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Publisher systems. The Parish Office is situated in the Presbytery. For an Application Form and Job Description telephone the Presbytery on 01452-713254 or e-mail churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com

HOSPITAL STAY:- The Hospital Chaplains have no way of checking if a particular person is in hospital. Therefore it is essential that individuals and families let either the parish or the chaplaincy know if somebody is in hospital and Father Frank can follow it up. To leave a message on the chaplaincy answer phone, kindly call 0300 422 4286 for Cheltenham or 0300422 6200 for Gloucester, stating clearly the name of the Catholic Patient, and ,if known, what ward they are on. If you know that you are going in to hospital, please ask one of the Priests to give you the Sacrament of the Sick before going in



200 CLUB DRAW - JANUARY 2018

The January draw took place on Sunday 11th February and the lucky winners were:



<i>PRIZE</i>	<i>AMOUNT</i>	<i>WINNER</i>	<i>TICKET NO</i>
1 ST	£230	J Lewis	110
2 ND	£120	J Wright	229
3 RD	£60	B Smyth	218

If you would like to join please contact Paddy on 01452 309004 or e-mail patrickanderson1947@yahoo.com or e-mail the parish office churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com

THE DIOCESAN ICON OF ST MARK will be at English Martyrs, Tuffley Lane, Tuffley GL4 0NX on **Tuesday 20th February**. There will be Adoration at 9:30am as usual followed by Mass at 10am all welcome. Prior to that the Icon will be taken to Ecumenical Ministers prayers in Tuffley.

LET IT BE – INSPIRING NEW FILM COURSE ON MARY: Starting on 20th February English Martyrs Tuffley are running the new CaFE film on the life of Mary past & present. Filmed around the world with well-known experts and down-to-earth testimonies about how the example and prayer of Mary can help us grow in our everyday faith. As part of the course you will get your own Let It Be Book which includes the main content of the film plus lots of useful follow-on info and optional daily prayer reflections. Why not bring a friend and come and check out Session 1 in the English Martyrs Parish Hall, Tuffley Lane, Tuffley GL4 0NX from 7:30pm. Refreshments included. Book £2.

THE ROCK: A RECEPTION WITH BISHOP ROBERT Wednesday 21st February at 7pm. The Rock, St Peter's church, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham GL51 9AH. An opportunity to discuss the Rock's vision and development, the hear from The Rock's patron, Bishop Robert of Tewkesbury, and to find out more about how regular individual support makes such a difference to The Rock! The evening will include hot food. Contact Sharon Macaulay to book your place tel 01242 700700 or email sharon@therock.uk.com

(WOMEN'S) WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE: FRIDAY 2ND MARCH 2018

This year hosted by us at Our Lady's church

Refreshments in the hall from 10am, service starting at 10.30am

International and interdenominational - All God's creation is very good!

The interdenominational movement of the Women's World Day of Prayer invites everyone to attend one of over 5,000 services being held on Friday 2nd March – we will join an estimated 3 million people around the world that day in a service which has been written this year by one of the women of Suriname in South America.

Starting in Samoa as the sun rises, and ending as the sun sets off the coast of American Samoa, the service will have been translated into more than 95 languages and 1000 dialects as we are reminded that we have responsibilities in caring for this wonderful world we live in. We are asked to pray for conservation and the protection of wildlife through an awareness of pollution, misuse and abuse, and concerns for the future.

This is not simply a day of prayer for women, but for everyone who cares about our world and those who live in it.

If you can help with any aspect please contact Elizabeth in the Parish office, tel: 01452 713254 or email: churchdown.ourladys@cliftondiocese.com or Maria Gibbins tel: 07958 631600.

REHEARSAL: Friday 23rd February 2018 after morning Mass

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST: 1st – 3rd March 2018, 7pm & 12.30pm at All Saints Academy, Blaisdon Way, Cheltenham GL51 0WH. Tickets £5. Students from Year 7 – 13 are ready to amaze you as the infamous Beauty and the Beast characters we all know and love. Meet and greet the famous enchanted characters after the matinee show on Saturday 3rd March, 12.30pm – dress up as your favourite character – there is a prize for the best dressed! Book a ticket and grab tea with Mrs Potts! Email admin@asachelt.org or tel 01242 711200 or visit www.asachelt.org/beauty-and-the-beast for more information. There are some leaflets available in the Narthex.

IGNITE at St Peter's High School!

You are invited to IGNITE at St Peter's RC High School on **Friday 2nd March at 6.30pm**. We are delighted to welcome Tom Elliott a magician comedian described by TV's Miranda Hart as 'Such fun!' Tom will amaze us with his trick, delight us with his humour and inspire us with his Christian testimony. The evening would be great for any young people and families! Live praise and worship music too! Only £1. You can also check out our website on www.igniteloucester.com

GOSPEL CHOIR WORKSHOP: Singers and non-singers alike are invited to participate in The Beacon Gospel Choir Workshop on **Saturday 3rd March** (1-4pm), and then to perform with the choir at a charity concert at St Andrew's Churchdown on **Saturday 24th March**, 7pm, which will include music by 'Out of the Ashes'. All money raised will go to the St Andrew's mission fund. Tickets for the workshop (£15, includes concert) and concert (£10, includes glass of wine/soft drink) available from St Andrew's Church Office, 01452 712154, support@standrewschurchdown.org.uk.

FAITH AND LIGHT GLOUCESTERSHIRE: A Christian Association that brings together people with special needs of all ages, their families and friends for some worship followed by refreshments and some fun/craft activities. **Meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month** at 3pm in English Martyrs Church Hall, Tuffley Lane, Tuffley, Gloucester GL4 0NX. For further details please contact Fr Gerry gerry.walsh@cliftondiocese.com or 01452 412702 or Shelley Sullivan on 07808608991 or Shelley1270@gmail.com

LENTE DEVOTIONS AT OUR LADY'S 2018

Stations of the Cross will be at 6.00 p.m. on Fridays

IN LENT: the word **Alleluia** is not used in the Church's liturgy but is 'saved' for the great Easter Vigil where it is sung again with joy. The **Gloria** is not said during Lent (except on certain Feasts e.g. The Annunciation). There are no flowers in Church during Lent and from the Fifth Sunday of Lent until the Easter Vigil statues and pictures are covered in the Church. The liturgical colour for Lent is Purple or Violet.

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on 14th February

25th March: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

29th March: Thursday of the Lord's Supper (**Maundy Thursday**)

30th March: Friday of the Passion of the Lord (**Good Friday**)

31st March: Holy Saturday with **Easter Vigil: Service of Light** and **First Mass of Easter** in the evening.

1st April: Solemnity of Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord.

Bishop Declan invites you to join him during the season of Lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God, through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join him at one of five venues across the diocese as part of your Lenten Pilgrimage. **Our local service is at Immaculate Conception, Stroud on Thursday 8th March at 7pm.**

THERE ARE A RANGE OF INEXPENSIVE PUBLICATIONS TO HELP WITH OUR LENT PREPARATIONS FOR EASTER

Bible Alive: £2.50

Walk with Me: £1

My Day by Day: £1

Children's Calendar: Free



BAPTISM: If you are seeking Baptism for your child, at Our Lady's, we prepare parents and Godparents over four sessions. You will be invited to attend Sunday 10:30 Mass followed by an hour's formation session with other families seeking baptism. Sessions are held at St Mary's Primary school. The course is run by catechists who will journey with you during this formation period.

Details of Baptism Courses during 2018: * 29th April / 6th May / 13th May / 20th May * 9th Sept / 16th Sept / 23rd Sept / 30th Sept * **Please phone or email the Parish Office to register for the course, to arrange a date for the baptism and to obtain a baptism application form.** Telephone: 01452 713254 Email: churchdown.ourlady@parish.cliftondiocese.com



formally recognised as a Fairtrade Parish by CAFOD



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Parish Administrator: Elizabeth Thomas. Parish Office open Tuesday - Friday 9.15am – 12.30pm.

Please submit items for the Bulletin to the Presbytery by WEDNESDAY.

If you would like to receive a weekly electronic version of this bulletin please email: churchdown.ourlady@cliftondiocese.com

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