



A WARM WELCOME TO THE PARISH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Beeches Green • STROUD • GL5 4AA • (01453) 762442

✉ stroud.immaculateconception@cliftondiocese.com 📞 stroud.catholicchurch.com



Parish Priest: Father Gary Brassington - gary.brassington@cliftondiocese.com

Deacon: Steve Bentley Tel: (01453) 751101 Parish Administrator: Marilynne Morgan

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Caroline Rush ✉: PSR.stroud.immaculateconception@cliftondiocese.com

Third Week of Lent

Sunday Cycle Year C, Weekday Cycle Year 1, Psalter Week 3

Date	Mass Times	Celebrations	Intentions
Sunday 23rd March	6:30pm (<i>Saturday</i>) 8:30am (<i>Painswick</i>) 10:00am	Third Sunday of Lent	Special Intention People of the Parishes Theresa Igoe R.I.P.
Monday 24th March	11:30am (<i>Woodchester</i>)	Funeral Mass	Mike Cleaveley
Tuesday 25th March	6:00pm (<i>Woodchester</i>)	Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord	People of the Parish
Wednesday 26th March	6:00pm	Weekday of Lent	Special Intention
Thursday 27th March	10:00am	Weekday of Lent	Pat Stephens
Friday 28th March	9:30am (<i>Woodchester</i>)	Weekday of Lent	Special Intention
Saturday 29th March		Weekday of Lent	
Sunday 30th March	6:30pm (<i>Saturday</i>) 8:30am (<i>Painswick</i>) 10:00am	Fourth Sunday of Lent	Michael & Elizabeth Cavanagh People of the Parishes Paddy Dowling R.I.P.

There is Mass at More Hall Convent on Sundays at 11:00am and Weekdays at 8:15am

Diocesan Prayer Link: We pray for the parishes of: Saint Joseph, Wroughton; and Holy Family, Swindon.

Holy Year – Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope

May the grace of the Jubilee spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March 2025 is for families in crisis. Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

We continue to pray for peace in the world, including the situations in the Middle East and Ukraine. Donations for the Cafod Appeals can be made online: for the Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at <https://cafod.org.uk/?form=israelipalestiniancrisis>; and for the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal at <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Ukraine-crisis>.

YOUR PRAYERS are asked for those who are housebound, in nursing homes, in hospital or sick including:

Jeanette Cass, Sam Kirby, Susan Squire, Mary Towell, Caroline Sellick, Paddi Spruyt, Naomi King, Maggie Ind, Conrad Newman, Jo Curtan, Mary Paul, Virginia Couchman, Edward Johnson, Maria Capicotto, Sarah Williams, Gisele Smart, Gerardo Capaldo, Clare McDermott, Pat King, June & John Privett, Olivia Bouzyk, Raphael Moore, Ursula Kyne, Brian O'Donoghue, Lisa Knight, Francis Kerrigan, Monika Smit, Rebecca Frazier, Joan O'Donoghue, Peter Ollis, Anne Allen, Sister Catherine, Daryl Jackson, Jamie Watt, Peter Tay, Janie Wilmot, Kevin Sivell, Niall Walker, Murray Dolan, Cecilia Redgrave, Christopher & Clifford Browne, Victor Vincent, Stephen Carden, John Stephens, Phyllis Bruton, Marilyn Anderson, Chris Strong, Kate Thorley, Amanda Mullins, Paul O'Keith, Simon Terry, Anna Dowdeswell, Stephen & Paul Coupe, Anthea Van Venroy, Maisie McGinley and all their carers.

To add a name to this list please contact the parish office – please ensure you have the agreement of the sick person.

Second Collection this weekend for the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham.

Second Collection next weekend for the Priests' Retirement Fund.

First Holy Communion: Congratulations to those children who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last Sunday. There will be a parents' meeting this Thursday 27th March (7:00pm – 8:30pm) in the parish hall. The next children's session will be on Saturday 5th April (2:00pm – 4:30pm).

Chrism Mass: The Chrism Mass takes place at Clifton Cathedral at 11:00am on the Wednesday of Holy Week, 16th April. We hope to have a coach leaving Stroud at 8:45am (with later pickups at Stonehouse and Dursley). The coach is due to leave the Cathedral at 12:30pm for the return journey. The cost will be £8.50 per adult (£3 per child) and will be collected on the coach. There are sheets to sign in our churches if you would like to reserve a place or contact the parish office. This is one of the great diocesan occasions of the year.

Bacon Sandwiches in the parish hall after the 10:00am Mass next Sunday along with the normal refreshments.

Parish Solemnity: This Tuesday is the patronal feast at Woodchester with the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord. There will be Mass that day at 6:00pm at Woodchester.

Stations of the Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross will be each Friday of Lent at 7:00pm at Saint Joseph's, Stonehouse, and some Wednesdays during Lent after the morning Mass in our parish church. The Wednesday evening Children's Stations of the Cross has been discontinued due to non-attendance. There will be a **Family Stations of the Cross** on Good Friday 18th April at 12:00 noon.

Easter Concert: Saint Peter's High School Choral Society is delighted to be offering their annual Easter concert, 'Pilgrims of Hope' at Saint Peter's Catholic Church, Gloucester this Thursday 27th March at 7:00pm. This will be an uplifting and eclectic showcase of some wonderful choral and instrumental music from a wide range of genres to celebrate this Jubilee Year. Tickets (£3.00 adults and £1.00 concessions) are available from the main school reception on 01452 520594. Alternatively, please email: boxoffice@sphs.uk.com.

Saint Peter's High School Reunion for those who were in Year 1 in September 1972. This will take place at the Gloucester Irish Club (Horton Road, Gloucester GL1 3QA) on Saturday 29th March beginning at 7:00pm. Please confirm attendance (or request further details) via email marypthorne@hotmail.com. There will be a charge of £5 per person on the door to cover costs and donations to charity. Please invite others you may know from that year to also make contact with Mary (née Barron) via the same email address.

Lenten Soup Lunch at Saint Joseph's, Stonehouse from 12:00 noon on Thursday 3rd April. Suggested donation is £5 with proceeds shared between Cafod and Garas.

Year of Hope Reflections: There will be a session on Thursday 3rd April at 2:00pm (refreshments from 1:45pm) at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud. giving us the opportunity to reflect on some readings for this Holy Year and to discuss what the Year of Hope means to us in our daily lives. The session will be The session will finish around 3:00pm. All are welcome.

Five Mile Walk: The parish of the Annunciation, Woodchester, invite us to join their five-mile parish walk on Saturday 5th April, leaving from the Annunciation church car park at 2:00pm. The walk will be to Woodchester Mansion (where refreshments can be bought or a picnic eaten) before returning by a different route. Good boots/shoes are necessary, and well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome. Donations for Cafod will be collected on the day.

Newman Association talk on Tuesday 1st April at 2.30pm in the lounge of Sacred Hearts' Hall (Moorend Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham GL53 9AU). Dr. Dr Austen Iveigh, the Catholic author of two renowned biographies of Pope Francis, will be giving a talk on 'The Triumph of Failure: Why did Jesus have to suffer?' All are welcome. Admission is £3.00 (members & students free). Enquires: Stephanie Jamison (01242 539810).

We remember in our prayers Mike Cleaveley (Funeral Mass at Woodchester on Monday at 11:30am) and Jacob Wood who died recently. We also pray for their families and friends.