

SAINT JOSEPH'S, STONEHOUSE & THE ANNUNCIATION, WOODCHESTER

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For hall bookings at Saint Joseph's please email: hallbookings.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - PSALTER WEEK 4 – 2ND MARCH 2025

DAY	TIME	PARISH	INTENTION
Sunday	9:00am	Saint Joseph's	People of the parish
	11:00am	The Annunciation	People of the parish
Monday	12:00 noon	Saint Joseph's	Funeral Mass for Katherine Bassi
Tuesday	12:00 noon	The Immaculate Conception	Funeral Mass for Tony Gillespie
Wednesday	10:00am	Saint Joseph's	ASH WEDNESDAY
	12:00 noon	The Annunciation	
Thursday	10:00am	The Immaculate Conception	Thanksgiving for Holly
Friday	9:30am	The Annunciation	Angela Middleditch
	11:30am	The Immaculate Conception	Funeral Service for Christine Mirkovic
Saturday	6:30pm	The Immaculate Conception	Patrick Hanley R.I.P.

FEASTS THIS WEEK

Sunday	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday	Weekday in Ordinary Time
Tuesday	Weekday in Ordinary Time
Wednesday	ASH WEDNESDAY
Thursday	Weekday of Lent
Friday	Weekday of Lent
Saturday	First Sunday of Lent

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT SAINT JOSEPH'S

Mike Gibbons and Olga, Aine Anderson, Mary Scully, Maggie,
Sylvia Haskell, Danielle Haskell, Chris Cory,
Dave Wakefield, Mario Bassi, Carole Cooper, Kevin & Daniel Anderson.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL AT THE ANNUNCIATION

Father Richard Finn O.P. and family, Rebekah Hollingshead, Brendon Conboy, Barry Norris, Peggy Chapman,
John Presland, Georgina Mazzone, Trese Hulbert, Chris Jay, Anne Chandler, Giles Boon,
Helen Knight.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

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.

DIOCESAN PRAYER LINK

St Dunstan, Somerton
Holy Ghost, Yeovil, with South Petherton

SAINT JOSEPH'S & THE ANNUNCIATION

Ash Wednesday is this Wednesday and marks the beginning of Lent. Although it is not a holy day of obligation, there will be Masses at 10:00am at Stonehouse; and 12:00 noon at Woodchester. There will also be Masses at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud at 10:00am and 7:00pm. The blessing and distribution of ashes, which come from burnt palm branches, will take place during these Masses. This is a day of fast and abstinence. The law of abstinence binds those who have completed their 14th year and flesh meat is forbidden. The law of fasting binds those between 18 and 59 years of age (unless a medical condition prevents this), when one main meal and collations are allowed. Also do please remember that since September 2011 every Friday which is not a solemnity is a day of abstinence.

Stations of the Cross: There will be **Stations of the Cross** each Friday of Lent at 7:00pm at Saint Joseph's, Stonehouse. There will be a **Children's Stations of the Cross** at 6:00pm each Wednesday during Lent (beginning on 12th March) at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud.

First Holy Communion: Our First Holy Communion programme began this week. Our First Holy Communion children will show their commitment to this time of preparation during the Masses this Sunday. The next children's session will be on Saturday 15th March (2:00pm – 4:30pm) at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud.

Grandparents Group meets every 1st Wednesday of the month at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud at 2:00pm (Coffee/tea and biscuits from 1:30pm). Everyone is welcome to this group for the exchange of experience, prayers and readings. Next meeting this Wednesday 5th March.

Rite of Election takes place at Clifton Cathedral next Saturday 8th March at 11:00am. We are invited to gather with adults seeking baptism or reception into the Church at Easter from across our diocese, including one from our parishes, for this important step in their journey of faith. We pray for all those in our parish and beyond who are discerning and journeying towards baptism or reception.

Year of Hope Reflections: There will be two sessions in our parishes 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 sessions are in the parish halls at 2:00pm (refreshments from 1:45pm) on Wednesday 12th March in Saint Joseph's, Stonehouse, and on Thursday 3rd April at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud. The sessions will finish around 3:00pm. All are welcome to one or both sessions.

Lenten Reconciliation Service: Bishop Bosco will be with us on Thursday 13th March at 7:00pm for a Lenten Reconciliation Service for our pastoral area at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud. Please consider coming for this celebration of God's mercy and forgiveness with the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) with one of the priests present. There will be refreshments in the parish hall afterwards.

Cafod Lent Fast Day is on Friday 14th March and there will be a soup lunch at the Immaculate Conception, Stroud (12:00 noon – 1:00pm) on that day.

Catholic Homeschool Information Meeting at Saint John the Evangelist Church, Bath, on Saturday 29th March (10:30 am – 12:00 noon). Have you heard about homeschooling and wondered how it works? Come and hear from experienced Catholic mums who will share their insights and answer your questions. For more information please contact Helen Harrold (07425 154592) or Hannah Grimes (07801 566626).

We remember in our prayers Katherine Bassi (Funeral Mass at Stonehouse on Monday at 12:00 noon), Tony Gillespie (Funeral Mass at Stroud on Tuesday at 12:00 noon) and Christine Mirkovic (Funeral Service at Stroud on Friday at 11:30am) who died recently. We also pray for their families and friends.

THE ANNUNCIATION

Dates for your diaries.

Shrove Tuesday March 4th. Pancake Day. We will be in the Parish Rooms at St. George's in Nailsworth from 11.30am - 1.30pm selling our pancakes with all profits going to CAFOD.

Friday 7th March at 11am. World Day of Prayer will be in St. George's, Nailsworth. Organised by Churches Together in Nailsworth of which we are a member.

Friday March 14th is CAFOD's Lent Fast Day. Envelopes will be given out on Sunday 9th and can be brought back on Sunday 16th.

Please also take a collecting box so that any of your Lenten offerings/savings can be added to the box and brought back at Easter.

SAINT JOSEPH'S

Website: The new address for the website is www.stjosephsstonehouse.co.uk. It is a work in progress currently and if you have any ideas or comments please let us know.

St Joseph's is hosting the annual World Day of Prayer this year in the hall on Friday 7th March at 12 noon. The 2025 service is being prepared by Christian women in the Cook Islands. Everyone is welcome, please support if you are able.

Lent Lunches: Thursday 6th March and Thursday 3rd April, from 12 noon. All donations will be given to aid people fleeing from conflict and warfare through CAFOD and GARAS. Please join with the CTIS and community to support this worthy cause.

100 Club this month's draw will take place on Sunday 02/03/25 in the hall after Mass.

Item for the Newsletter? You can send items for the newsletter (by the Wednesday) to stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com or post them through the presbytery letterbox. For the Annunciation, email: woodchester.theannunciation@cliftondiocese.com or post in the church letterbox (by front gate) or leave a message on 01453 822121. Any financial matters for Stonehouse, please email. Any health and safety matters for Stonehouse, please email HS.stonehouse.stjoseph@cliftondiocese.com