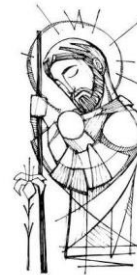




St Francis of Assisi Church
Ash Hayes Road
Nailsea BS48 2LP
01275 851530

The Catholic Parishes of Saint Francis of Assisi, Nailsea & Saint Joseph, Portishead



St Joseph's Church
West Hill
Portishead BS20 6LN
01275 842912

Sunday 24th October 2021
30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Parish Priest:	Father Richard Elson	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01275 851530
Deacons:	Rev Didier Delaplace Rev Ivan Reynolds	didier.delaplace@cliftondiocese.com ivan.reynolds@cliftondiocese.com	07895 885315 01275 858639
Parish Administrator:	Mrs Elaine Shiel	stjosephandstfrancis@cliftondiocese.com	
Office Hours:	Nailsea Portishead	Mon & Thurs 9.30am – 1pm Tues & Fri 10.30am – 1pm	01275 851530 01275 842912
Parish website:	www.josephfrancis.org		

This Week's Mass Times

Saturday 23 rd October	6pm	St Joseph	30 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sunday 24 th October	9am	St Joseph		
	11am	St Francis		
	6pm	St Francis		
Monday 25 th October	9am	St Francis	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday 26 th October	10am	St Joseph	Memorial of Saints Chad and Cedd	<i>Mary Green (RIP)</i>
Wednesday 27 th October	7pm	St Francis	Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Thursday 28 th October	9.15am	St Francis	Feast of Saints Simon and Jude	
Friday 29 th October	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Saturday 30 th October	10am	St Joseph	Our Lady on Saturday	
	6pm	St Joseph	Solemnity of All Saints	

Confessions

Wednesday	6.30-6.50pm	St Francis
Saturday	5.30-5.50pm	St Joseph
Sunday	5.30-5.50pm	St Francis

Adoration

Tuesday	2-3pm	St Francis
Wednesday	12-10pm	St Joseph
Thursday	8-9pm	St Francis

THE WORD THIS WEEK

All of Jesus' miracles can be read in many different ways: there is always a message – almost a parable – behind each one, that tells us something about God, about his care for his people, about Jesus and about the promises God has made to us, his children. Today is no exception: on the simplest level, we see Jesus offering the greatest gift he could give to Bartimaeus – the gift of sight. It shows us Jesus' love and care for those who suffer. But that alone is not the whole meaning of this story, as the first reading makes clear: there, through Jeremiah, God promises to gather his children into a new and perfect Kingdom, washing away the tears and restoring comfort. So Jesus appears as a fulfilment of this prophecy, as the One who brings this Kingdom into the world. But it doesn't end there: in our own age we still have the blind, and those who suffer: there are still tears to be washed away – Jesus' work is begun, but not completed. God's promises extend to us as well. As followers of Jesus, we should imitate him in doing what we can to bring that comfort which is the Kingdom of God to all in need.

THE SYNOD PRAYER

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.
All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen.

NOVEMBER LIST & MASSES

This month of the Holy Souls is always an opportunity to pray for those who have died. November envelopes are available at St Joseph's and St Francis' for you to make use of for the November Dead List, please return them to the Presbytery or the Church as soon as possible. It is also worth thinking about the Masses you might want celebrated during November as they do get requested early on. Envelopes for Mass Intentions are also available, please make sure you indicate a preferred date and check with Fr Richard if there is a particular date you would really like.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY 24th OCTOBER

World Mission Sunday is being celebrated in every Catholic parish around the world today! It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope's charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Sister Veronica build peace in Nigeria and share the love of Christ with those most in need. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. There will be a second collection at all Masses this Sunday. You can also call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation, if possible: www.missio.org.uk

BAPTISM

Cooper James David Hughes is to be baptised at St Joseph's on Saturday 30th October. Please keep Cooper and his family in your prayers as we welcome him into God's family.

DARE TO DREAM

Please follow the link to listen to short inspiring reflections given by our diocesan priests. This week Fr Richard reflects on this Sunday's Gospel and the local stage of the Synod process <https://cliftondiocese.com/dare-to-dream>

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHAEL FLEXMAN

Congratulations to Michael Flexman who received The Bishop's Award at last Sunday's Mass. He is one of a very small number of recipients of this award from Bishop Declan and has received the award for his exceptional contribution to Catholic Education. Michael has just stepped down as Chair of Governors at St Joseph's School after 20 years continuous service as a Governor and continues to make a very generous contribution to the life of our parish.

PORTISHEAD COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Portishead Community Fridge is a new local group that has been set up to tackle food waste in our area and to offer surplus fresh fruit and vegetables free of charge to local residents. As a way of publicising the project, we will be hosting a 'Surplus Table' in St Joseph's church hall from 11am to 2pm on Saturday, 23 October. Please let anyone know who might be interested in coming along and bring your own bag if you would like to take home some free, fresh produce!

If you are interested in this project and would like to find out more, please contact Janet Steward (ijnstew@gmail.com)

DARTS FOR ALL Thursday 28th October - Join the darts players for a social evening of darts play and chat from 7.30pm - 9pm in St Joseph's church hall, Portishead. Darts can be supplied but please bring your own drink. Nibbles provided.

HOLIDAY

I will be away from the office on Monday 25th & Tuesday 26th October. Regards Elaine

PORTISHEAD FOODBANK

Foodbank this week asks for UHT milk, jars of mayonnaise (to go with tuna sandwiches), and tinned fruit. Avoid pasta or cereals: they have more than enough.

Many thanks for your ongoing generosity.

CLIFTON CHILDRENS SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Please see the posters in the church porches about the Christmas Cards available from the Clifton Children's Society. Further details are available from their website www.ccsadoption.org

TOY FAIR AT ST FRANCIS

We are holding a Pre-Christmas sale of good quality children's toys, games, puzzles and books in aid of our Three Charities Zambia after each Mass at St Francis on Sunday 21st November. This will help us both to re-use items and raise money to alleviate poverty in Zambia. We have started to collect clean and good quality children's toys and books in advance. Please contact me Liz on 07765252601 (I'm happy to collect) or perhaps they can be dropped off in St Francis church porch. Thank you all so much

ST JOSEPH'S PRE-SCHOOL

It is a really special week for us at St Joseph's School; we are formally celebrating the opening of the new preschool on Friday 22nd October. We are now fully operational and have places available. If you or your friends & family are looking for local preschool places then please email preschool@st-josephs.org.uk

We want to fully support the Grand Appeal at this event in recognition of the amazing work they do at the Bristol Children's Hospital. If you would like to donate with or without gift-aid please add to our school JustGiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/stjosephsschoolportishead>

A MESSAGE FROM CAFOD

Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal for our recent Family Fast Day. Every donation helps us in our work and is gratefully received. cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis

Please pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31 October to 12 November. There are prayer cards at the back of church; please do take one and pray that that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world, those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see cafod.org.uk/COP26

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.

54th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ABORTION ACT

Wednesday 27th October is the 54th anniversary of the Abortion Act being passed in England and Wales. Since 1967 over nine million babies have lost their lives to abortion. Millions of women and men have also had to deal with the suffering which so often follows an abortion. Please join us in praying and fasting for the end of abortion in this country on Wednesday 27th October. For Post Abortion help and to support Pro-Life counselling see; www.GoodCounselNetwork.com"

SYNOD INFORMATION SESSIONS

So that we can all fully understand what Pope Francis is asking for our participation in the Synod, we are offering information sessions to give everyone an opportunity to find out more and so be able to fully engage with the process. The dates of the information sessions are:

6 November, **10am-12noon:** St John's Centre, Trowbridge

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/trowbridge-synod-information-sessions-tickets-190920838367>

6 November, **2.30pm-4.30pm:** St Patrick, Brockworth

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/brockworth-synod-information-sessions-tickets-190970737617>

13 November, **10am-12noon:** Emmaus House, Bristol

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bristol-synod-information-sessions-tickets-190972171907>

13 November, **2pm-4pm:** St Joseph, Bridgwater

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bridgwater-synod-information-sessions-tickets-190973525957>

If you plan to attend one of the sessions around the diocese, please let us know through the Eventbrite link above.

Also, we are holding two online Teams sessions on 8 & 9 November at 7pm. If you intend to participate in one of the online Teams sessions please let us know at the synod@cliftondiocese.com email address so that we can send a Teams invite a few days before the event.