



NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:

Valerie Gemmell

WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME:

John Grimoldby, Victor Smith, Michael Simon-Norris, Gordon Phelan, Ronald Cunnighamm Mr Rooker, Maurice Clasby, Stella Moir, Olga Audsley, Kathlyn Thomas, Angela Pacey, Henry Davey, Alan Thistlethwaite, Sara Frounks, Pam Richards, Kathleen Wright, Owen Piper, Janet Lindsay, Joseph Alkins, Phyllis Hill, Terence O'Rourke, Jerzy Komarnicki, Sheila Pietraz, Jean Cope, Norman Austin Spear, Irene Sheerin, Michele Del Grosso, Hannah Carey, Lorna Kellett, Joy Mathilda Brown, Josephine Armitage, Jenny Richards.

AND THOSE WHO ARE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

Elizabeth Smart, Brian Smart, Julia Tucker, Catherine Twomey, Sister Theresa Smythe, Sue Atkins, Madeleine Page, Alma Hamilton, Jill Tansley, Anna Hradil, Penny Watson, Michael O'Connell, Paul Thorpe, Maureen Hughes, Anna Bingham, Mary Hutchings, Margaritha Gibson, Anne King, Graham King, Hazel Grimoldby, Mavis Parsons, Marie Mackay, Richard Fairfax, Roger Dore, Florencia Duga, Sandra Jones, Christopher Browne, Eveleen O'Farrell, Jane Tolfree, Carmel Allan, Sean Carroll, Martin Connolly, Joseph Hughes, Imogen Jenkins, Paul Jones, Riza Carol Khan, Esther Page, Lochlan Quinlan, Sr Raymond SSJA, Michael Sigsworth, Vera Terry, Mary Wallace.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sat	29 th	5:30pm	St John Fisher	First Sunday of Advent	Andrew Constantine RIP
Sun	30 th	8:00am	St George	First Sunday of Advent	Deceased Members of the Mann and Boalch Families
Sun	30 th	9:15am	St George	First Sunday of Advent	Pauline Atherton RIP
Sun	30 th	11:00am	St Teresa	First Sunday of Advent	In Thanksgiving for Joshua's Recovery
Mon	1 st	9:30am	St George	Memorial of St Alexander Briant, Martyr	CMBF
Tues	2 nd	9:30am	St George	Weekday of Advent	Thomas O'Brien RIP
Tues	2 nd	1:15pm	Musgrove Chapel	Weekday of Advent	People of the Parishes
Wed	3 rd	9:30am	St George	Memorial of St Francis Xavier	For the Repose of the Soul of Lorna Kellett
Wed	3 rd	6:15pm	St George	Weekday in Ordinary Time	In Honour and for the Most Holy Trinity, Mother Mary, St Joseph and all angels and saints; for all Souls in Purgatory and Sinners everywhere.
Thurs	4 th	9:30am	St John Fisher	Memorial of St Osmund	People of the Parishes
Thurs	4 th	12:30pm	St George	Memorial of St Osmund	Helena and Freddie Samuels RIP
Fri	5 th	10:00am	St Teresa	Weekday of Advent	Gerrard and Kathleen McStay
Sat	6 th	9:30am	St George	Weekday of Advent	Majella Walsh RIP
Sat	6 th	5:30pm	St John Fisher	Second Sunday of Advent	Jackie Santo RIP
Sun	7 th	8:00am	St George	Second Sunday of Advent	The Mann and Boalch Families RIP
Sun	7 th	9:15am	St George	Second Sunday of Advent	Maria Mateus RIP
Sun	7 th	11:00am	St Teresa	Second Sunday of Advent	Noreen Ring

CONTACT US

Parish Priest: Fr David Savoury VF david.savoury@cliftondiocese.com

Assistant Priest: Fr Noriel Salvador Noriel.salvador@cliftondiocese.com

Permanent Deacon: Rev Trevor Jones trevor.jones@cliftondiocese.com 01823 270935

PARISH WEBSITE: <https://tauntonvalecatholics.com>

Parish Administrator: Diz Horne taunton.stgeorge@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Office: 01823 272700 Mon 9-1, Tues-Thurs 9-2, Fri 9-4

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE:

John Twomey psr.taunton.stgeorge@cliftondiocese.com

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING OFFICE: safeguarding@cliftondiocese.com 0117 954 0993

This week's gospel quickens us with the thought that the coming of the Son of Man will be sudden, arriving in some unexpected moment. As at the time of Noah, people were eating, drinking, marrying—living life as usual—completely unaware of imminent judgment. Jesus' intention in making this comparison is not to instil fear, but to make us attentive: "Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour. "We must be vigilant! The essence of readiness, here, is not so much about predicting timelines but rather about growing into a way of life characterized by faithfulness, spiritual integrity.

Paul's teaching in Romans 13:11–14a expands this theme. He urges believers to recognize "the present time"—the nearness of salvation and the urgency it creates. "Wake from sleep," he says, for complacency is incompatible with life in Christ. Just as Jesus warns against living as though nothing significant lies ahead, Paul warns against drifting through life spiritually numbed by indulgence, distraction, or apathy. Instead, he calls Christians to "put on the Lord Jesus Christ," allowing Christ's character to shape their conduct, desires, and decisions.

Together, these passages form a powerful invitation to live in an awakened state. (Though, I don't mean being "woke"!)

Readiness is not passive waiting but intentional discipleship: resisting the shadows and stepping into the light of Christ. Both Matthew and Romans remind us that each ordinary moment is spiritually significant. The return of Christ may be unexpected, but the life of a disciple is marked by expectation—alert, hopeful, and aligned with God's purposes. To live ready is to live transformed, allowing the nearness of God's kingdom to shape how we act, love, and walk each day.

FATHER DAVID SAVOURY

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT SERVICE OF READINGS, REFLECTIONS AND MUSIC – 3.30pm, this Sunday 30th November, in St George's Church, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. All welcome.

SVP: The popular Parish Advent Soups return Thursday, December 4, in the Catholic Centre following the 12.30pm Mass at St George's. On Thursday, December 11, pupils from St George's will be joining us to serve mince pies and cream!

The final soup session takes place on December 18. All welcome.

ST TERESA: it's Soup and a Roll this Sunday after Mass.

St Teresa's Jesse tree will be supporting the Foodbank again.

There will be tags on the tree with different amounts of donations. If you would like to support them all year round, a standing order form and stamped envelopes will be near the tree.

ST GEORGE JESSE TREE: St Georges Junior Choir have kindly put up the Jesse Tree. As is our tradition please can you support the homeless by taking a label and providing them with your chosen gift. Please can you put your presents under the Jesse Tree by 21st December so that we can deliver them to Open Door in time for Christmas. Thank you for your ongoing support.

REMEMBRANCE MASS: This year's Remembrance Mass for families who have lost a child (from conception to adulthood) will be held on Saturday 13 December 2025 at 3pm. Join together and light a candle as we pray for comfort, peace, and strength from the Holy Spirit. Special Remembrance books at the back of all churches if you would like to add your child's name. All are warmly invited to this Mass and for tea afterwards in the parish centre.

SYRO-MALABAR MASS: every 2nd and 4th Sunday at St George at 2pm and 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays at St Teresa at 5pm (**this Sunday 30th changed to 2pm**). The Syro Malabar Christmas Vigil takes place St Teresa on the 24th December at 10pm. All welcome to join us.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE OF CAROLS AND READINGS BY CANDLELIGHT: 3.30pm Sunday 21st December, in St George's Church. This service will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Centre.

SIMBANG GABI MASSES: will be celebrated at St George's Church from the 16th to the 24th December at 6am.

ST GEORGE'S RECTORY: locks will be changed on Monday. Please see Fr David if you feel you need a new key.

CONFESSION TIMES: At St George's: Sat 10am-10:30am;

Thurs 12 noon -12:30pm

At St Teresa's: Fri 9:30am -10am at St John Fisher: Sat 5pm-5:25pm

ADORATION TIMES:

At St George Tues-Sun-6:30am-7:30am;

Wed 6:30am-9:30am; Tue-Fri 5-6pm; Thurs 12 -12:25pm; Fri 5:00am – 9:00pm

Saturdays 10am-11am (Children's Holy hour); St Teresa: Mon 10am; St John Fisher: Wed 5pm-6pm; Thurs 10-12pm

BENEDICTION: 7pm Fridays at St George's Catholic Church

PARISH COMMUNITIES & FELLOWSHIPS:

LEGION OF MARY: meet Thursday 6:30-pm in the Catholic Centre. All welcome

AFRICAN CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP: meet Sunday 7th December after 9:15am Mass in the Parish Centre.

PINOY CLUB: next meet Sunday 21st December after 9:15am Mass in the Centre

NOTICES

Diocesan Prayer Link: Our Lady, St Mary of Glastonbury, Glastonbury; St Michael, Shepton Mallet; Our lady Queen of the Apostles, Cheddar; St Joseph and St Teresa, Wells.

Standing Orders: 23/11/2025

St George: £2153.42 St Teresa: £369.92

St John Fisher: £176.08

Offertory Collection: 23/11/2025

St George: £1297.37 St Teresa: £272.70

St John Fisher: £173.20

SECOND COLLECTION: Poor Missions of the Diocese on the weekend of the 7th December.

ST JOHN FISHER ADVENT LUNCHESES: Next lunches are 3rd, 10th and 17th December. Meetings will be from 12 -1.30. Bring a packed lunch-hot drinks provided.

CALLING ALL SINGERS: St Georges Choir practices 7.30pm-9pm Thursday, Junior Choir 7pm – 8.15pm.

ST TERESA'S MUSIC GROUP: Help! St Teresa's music group is looking for some more musicians to play on Sunday mornings and over the Christmas period i.e. 21st, 25th and 28th December. We need a keyboard/pianist who could help out even just once or twice a month and would welcome anyone who can play woodwind or strings. You do not have to be a grade 8 musician so please get in touch if you are interested or have visitors over Christmas who would like to play? Contact Eileen at eileen.binding@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS VIGIL FAMILY MASS: 24th December 4.30 pm at St Teresa's. Children are invited to come dressed in shepherd or angel outfits.

CHRISTMAS GIFT SHOPS: St Teresa and St George bookshops are filled with gifts, cards and items for Advent and Christmas. Limited copies of Diocesan Directories and Diaries available £6/£6.50 each.

BOOK GROUP: will next meet on Wednesday 3rd December 2.00 pm. Info from the Parish Office.

PRAYER GROUPS:

Charismatic Prayer Group: every Wednesday 10am-11.30am St. George's Centre

Led Holy Hour: St George's on the last Wednesday of the month 7:30-8:30pm

Mother's Prayer: Every other Thurs 8-10pm Parish Centre.

Prepare for Sunday praying the Mass readings together:

St George's Centre, 2pm on December 4th and 18th

Pray the Rosary: Tues 6:15pm St George's Church; 1st Tuesday of the month at 10:30am St John Fisher Church.

HEALING PRAYER MINISTRIES:

1st weekend each month after all Masses except 8am & after Mass on 3rd Sat at St. George.

Also appointments are available by mail: healing@tauntonvalecatholics.com