



TAUNTON VALE
CATHOLICS

NEWSLETTER

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY:

Vic Smith, Bernadette Fiddaman, David Sweet, Father Bernard Carpenter, Veronica (Vee) Grother, Father Paul Gonsalves MSFS.

WE REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT

THIS TIME: Michael Simon Norris, Gordon Phelan, Ronald Cunningham, 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 Kindsay, Joseph Alkins, Phyllis Hill, Terence O'Rourke, Jerzy Komarnicki, Sheila Pietraz, Jean Cope, Norman Spear, Irene Sheerin, Michele Del Grosso, Hannah Carey, Joy Mathilda Brown, Josephine Armitage, Jenny Richards, Jessie Popple, Violet Larkin, Lucy Whitfield, Simon

AND THOSE WHO ARE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

Madeleine Page, Alma Hamilton, Chris Edley, Jill Tansley, Anna Hradil, Penny Watson, Michael O'Connell, Paul Thorpe, Maureen Hughes, Margaret Smith, Anna Bingham, Mary Hutchings, Margaritha Gibson, Anne King, Graham King, Hazel Grimoldby, Jan Rimmer, 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, Monica Macauley, Esther Page, Lochlan Quinlan, Jane Randall, Sr Raymond SSJA, Michael Sigsworth, Norman Surridge, Vera Terry, Mary Wallace.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sat	30 th	5:30pm	St John Fisher	First Sunday of Advent	David Sweet RIP
Sun	1 st	8:00am	St George	First Sunday of Advent	Deceased Members of the Mann & Boalch Families
Sun	1 st	9:15am	St George	First Sunday of Advent	CMBF
Sun	1 st	11:00am	St Teresa	First Sunday of Advent	Lucy Bussatil RIP
Sun	1st	4:00pm	St George	Advent Service	
Mon	2 nd	9:30am	St George	Weekday of Advent	Margaret O'Brien RIP
Tues	3 rd	9:30am	St George	Memorial of St Francis Xavier	Matt Olinarez RIP
Tues	3rd	6:00pm	St George	Reception and Mass for Fr Bernard Carpenter	
Wed	4 th	9:30am	St George	Memorial of St Osmund	In Memory of Helena & Freddie Samuels RIP
Wed	4th	1:00pm	St George	Funeral Mass of Fr. Bernard Carpenter	
Thurs	5 th	9:30am	St John Fisher	Weekday of Advent	People of the Parishes
Thurs	5th	12:30pm	St George	Wedding Mass of Joseph & Rosalia	Thomas O'Brien RIP
Fri	6 th	10:00am	St Teresa	Weekday of Advent	Gerrard and Kathleen McStay RIP
Sat	7 th	9:30am	St George	Memorial of St Ambrose	Majella Walsh RIP
Sat	7 th	5:30pm	St John Fisher	Second Sunday of Advent	Fr Ikeokwu Nduh MSP
Sun	8 th	8:00am	St George	Second Sunday of Advent	Maria Mateus RIP
Sun	8 th	9:15am	St George	Second Sunday of Advent	Deceased Members of the Walker and Baron Families
Sun	8 th	11:00am	St Teresa	Second Sunday of Advent	The Lowe and King Families

CONTACT US

Parish Priest: Fr Tom Dubois tom.dubois@cliffondiocese.com

Priest in Residence: Fr Rajesh Abraham

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PARISH WEBSITE <https://tauntonvalecatholics.com>

Parish Administrator: Diz Horne

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

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE:

John Twomey psr.taunton.stgeorge@cliffondiocese.com

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING OFFICE:

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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 -

midnight; Saturdays 10am-11am (Children's Holy hour);

St John Fisher: Wed 3pm-6pm; Thurs 10-12pm

PRAYER GROUPS: Charismatic Prayer Group: 1st and 3rd

Wednesdays 7.00pm-8.30pm St. George's Church; 2nd and

4th Wed 10am-11.30am St. George's Centre

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

Prepare for Sunday praying the Mass readings together:

Thurs 1pm-2:15pm, 5th December St George's Centre

Pray the Rosary: Tues 6:15pm St George's Church; 1st

Tuesday of the month at 10:30am St John Fisher Church.

Who does your heart break for? This is the question that we asked the parish to consider, as we looked at our vision for the year ahead. I was profoundly moved by the responses, which ranged from the deeply personal and intimate to huge concerns for vulnerable populations around the world. As we looked at the responses, the common theme that seemed to emerge strongly from many of the responses was that of those who are lonely, isolated and cut off from the parish in different ways. People shared that they were broken hearted about people who no longer come to Mass, about young people who lose their faith or for whom coming to Mass is not a priority anymore. They were broken hearted about the elderly who are on their own and are often overlooked or ignored. This seemed to be coming through so powerfully as a theme that we discerned that this should be our priority in the year ahead. There were also many other beautiful ideas and suggestions which we will try to ensure we keep listening to. We'll now embark in further listening and discernment as we seek to identify the main issues and possible solutions. Please do let us know if you'd like to be involved in this. One of the practical ways in which we're hoping to improve our sense of community and connection as a parish is by inviting people to get to know some of their Catholic neighbours. Our new parish database allows us to identify where parishioners are living much more easily. We're looking to identify a person or family in each area who might be willing to host a gathering for other Catholics in their area. This could be just a social time, or be an opportunity also to pray together. We'd then send invitations to all those parishioners living in that area to see if they would like to attend. This would be a great way for people to get to know each other better and grow in faith and friendship. If you would be interested in this, please do let us know.

FATHER TOM DUBOIS

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

EXODUS 90: Calling all Catholic adult men who are seeking to develop their relationship with God through 3 core pillars: prayer, asceticism and fraternity. Exodus 90 is a spiritual challenge that lasts 90 days, starting on the 20th Jan & concludes on Easter Sunday. We will meet as a small group once a week for an hour to support and guide each other on the journey. Please

visit <https://exodus90.com/how-it-works/> to understand all that is involved and the commitment required. Jacob will be giving a more detailed talk after the masses on the weekend 11/12th January. Contact Jacob.m.keogh@gmail.com or Fr Tom.

PARISH ADVENT SOUPS: take place for charity on December 5, 12 and 19 in the centre following the 12.30pm Mass at St George's.

LEGION OF MARY: A number of people expressed interest in the Legion of Mary following my recent newsletter piece, so we are moving forward with establishing the Legion in our parishes. John Jordan will be coming from Bristol to speak about the Legion at Masses on 8 December. We then invite anyone interested to a meeting in St George's Rectory 6:15pm on Thursday 12th December

SIMBANG GABI MASSES: will be held at St George from the 16th-24th December at 6am

MAMRE: next meet Sunday 15th December after 9:15 mass in the Catholic Centre. Signup at the back of the church.

ADVENT SERVICE: 4pm Sunday 1st December, St Georges Church. The theme will be that of our Jubilee Year of 2025 'Pilgrims of Hope', reflected in readings, reflections and music.

BEYOND THE THRESHOLD: creating safe spaces for people to find out who we are, what we believe and what we're like! Starting Saturday 18 January at St Brendan's College, Brislington, from 10am (9.30am refreshments) Register using the link: <https://beyondthethreshold.eventbrite.co.uk>

FRENCH GATHERING: some parishioners have asked for a monthly gathering for French speakers. Initially the format will be a half hour spiritual conference/exchange followed by a half hour social time while eating puddings supplied by these parishioners. We'll then review the format & see if people want to continue or change this. First meeting is Thursday 12 December at 8pm in St George's Rectory. The theme will be 'Entrer dans l'année sainte: comment nourrir la vertu de l'espérance'.

WALKING GROUP: next walk this Sunday 1st December, leaving 10.45 am from The Catholic Centre. This is a shorter walk – we will be enjoying the autumn colours around Vivary Park.

MISSIO: The Calendars for 2025 are now available and will be delivered to you or collected from the back of the churches. There are some spare ones available/ Our annual figures are due in before the end of the year so if you have any money in your Red Boxes we would really like to collect it as soon as possible. Please bring it to Church if you can or give it to us when we visit you.

SINGERS/INSTRUMENTALISTS: We're practicing the music for Advent and Christmas at St George Church. Practices are 7.30pm – 9.00pm on Thursday evenings in St Georges Church. All are welcome.

STAY AWAKE: 5th April, 2025 -day conference for all the family (Mass, Children's streams, Praise, Worship, Speakers, Workshops and pizza!). All Saints School in Weymouth. Please save the date!

NOTICES

Diocesan Prayer Link: St Margaret Mary, Coleford; Our Lady of Victories, Cinderford; Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent, with Blaisdon.

Standing Orders: 24/11/24

St George: £1827.96 St Teresa: £359.07

Offertory Collection: 24/11/24

St George: £1264.76 St Teresa: £193.90

St John Fisher £141.50

FR BERNARD CARPENTER RIP: Fr Bernard was a retired priest of our Diocese who died last week at the age of 97. Bishop Bosco will be celebrating his funeral on Wednesday 4 December 1pm at St George's. We will receive his coffin into St George's at 6pm on Tuesday 3 December followed by a Mass. Please do come to one of these Masses if you can, to pray for Fr Bernard and give thanks for his life and priestly ministry.

3rd DECEMBER: the Rosary and I want to see God reading group are cancelled due to the Mass for Fr Bernard Carpenter.

WEDDING MASS: The 12.30 Mass on Thursday 5 December will be a wedding Mass for Joseph England and Rosalia al-Guway. Please keep them in your prayers as they prepare.

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE: St George's on Wednesday 11 December 7pm, with a number of priests from around the deanery coming to hear confessions.

PRAYER MINISTRY: will be available to all after every Mass (except 8am St. George's) on 1st Sunday of Advent 30 November/1st December. Prayer Ministry is also available every Wednesday during the Parish Charismatic Prayer meeting.

ALTAR SERVERS: practice and get together this Saturday 30 November in the Church from 12.00pm to 2.00pm. Lunch provided.

ST GEORGE JESSE TREE: will be in St Georges Church from Sunday 1st December Church. Donations to 'Open Door Charity' for the homeless in Taunton. Please take a tag and return your present and place under the Jesse Tree by Sunday 22nd December.

ST TERESA JESSE TREE: will also be out on the 1st December. All donations to Taunton Food Bank.

IMPACT: our group for teenagers will meet 8th December from 5.30-7pm in St George's Rectory.

PARISH LUNCH: We're having a lunch at The Catholic Centre on the 18th January for Pensioners or people living on their own. Time to be confirmed and more details to follow. Spaces are limited, if you are interested, please contact the Church office.

FAIRTRADE: on offer at St George's on Dec. 8th, St John Fisher's on Dec. 14th, St Teresa's on Dec. 15th.

THE BOOK GROUP: will meet on Wednesday 8th January at 2.00 pm. at Cofford St Luke. New members are welcome.