



The Parish of Our Lady & St Alphege

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

www.saintalphege.org.uk

25th January 2026

Mass Times at Our Lady & St Alphege

Sun 25th **Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1100 Thomas & Kathleen Quinn RIP

1800 Intentions of Catherine Stevenson

Mon 26th **St Timothy & St Titus**

No Mass

Tues 27th **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

1000 People of the Parish

Weds 28th **St Thomas Aquinas**

1800 Bob Allison RIP

Thurs 29th **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

1715 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confession

1800 Intentions of Amina Wright

Fri 30th **Weekday in Ordinary Time**

0900

Sat 31st **St John Bosco**

0930 Rosary in the Lady Chapel

1000 Jack Woolley RIP

1030 Sacrament of Reconciliation - Confession

Sun 1st **Fourth Sunday of the Year**

1100 Intentions of the Sunday Readers

1800 Allan Stevenson RIP

Mass Times at St Joseph Peasedown St John

Mass **Sun 0900, Tues & Fri 1100**

Rosary **Thurs** at 1100 during Exposition

Information

Coffee is served in the Parish Hall after 11.00 Mass
Psalter Week 3 / Readings Sun C / Weekdays Year 1

Diocesan Prayer link

St Margaret Mary Coleford, St Joseph Lydney

Our Lady of Lourdes Newant

Changes to weekday Mass times

Please note the changes of times to weekday Masses on Wednesday and on Friday. On **Wednesday** Mass is at 1800 (I am a day of recollection during the day) and on **Friday** Mass is at 0900 as there is the Requiem Mass for Judy Farrar at St Joseph Peasedown St John at 1100.

Looking ahead

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) is celebrated on Monday 2 February and there will be a Mass with blessing of candles and procession at 1000.

Ash Wednesday which begins the season of Lent is on Wednesday the 18th of February and Masses will be offered at 1200 and 1800.

Walk with be Lenten booklets

As I mentioned last Sunday Lent is on the horizon and so to help prepare we will get some "Walk with me" booklets which some people found very helpful last year. There is a short reading and prayer for each day of Lent. To get a rough idea of numbers required if you would like a copy please put a cross in the sheet on the table by the Mass cards.

Cake sale to support Girlguiding

This Sunday the 25th of Jan, after the 1100 Mass in the Parish Hall. Megan, one of our servers, will be holding a cake sale to fundraise for her Girlguiding International Community Experience to Lorne, Northern Ireland. Megan is one of just 24 guides from across the South West (Bristol all the way down to Cornwall) selected to go to Belfast just before Easter. The aim of the trip is to support those in need in the Belfast area, so on the trip Megan and the other guides will be doing some community volunteering in the local area, the exact details are still being worked through. Megan would be very grateful for your support.

Beacons

We were happy to meet again on Monday 19th after the Christmas festivities for a good catch up, friendship, delicious refreshments and the raffle which raised £115 for the Salvation Army.

For those who are new to the parish, we usually meet on the 3rd Monday of the month and everyone is welcome. Our next Beacons meeting will be on the 16th of February.

Preparation for First Holy Communion and Confession

This will be starting next Sunday the 25th of January. If you have not already done so please collect an application form from the back of the Church by the noticeboard or email Fr Robert so that a form can be sent to you. 1st Communion will be celebrated on Sunday the 7th of June, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi.

Gloucestershire Spiritual Direction Course

Spiritual direction is an ancient art, arising in many wisdom traditions, including Christianity. It is a practice of deep listening from a contemplative stance, offering another; a companion's ear as they grapple with life's joys, sorrows and dilemmas; accompaniment as they 'live the questions' and learn to recognise more clearly that 'still, small voice' that calls us all to a place of freedom and wholeness. Gloucestershire course in Spiritual Direction (is now inviting applications for the intake in February 2026. Learn to listen as a 'soul friend' in service of spiritual growth and transformation. More information / application form can be found at this link <https://spiritualdirectioncourse.co.uk/>

Family friendly Easter Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Come and spend Holy Week with us, walking, praying, singing and doing craft. Peg Leg of Pilgrim Cross is one of the family centred groups of the pilgrimage. It's a residential week in the Norfolk countryside for families with children aged 0-12 (ish). Financial support is available, find out more by visiting www.pilgrimcross.org.uk. Give your children a fun and faith filled experience this Easter (fun for parents too). Groups for students/ adults without families also available, starting from Oxford and other places.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne

Share the fellowship of walking towards one of the most memorable Easter celebrations you'll ever have by joining the Northern Cross walking pilgrimage to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, Northumberland. This year's dates are 28th March – 5th April 2026. This will be the 50th Anniversary of our first year walking making this a great year to come join us in our additional prayers and celebrations. We have spaces on routes from Lanark and Carlisle, or for those who can only join us on Good Friday please join us on Beal Leg! See <https://northerncross.co.uk/> for more details.

A Mass to celebrate family life

This will be celebrated on Sat 14th Feb in the Cathedral at 1200 by the Bishop. All families are invited to this to acknowledge the joys & challenges of family life. It will

celebrate couples with significant anniversaries in 2026: if you are, or know of such couple, send names with an address so that a personal invitation can be sent out from the bishop (email adult.education@cliftondiocese.com). Please include the number of years being celebrated

Magnificat

....is a monthly publication designed for daily use, to encourage both liturgical and personal prayer. It can be used to follow daily Mass and can also be read at home or wherever you find yourself for personal or family prayer. For each day, it contains the readings and prayers for Mass, with a meditation from the great spiritual writers of the Church and Prayer for Morning and Evening inspired by the Liturgy of the Hours. A subscription to offers 13 issues one per month and a special edition for Holy Week. More details at <http://www.magnificat.com>

Finance

Last Week Offertory: £373.63 Gift Aid Envelopes: £53

Readers

11.00: Steph 18:00: Grainne

CLOW: Janet

Seventh Sunday of the Word of God

On the 25th of January the Church celebrates the Word of God reflecting on the motto: *"The word of Christ dwells among you"* (Col 3:16). Observed each year on the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, this day invites us to reflect on, celebrate, and share the Word of God in our daily lives.

The celebration was established by Pope Francis in his 2019 Apostolic Letter *Aperuit illis*, emphasizing the essential connection between the Risen Lord, Christian communities, and Sacred Scripture. The Pope called on all believers to make the Word of God a living presence in their hearts, guiding their actions and inspiring their witness.

Archbishop Rino Fisichella, Pro-Prefect of the Dicastery for Evangelization, explains this year's theme writing that "Saint Paul's words to the Colossians, 'The word of Christ dwells among you', invite us not only to listen to the Word but to let it dwell within us. The Word shapes our thoughts, guides our desires, and unites the Christian community. To welcome it is to allow Christ to speak through our lives, bringing hope and life to those around us."

This year, the celebration also coincides with the Feast of the Conversion of Saint Paul, marking the end of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Just as the Word transformed Paul on the road to Damascus, it continues to call Christians today to open their hearts and share the Gospel with the world.