



CONTACT US Parish Priest – Fr Philip Thomas
Parish Administrator–Elaine Wright
ST PETER’S RC CHURCH,
 Telephone 01285 652087

Website: www.stpeterscirencester.org
 Office Email: cirencester.stpeter@cliftondiocese.com

ST MICHAEL’S RC CHURCH
 Telephone: 01666 502367

Website: www.stmichaelstetbury.org.uk
 Office Email: tetbury.stmichael@cliftondiocese.com
 Contact Fr. Philip via the relevant Parish Office

2021 THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH St Joseph was most probably dead by the time Jesus left the Carpenter’s Shop for the lakeside town of Capernaum and began His adult ministry. He therefore did not experience the pain of Him leaving home or the anguish of his wife. Empty Nest Syndrome is something many parents and siblings experience when a member of the family goes to college or joins her majesty’s forces. He would have been unaware of the risks of this saving mission or of the rejection it involved. Now in heaven, he prays with understanding for the mission of the Church in general and for those specially commissioned as missionaries around the world.



ST PETER’S 100 CLUB:

July winners, £30 172; £20 145; £10 77

UPCOMING DATES

15th Aug. Assumption Sunday. We hope to have a united BBQ for both parishes. Details to be announced

Sat 2nd Oct. Noon, feast of the Guardian Angels. This will be First Holy Communion Day for our candidates in Cirencester

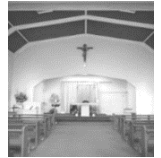
DIOCESE SAFEGUARDING The Safeguarding Team will be delivering safeguarding awareness sessions to volunteers on the following dates and times. The training will be delivered via Microsoft Teams therefore, if you would like to attend, please contact Beci Monks on rebecca.monks@cliftondiocese.com Beci will send you a link to the training a little nearer the time. Thursday 15th July 2021 – 6.30pm – 8.00pm Saturday 25th September 9.30am – 11.00am

GOING FORWARD OUT OF LOCKDOWN – We hope that we may return to having coffee together after Mass in a couple of weeks, now that the lifting of complete lockdown is promised. Caution and prudence remain good advice.



St Peter’s RC Church
 7 St Peter’s Road
 Cirencester
 Gloucestershire
 GL7 1RE

St Michael’s RC Church,
 Silver Street
 Tetbury
 Gloucestershire
 GL8 8DH



ORDINARY SUNDAY XV (Year B)

Sun 11th Jul 9.00am Mass in St Michael’s (“In thanksgiving for 25yrs of the Priesthood”)
 11.00am Mass in St Peter’s (Pro Populis)
 6.30pm Overflow Mass in St Peter’s (Bishop M. A. Alexander RIP, Father’s ordaining Bishop)

WORSHIP THIS WEEK - WEEK XV Year 1)

Mon 12th Jul Feria of Week 15
5.30pm FHC Preparation in St Peter

Tues 13th Jul St Henry the Emperor
No Mass

Wed 14th Jul St Camillus of Lellis
No Mass

Thu 15th Jul St Bonaventure
No Mass

Fri 16th Jul Our Lady of Mount Carmel
No Mass

Sat 17th Jul Our Lady on Saturday
No Mass



ORDINARY SUNDAY XVI (Year B)

Sun 18th Jul 9.00am Mass in St Michael’s (Penny Lake RIP)
 11.00am Mass in St Peter’s (Pro Populis)
 6.30pm Overflow Mass in St Peter’s

CONFESSIONS ARE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, AT THE MOMENT

FR. PHILIP’S SILVER JUBILEE We welcome you to this special set of Sunday Masses for Fr Philip as we congratulate him on his Twenty Fifth Anniversary of Ordination to the Sacred Priesthood, thanking him for his Ministry to us and the diocese and praying that God will Bless and guide him in the years ahead. We also remember Fr Michael Fountaine and Fr Ian McCarthy who were also ordained with him. We pray for the repose of the soul of Bishop Mervyn Alexander who ordained our three priests. We remember the Community of Downside Abbey where they were ordained [preparing to move to a new home]. As we emerge out of lockdown, we look forward to celebrating as **One Parish** on Sunday 15th August at a BBQ in St Peter’s Garden. More details to follow.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE Please remember in your prayers Robert Sateruss and Norman Herbert and all who have died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

- **Robert Sateruss:** The Requiem of the Late Robert Sateruss will take place on Monday 26th July at 11.30am in St Peter's. We remember his family and friends especially Lina at this time.
- **Norman Herbert:** The Requiem of the Late Norman Herbert will take place on Tuesday 20th July at 12.30pm in St Peter's. We remember his family and friends at this time.

MASS TEXTS

Entrance Ant. As for me, in justice I shall behold your face; I shall be filled with the vision of your glory

Kyrie or Lord, have mercy

Gloria Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you; we bless you; we adore you; we glorify you; we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only-Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most-High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

First Reading: Amos 7:12-15 'Go, shepherd, and prophesy to my people Israel'

Psalm Response. Let us see, O Lord, Your mercy, and give us Your saving help.

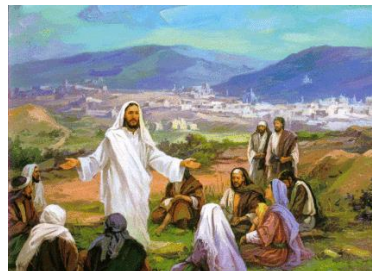
Second Reading. Ephesians 1:3-14 God chose us in Christ before the world was made

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life; You have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 6:7-13 'Take nothing with you'

Apostles Creed: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come and judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

The Bidding Prayers



Prayer for Priests

By St. Therese of Lisieux

O Jesus, eternal Priest, keep your priests within the shelter of Your Sacred Heart, where none may touch them. Keep unstained their anointed hands, which daily touch Your Sacred Body. Keep unsullied their lips, daily purpled with your Precious Blood. Keep pure and unearthly their hearts, sealed with the sublime mark of the priesthood. Let Your holy love surround, them and shield them from the world's contagion. Bless their labours with abundant fruit and may the souls to whom they minister be their joy and consolation here and in heaven their beautiful and everlasting crown. Amen.

St Peter's Cirencester and St Michael's Tetbury celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Priestly Ordination of Father Philip Mansell Thomas



12th July 1996 – 12th July 2021

Father Philip was born in Hillingdon, Middlesex, London in 1959; however, he considers himself a 'Welshman', because his mother just could not get home in time! Father, grew up locally in the parish of Chipping Camden attending Chipping Camden School, followed by Durham University studying General Arts (French, German and Medieval History).



Photo in St. Michael's, taken on Remembrance Sunday 2019, after the customary Requiem for the War Dead. This was BC, Before Covid, not Before Christ.

The first thoughts he had to join the priesthood were after the Easter Vigil at the former seminary in Ushaw, Durham. At the time he was a member of the Church of England and sought to answer that vocation there. After spending 18 months working in England and Australia working with the Missions of Seamen (The Flying Angel Clubs), he commenced his training at the Theological College in Chichester, the first such college in England and now closed. He was then ordained as an Anglican priest in 1987 in Bolton. He worked in the Anglican diocese of Manchester, first in Wythenshawe and then in Leigh, Lancs. Both churches are now closed.

His personal pilgrimage began to draw him closer to the Apostolic See, whilst he reflected on the issues of authority and decision making, surrounding proposed changes in the C. of E. Accordingly, Father wrote to the Bishop of Clifton, the Late Bishop Mervyn Alexander about how he felt

and also had talks with Downside Abbey monks and was then received into Catholic Unity at the Abbey on Saturday 4th December 1993.

The desire and vocation to serve as a priest were still present and he was accepted by the Clifton Diocese. Bishop Mervyn asked him to complete his preparations for the priesthood for two years at the Beda College, Rome. Arriving home, Father became a priest on 12th July 1996 at Downside Abbey, along with Frs. Michael Fountaine and Ian McCarthy.



Father's first appointment for 2 years was as a curate was in Salisbury, at St Osmund's and later also Most Holy Redeemer, under Canon T.R. Atthill. He became a PP for this first time at St Thomas More's in Marlborough, where Fr. John Blacker now serves (a predecessor in Cirencester!). After 10yrs there [and without closing the church!] he then moved to Somerset as Parish Priest at SS Joseph and Theresa in Wells. Whilst there, he also looked after first St Michael's in Shepton Mallet and later Queen of the Apostles, Cheddar. For a while, therefore, Father was one of the cheesiest priests around!!! Father Philip was most recently moved by Bishop Declan to care for St Michael's Tetbury and St Peter's Cirencester in 2019.

It has been claimed, that, when Father first arrived, he came across as a whirlwind, trying to breathe fresh air and confidence into our two parishes, whilst being caring and easy to talk too. Some of this had to be put on hold, as the Pandemic gripped us all and initially church doors were locked.

Even then, in his own way, he attempted to show concern for parishioners, especially the sick and bereaved. Now that things are opening up once more, we hope that he will go one caring about his parishioners living and departed. He tries to preach helpful and informative homilies, which are not too long. He does not always succeed. His sense of humour rarely deserts him and he comes across as very knowledgeable, especially in the history of the Catholic Faith, our Holy Church and its wonderful saints. We hope that he will increase and enrich the knowledge and living of the Christian Faith.

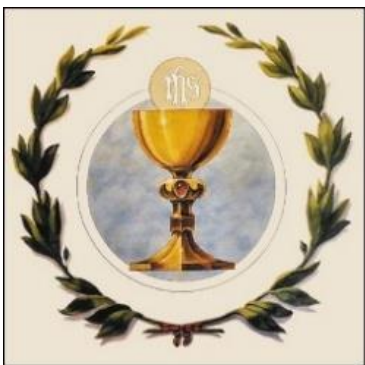
He has implemented Pope Benedict XVI's motu proprio "Summorum Pontificum", giving parishioners of both St Michael's and St

Peters' access once again to Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite, the 'Traditional Latin Mass'. All are warmly welcome!

On a lighter note, Father has a great voice, with a love of Gilbert and Sullivan; Rugby especially Wales ("and any team that beats England! He says); good food including cooking and many, many books!

With COVID restrictions, it has been a very difficult time for all of us and of course Fr Philip, who did not see anyone during the first lockdown. This difficult experience was also the lot of many other people and parishioners living alone. Father had been with us barely six months before we went into the first lockdown, followed by nearly eighteen months of restrictions, regulations and lockdowns. As we are about to come out of lockdown again, with many restrictions lifted, let us come together as a 'one parish' to support Father not just by attending Mass (which is very important), but by active participation in parish life.

We thank Father Philip for answering God's call to become a Catholic priest; for agreeing to Bishop Declan's request for him to become our parish priest. We promise to offer our prayers continually for him and to support him, as he deepens our faith and understanding, leading us forward as our priest and shepherd for many happy years. May God always bless you and keep you safe Father Philip.



Communion Ant. **The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.**

Act of Spiritual Communion Lord Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love You above all things, and I passionately desire to receive You into my soul. Since I do not now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul, so that I may unite myself wholly to You, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL Holy Michael Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God thrust down to hell Satan and all wicked spirits, who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.



Fr. Philip celebrating the Traditional Latin Mass, in Our Lady of the Snows Chapel, Prior Park College in Bath. The photo was taken early in the morning, at a training conference for other priests (2 of them are shown in the photograph).