



# ST TERESA'S CHARLBURY

COMBE, DUNS TEW, ENSTONE, GAGINGWELL, GLYMPTON, MIDDLE BARTON,  
RADFORD, RAMSDEN, STEEPLE ASTON and STONESFIELD

SUNDAY 14 JANUARY 2024  
Sunday Readings: Year B

2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY

## NEXT WEEK in

### St Teresa's:

Monday 15 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

*Open for private prayer*

Tuesday 16 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

*Open for private prayer*

**Wednesday 17 January**

**St Anthony, abbot**

**Mass at 9.15am**

**Followed by Benediction**

**and Exposition**

Thursday 18 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

*Open for private prayer*

**Friday 19 January**

Weekday in Ordinary Time

**Mass at 9.15am**

Saturday 20 January

Weekday in Ordinary Time

**Sunday 21 January**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary**

**Time**

**Mass at 9.15am**

**ALL WELCOME**

*For Confessions, please  
contact Fr.Clive.*

*Weekday Mass in our  
sister parish, Holy Trinity,  
Chipping Norton, on  
Monday, Tuesday, and  
Thursday, all at 9.15am,  
with Rosary group at  
9.15am on Friday, vigil  
mass at 6pm Sat and  
Sunday mass at 11am*

*Please pray for the sick and the housebound of our parishes: Paula B, Lynette M, Carol W, Tom C, Elizabeth P, Bridget K, Audrey N, Richard O, Mary W, Betty, Ania.*

Dear Parishioners

What do you want? The annual Christmas and birthday question! This is the theme of today's readings from the book of Samuel, the Psalm and the Gospel of St John on this the Second Sunday of Ordinary time.

In our first passage the boy Samuel is called by the Lord God while asleep. He had been dedicated to the Lord as a Nazirite, whose hair would never be cut and who would drink no wine, after his mother the childless Hannah had been heard and granted her deepest wish to bear a child. She had promised that if she could have what she wanted, he would follow the Lord and so Samuel was serving his apprenticeship in the Temple under the old priest Eli.

" Samuel, Samuel" the Voice called out to him and eventually he responded

" Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

The Response in our Psalm echoes the sentiment:

" Here I am Lord I come to do your will."

In the Gospel of St John, two disciples, Andrew and another, follow the Master after John the Baptist had pointed Him out:

" Look, there is the Lamb of God."

" What do you want" Jesus asks them. Another translation says:

" What do you seek?"

This is a question for everyone. What do we want in and from our lives? We won't go on for ever and with the turnover of the years, there comes the realisation that time past is never to be regained. In this last week two great sporting icons have died..Franz Beckenbauer( der Kaiser as he was known...the King) the German footballer/ coach, and JPR Williams the Welsh Rugby player. Both heroes and giants in their time and legends, superb athletes and ambassadors for their sports but still subject to the law of mortality.

So what do we want? Perhaps this is the year to decide, to take stock of ourselves, where we are and where we are going. Are we listening to the Voice who wants only our happiness because He has created and loves us, rather than the sirens of the world who promise satisfaction but who never deliver? And to say with Samuel

" Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

Masses as usual this week. Don't forget the Rosary for Peace at 9.15 am on a Fridays in Holy Trinity. The world needs these prayers!

Last Wednesday David Bowers and I met our Ukrainian family at Heathrow and a welcome party greeted them on their arrival in Holy Trinity. Serhii, Hannah and the girls were tired but seemed very happy. A huge thank you and well done to everyone who has done so much to prepare the presbytery and to make all the necessary arrangements. Right at the beginning I said that this was the Catholic community's opportunity to fulfill the Commandment to love our neighbour and I am moved by the warmth of response.

The Crib collection for Holy Family Gaza was also very well supported and once all collections have been counted I can send off a payment to the Latin Patriarchate. Again a big thank you.

Requests for Baptism and also Instruction in the Faith are lively and I thank God for our continued growth in Holy Trinity and St Teresa's, for those who work " behind the scenes" in our music, cleaning and keeping both churches looking so lovely. I feel blessed to be the pastor of two such parishes.



God bless, Fr Clive.

**PRAY FOR PEACE IN GAZA**



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To subscribe to the parish email group, please email : [StTerasasNetwork+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:StTerasasNetwork+subscribe@groups.io)

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocese policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is

Sharnalee Foster. She can be contacted at [sg.stteresa.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stteresa.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

Saint Teresa of Lisieux is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Trust: Registered Charity number 234216