

ST TERESA'S



CHARLBURY

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

February 1st 2026

Year A

FOURTH SUNDAY Ordinary time

MASS THIS WEEK;

Sunday St Teresa's Charlbury 9.15 am Holy Trinity Chipping Norton 11am

St Teresa's	Wednesday, Friday	9.15am
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Holy Trinity	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday.	9.15am
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Confessions: after weekday mass or please contact Fr Clive

Please pray for the sick and housebound of the parish, particularly Hilda and Derek Mathews, as well as those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Remember also Johanna Callaghan who passed away recently in your prayers. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed Rest in Peace.

Dear Friends

Laws are made "to regulate human relationships", as one definition puts it. Countries may share some common laws like a prohibition on murder, but in other areas there may be a divergence. For example, women in some Muslim countries are not allowed the same freedom as in the West.

The people of Israel had a set of 613 commandments to follow, the most fundamental of which were the Ten Commandments, also known as The Decalogue. The book of Exodus relates how Moses, the Law-giver, descended from Mount Sinai with these Commandments inscribed on two tablets of stone...to discover the people partying and worshipping a golden Calf, the image of an Egyptian god.

Time and again, as the Fourth Eucharistic prayer tells us, the Lord God sent prophets to bring the people back to His laws and time and again they fell back into disobedience and sin. We could say that the Old Testament is a story of failure. God is faithful but His people are fickle and faithless.

In the New Testament a New Covenant is made, this time not in the blood of lambs or goats or bulls, but in the Body and Blood of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. On Calvary Cross, the Son of God is offered as that final sacrifice which atones for our constant failings and sinfulness, and brings us hope that fallen as we are, the Lord has made that reconciliation on our behalf, the price paid, the debt redeemed. I often think that if we took time to ponder on this mystery, we would all be more joyful in our daily lives!



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Last week we enjoyed a very happy occasion on the baptism of Arthur George Henry at the 11am Parish Mass at Holy Trinity. Let us hold all our children constantly in our prayers, that they grow to full health and strength, physically, mentally and spiritually. The world seems an uncertain place at present so let us try to protect them from anxiety and fear.

My gratitude to all who have been praying for my recent hospital procedures which...so far...all seem to be going well. Long may that continue as I feel so blessed to be your parish priest and hope, with God's grace, to continue for many more years.

This week all Masses/ Rosary/ classes as usual.

Monday is the glorious Feast of The Presentation of the Lord, also known as The Purification of The Blessed Virgin Mary. This is officially the end of Christmas and alas...the Cribs must go away for another year. My great thanks to everyone who put the crib up..and for taking it down, especially Benjamin and the children

Tuesday is St Blaise and I will be blessing throats at the 9.15 am Mass.

God bless everyone

Fr Clive

PARISH NOTICES:

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN) – please look at the **St Teresa's** website for further information about the latest appeal and update from the Vatican regarding Haiti. Please keep Haiti in your prayers where the situation continues to worsen. ACN has released its annual report on persecuted Christians globally, it makes for sobering reading.

<https://acnuk.org/RFR-2025>

Radio Maria is a Catholic voice from speakers who will help you to grow in your faith. Listen at www.RadioMariaEngland.uk on DAB radio, download the free mobile app or ask your smart speaker to " PlayRadio Maria". Please take a leaflet from the pews.

Hosting Fr Tony. There is a sign-up sheet at the back of the church to host Fr Tony for lunch – this does not need to be at your home, it could be somewhere local. Please consider whether you can host Fr Tony and sign up!

Marriage Support; Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues. www.retrouville.org.uk

Tel 07787 296983.

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Parish Finance : bank account details are as follows if you would like to set up a standing order: Please advise Nick Paines (ga.stteresaoflisieux.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk) so he can claim the gift aid if applicable .

NatWest bank – sort code 55-81-35

a/c number 07048211

a/c name B'ham rc archdiocese parish Charlbury

SUNDAY COFFEE/TEA URGENT HELP NEEDED

volunteers needed to help with Tea & Coffee after Mass. The more helpers we have, the easier it will be. We hope to get a rota together, with people working in pairs. Everything is provided, apart from the milk, so it is very straightforward. Your help would be hugely appreciated. For further information, please see Sharnalee after Mass, or email her at sharnaleefoster@gmail.com.

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.stteresaoflisieux.charlbury@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 or at safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns."

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