

Roman Catholic Diocese of Clifton www.cliftondiocese.com

Clifton Diocese (a company limited by guarantee)
Registered Charity No. 117016



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Church of the Holy Ghost, Yeovil

Parish Address: 73 Higher Kingston, Yeovil, Somerset, BA21 4AR

Also serving

Church of St Michael, Lightgate Road, South Petherton, TA13 5AJ

Chapel of Our Lady and St Augustine of Canterbury, HMS Heron Royal
Naval Air Station, Yeovilton, BA22 8HT

Parish Office Email: yeovil.holyghost@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Telephone: 01935-423549

Served by the Missionaries of Saint Francis de Sales (Fransalians - MSFS)

Parish Clergy: Father Jean-Patrice Coulon MSFS; Father Jose
Maliekal MSFS

Priests resident in the Parish: Father David O'Regan; Father
Peter Clarke (Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham)

Parish Administrator: Sue Chant (Monday, Wednesday and Fri-
day 9:30am to 1.30pm)

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Margaret Gulliver and Mrs
Christine O'Rourke. The Diocesan Safeguarding Office can be
contacted at 0117-954 0993.

ROSARY: Before weekday Masses at Yeovil, and before Sunday Mass at South
Petherton. All welcome.

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 9.15–9.45am; 4.15pm–4.45pm

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: On request. Please inform one of the clergy if you
are going into hospital. If possible, please seek anointing beforehand.

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Adults seeking to know more about the Catholic
Faith should speak to the Parish Priest, and/or come to the Journey in Faith (RCIA)
sessions.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Six months notice for weddings.

HOLY ORDERS: Any man considering a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent
Diaconate should speak to one of the clergy.

Mass and Service Times for the Week Ahead

Saturday 31st August - First Mass of Sunday

5.00pm Wally and Kath Sales RIP (*Mrs H Farmer*) Holy Ghost

Sunday 1st September - **Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9.00am Pro Populo St Michael's

10.30am In Thanksgiving - Kath and Martin Brown (60th Birthdays)
(*Mrs S Stirling*) Holy Ghost

6.30pm Leopoldine Laird RIP (*Foundation Mass*) Holy Ghost

Monday 2nd September - Mass for Those Held in Captivity

10.00am Intentions of Cardinal George Pell Holy Ghost

Tuesday 3rd September - **Feast of Saint Gregory the Great, Pope, Doctor of the Church**

10:00am Private Intention (*Mrs N Dillon*) Holy Ghost

Wednesday 4th September - Memorial of Saint Cuthbert, Bishop

10:00am Brendan Kelly RIP (First Anniversary) (*The Family of Brendan Kelly*) Holy Ghost

Thursday 5th September - Weekday in Ordinary Time

8.00am **No Mass this morning** Holy Ghost

10.00am Celebrant's Intention St Michael's

12.15pm **Next Mass 12th September 2019** RNAS Yeovilton

6.30pm **No Mass this evening** Holy Ghost

Friday 6th September - Votive Mass of the Mystery of the Holy Cross

10.00am Daniel Lawrence RIP (Birthday) (*Mrs M Want*) Holy Ghost

Followed by Adoration (Benediction at 11.15pm)

6.00pm Dennis O'Neill RIP (*Mrs P Southgate*) Holy Ghost

Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite

Saturday 7th September - Votive Mass of the Birthday of Our Lady

10.00am In Reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary Holy Ghost

Followed by Adoration, Rosary, Meditation and Benediction

First Mass of Sunday

5.00pm Ned Bowe RIP (*Mrs T Novak*) Holy Ghost

Sunday 8th September - **Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9.00am Pro Populo St Michael's

10.30am Mary Veronica Stewart RIP (*Mrs S Williams*) Holy Ghost

6.30pm Xaviour and Violet Brincat RIP (*Mrs M Harrison*) Holy Ghost

IMPORTANT NEWS ABOUT PARKING CHANGES: For the last few weeks, we have addressed in the Sunday Bulletin the measures that will be put in place to resolve the parking issues, after consultation with the Finance and The Marian Hall Regeneration Committee and other Parishes with similar parking problems. There is a copy on the notice board of the original piece. Please see below:

KEY POINTS: Apply now for free parking for Yeovil District Hospital multi-storey car park at weekend mass times – starting from 1st September 2019. The YDH permits will cost the Parish £10 each for a year. Application forms (green) are available at the back of the Church. Please complete the form and return in the labelled box, along with a donation towards the cost if you are able to. You can apply at any time for this annual pass.

From 1 October 2019: The Marian Hall will be patrolled by Link Parking and you risk a fine of £100 if you park there without a permit. Only disabled/sick or those unable to walk short distances, and others with a Link Parking permit i.e. those who regularly work, volunteer or provides services and regular hirers of the hall (for the time they are using the hall), will be allowed to park in the Marian Hall car park. The Link Parking Permit can be applied for by the Parish Office with agreement from Father Jean-Patrice. At certain times when there are special events i.e. special services, funerals etc., then we can request that Link do not Patrol. Thank you for your understanding.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION ON FRIDAYS: We hope to have a greater amount of time available in our Parish to meet with the Lord in Eucharistic Adoration. The plan would be to have as many hours as possible on a Friday. As a minimum, we hope to have between 3pm and 6pm with the Divine Mercy Chaplet recited at 3pm. Our Parishioner Anna Gendzierska is acting as a Co-ordinator. Please contact her on 07491 655 525 if you can spare an hour on a regular basis, and would be prepared to find a replacement for weeks when you cannot be there. She has left a book at the back of the Church, but you can also contact her through the Parish Office.

THE LATIN MASS SOCIETY: The annual Pilgrimage to Glastonbury will take place on Saturday 7th September 2019 at The Shrine Church of Our Lady St Mary of Glastonbury, BA6 9EJ, for the Mass of the Birthday of Our Lady. The programme is as follows:

11:30am	High Mass (The Rupert Bevan Singers will sing during the Mass)
13:00pm	Lunch in the Parish Hall
14:00pm	Rosary in the Abbey Grounds
15:00pm	Exposition and Confessions
16:00pm	End

Please bring a packed lunch - tea and coffee will be available. Tel: 07890 687453 or email clifton@lms.org.uk for further details

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE - THE YEAR OF COMMUNION:

Bishop Declan is inviting our diocesan community to come together ahead of the launch of the third and final phase of the Diocesan Vision 'A Future Full of Hope' which is the 'Year of Communion'. There are two events to which the bishop extends an invitation in the hope that each of our parishes, schools and communities are represented.



On Saturday 19 October we gather at St Brendan's College, Brislington, (9.15am - 2.30pm) with Fr. James Hanvey SJ, who will help us reflect upon A life lived in Communion. The day at St Brendan's is set to prepare us for the coming Year of Communion (beginning the first Sunday of Advent) and introduce us to the resources that will be available to us from the end of November. All are welcome and it would be good if each parish was represented. Whilst we do not need names it would be useful to have an idea of how many are coming from your parish: please let the Adult Education office know by Monday 14 October at adult.education@clifftondiocese.com if you can. Participants will need to bring a packed lunch for this day.

On Friday 22 November at 7.00pm in our Cathedral, Bishop Declan invites our diocesan community to join him at a celebration of Evening Prayer during which he will present to each parish, community and school the resources for the Year of Communion starting Sunday 1 December. As we did with the Year of Mission & Year of Prayer each community will be called forward to receive the year's resources.

A FUTURE FULL OF HOPE - The Year of Prayer:

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

There is a simple message in today's Gospel and it is this – be humble and be inclusive. Jesus reminds us that in the Kingdom there is a place for everyone. When we come to celebrate Eucharist we each come as wounded people, with out faults and our weaknesses, yet Jesus still loves us and welcomes us as friends to join him at the table. Having shared in the meal of Christ we are sent out to share what we have received. Who do we choose to share this good news with? This week we are challenged to rethink our priorities and beliefs. In God's eyes the people who are pushed to the margins, the poor, those addicted to alcohol or drugs, the homeless, the refugee or asylum seeker, prisoners. All are loved and precious and worthy of a place in the Kingdom of God. A question we might reflect on: if I found myself in any of these categories – how would I like people to treat me?

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY MASS: There will be a Diamond Anniversary Mass for Father David O'Regan at the Holy Ghost in Yeovil on **Friday 27th September 2019 at 6:30pm**. We will be joined by Bishop Patrick Lynch followed by a social in the Marian Hall. All are most welcome to attend.

REMINDER OF OUR DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING: The next meeting will take place in our parish in the Marian Hall on **Wednesday 18 September at 7:00pm**. As well as the usual business of sharing good news from our parishes, there will also be an update on the possible future roles of Lay Pastoral Ministers, and our requirement to reorganise our Mass times ready for the year 2021, when the whole Diocese will be organised according to the number of priests of age 75 or under who will be available at that time. Helpful or useful contributions are as ever always welcome.

CHIDEOCK MARTYRS PILGRIMAGE: will take place on Saturday 28th September at the Church of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs and St Ignatius, North Road, Chideock, DT6 6LF. It is organised by the Latin Mass Society with kind permission of the Parish of Bridport. The Church and grounds will be open from 9.30am with a Missa Cantata (Sung Mass) at 10.30am. At 12.15pm, there will be a Tour of the Museum, which gives the history of the Chideock Martyrs. The church and museum will then remain open. There are several opportunities for lunch: either a picnic in the grounds, or hostelry in the Village or in nearby Seatown right by the sea, where the martyrs would come to England from across the Channel. The church was built by the recusant Weld Family at a time when Catholics were greatly distrusted, and is still maintained by descendants (our own parishioner Cecily Shuldham was from this family). It is an important part of our Catholic heritage, and this Day is recommended to all.

We remember in our prayers: The Parishes of Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Joseph, Weston Super Mare. The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for September: **The Protection of the Oceans** - That politicians, scientists and economists work together to protect the world's seas and oceans.

Last Sunday's Offering: amounted to £616-10. Many thanks for your generosity.

Polish Mass: Every Sunday at 4.30pm.

The Traditional Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Form of the Roman Rite: Every Friday at 6pm (restarts on 6th September).

OMass in the Syro-Malabar Rite: Second Sunday at 2.30pm.

Mass at RNAS Yeovilton: Every First Thursday at 12.15pm (except August).

Ecumenical Prayer Group: First Monday of the month at the Parish Centre at 7.30pm.

Lectio Divina (Bible Reading): Returns in September.

Hire of the Marian Hall: Via the Parish Office email or telephone.

If you have any items for the Bulletin: please send to Sue Chant by Tuesday evening at email: yeovil.holyghost@cliftondiocese.com.

CONGRATULATIONS: Year 11 students from The Gryphon School in Sherborne have been celebrating after achieving some outstanding GCSE results. One student in particular - Manuel Baby - received 11 Grade 9's, a truly remarkable achievement putting him in the top 133 students in the whole of England. The new grading system means that Grade 9 is equivalent to an A**. Manuel is a Senior Altar Server as well as a faithful parishioner and we congratulate him on his achievement - the highest achiever in Somerset!



Manuel with Head of Year Pamela Peacock

LAY PASTORAL MINISTERS: As previously mentioned, the Diocese is looking to introduce Ministers to assist Parishes in a time of fewer priests. There will be a Course starting in January 2020. There are a series of information evenings around the Diocese for anyone interested in finding out more. Our nearest one is in our Deanery on **Thursday 5 September at St Luke and St Teresa's Parish Hall, Wincanton, BA9 9DX**. Other dates and venues are available (see below) The evenings runs from 7.00pm until 9.00pm

Tuesday 10 September - St George's Parish Hall, Taunton

Thursday 12 September - St Osmund's Parish Hall, Salisbury

Tuesday 17 September - Alexander House, 160 Pennywell Road, Bristol

Tuesday 8 October - St John's Parish Hall, Bath

Lord's Larder Update 2019: *Mat Callaghan, Ops Manager for Yeovil Christian Support Trust writes:* 'Thank you everyone who has donated food items to the Lord's Larder Food Bank in July, giving items such as sugar, long life milk and jars of Pasta Sauce. Those items helped to complete emergency food parcels that went out to help those in need through the month of July to help 294 adults and 210 children, we experienced a 58% increase in demand for families needing emergency food parcels in July this year compared with July last year. With your support we were able to help 104 families this July, thank you.'

If you would like to give to the Lord's Larder this month and would like to know what we are currently running short of, we are currently running short of:

Cartons of UHT Milk, Tins of Spaghetti, Tins of Hot Dogs, Tins of Meatballs, Tinned Fray Bentos Pies, Tins of Carrots, Tins of Peas, Jars of Pasta Sauce, Tins of Soup, Tins of Fruit, Packets of Jelly, 80 Teabags, Empty Super Market Carrier Bags

These and all other in date, long life food items would all be gratefully received. Many, many thanks for your continued support'.

CARDINAL GEORGE PELL: LATEST NEWS:

Father Jean-Patrice writes: in the last few days, there has been the Appeal by the legal team of Cardinal Pell to the Australian State following his conviction for abuse. This Appeal was unsuccessful with a 2-1 verdict by the three Judges in favour of



upholding the original verdict. However, the reasoning of Judge Weinberg in favour of overturning the verdict should be read. It would seem clear to me that this ruling cannot stand on the usual basis of 'beyond reasonable doubt'. Parishioners are invited to inform themselves by reading this article and other associated ones freely available on the Internet. This article from the Catholic World Report 22 August 2019 is by George Weigel, a respected Catholic Commentator and Biographer of Pope St John Paul II.

FALSELY MATILDA: Was it mere coincidence, or perhaps Providence, that Catholics around the world read Psalm 94 at Midday Prayer on August 21, hours after an **appellate panel of three judges announced a 2-1 decision** rejecting Cardinal George Pell's appeal of his conviction on charges of "historic sexual abuse"? For there, the Psalmist laments legal perversity in a query to God that certainly must have struck some as resembling what had just happened in Melbourne at the Supreme Court of the state of Victoria:

Can judges who do evil be your friends?

They do injustice under cover of law;

They attack the life of the just

And condemn innocent blood.

To note this striking parallelism of legal and liturgical timing is not to suggest that any of the judges on the appellate panel are evil people. But two of them, Chief Justice Anne Ferguson and Judge Chris Maxwell, manifestly did something unjust under cover of law, in denying Cardinal Pell's appeal and failing to acquit him of charges that had been shown on numerous occasions to be beyond the realm of plausibility. And the most devastating criticism to that effect was leveled, not by friends of the cardinal or fellow-Catholics, but by Judge Mark Weinberg, whose dissent from the opinion of his two colleagues on the appellate panel shredded their claims and logic in such a decisive way as to set up what one must hope will be a successful appeal to the High Court of Australia, the final legal arbiter.

Judge Weinberg is recognized by knowledgeable students of the Australian justice system as the premier criminal-law jurist in the country. His brilliant, two-hundred page dissent should be read in full, but here are several crucial citations:

On the complete lack of corroboration of the complainant's charges: In Pell's criminal trials, the "prosecution relied entirely upon the evidence of the complainant to establish guilt, and nothing more. There was no supporting evidence of any kind at all. These convictions were based upon the jury's assessment of the complainant as a witness, and nothing more." That same tactic, Judge Weinberg noted, was adopted by the prosecution at the appeal hearing in June.

On the utter implausibility of the complainant's description of the alleged abuse: "...the complainant's account...seems to me to take brazenness to new heights, the like of which I have never seen...I would have thought that any prosecutor would be wary of bringing a charge of his gravity against anyone, based upon the implausible notion that a sexual assault of this kind would take place in public, and in the presence of numerous potential witnesses. Had the incident occurred in the way that the complainant alleged, it seems to me highly unlikely that none of those many persons present would have seen what was happening, or reported it in some way."

Therefore: "To my mind, there is a 'significant possibility' that the applicant in this case [Cardinal Pell] may not have committed these offenses." Which was, on my reading of it, Judge Weinberg's way of saying that the convicting jury erred grievously in meeting the established legal standard of guilt being proved beyond a reasonable doubt, and therefore the guilty verdict should have been vacated by the appellate court and the cardinal acquitted.

A Question of Presumptions?

Let us stipulate, as the lawyers say, that Chief Justice Ferguson, Judge Maxwell, and Judge Weinberg are all intelligent people. How is it, then, that two of them can look at the same sequence of events as Judge Weinberg – then-Archbishop Pell bolts from a procession at the end of High Mass in the Melbourne cathedral, escapes the notice of the other clergy in the procession, culls out two choir boys, sexually abuses them in six or eight minutes while fully vested, and then returns to the front of the cathedral to greet worshippers, all of which escapes the notice of anyone else and about which nothing is said for two decades – and come to such a radically different conclusion than that reached by Australia's pre-eminent authority in criminal jurisprudence?

Several possibilities suggest themselves.

The first is that the charge of sexual abuse, however prima facie implausible, now trumps the traditional legal standard in the Anglosphere that innocence is

presumed until guilt is proven beyond a reasonable doubt. A close reading of the majority opinion supports the fear that this standard was effectively reversed in Cardinal Pell's case, such that the onus was on him to prove his innocence. In the summary of the majority opinion she read from the bench, Chief Justice Ferguson insisted that the complainant who made the charges against the cardinal was a credible witness who seemed not to be lying.

But what, one wants to ask, about the many witnesses for the defense, who insisted that not only were the charges false but that such things simply could not have happened under the circumstances described? Chief Justice Ferguson nodded to their testimony, but the majority opinion makes clear that, in classic Orwellian fashion, some witnesses were more equal than others. This is perverse. Yet it fits neatly with attempts to get the cardinal's liturgical master of ceremonies to state that it was theoretically possible that, on occasion, he *might* not have been right next to Pell before, during, and after Mass, decades ago. That theoretical possibility was conceded as purely theoretical, but the MC insisted that he had no positive recollection of its ever being the case and that his disappearance from the archbishop-celebrant's side was very, very unlikely. Yet it now seems from the majority opinion that a theoretical possibility was turned into positive evidence of Cardinal Pell's guilt, despite what Judge Weinberg noted were the "discrepancies....inconsistencies...and [lack of] probative value" in the complainant's testimony."

The second, and not necessarily unrelated, possibility is that Chief Justice Ferguson and Judge Maxwell were influenced in their reading of the evidence – or, in this case, lack thereof – by the assumption, widespread in the Australian media, that any Catholic cleric charged with sexual abuse, if not overtly presumed guilty, should at least be treated as such. That perversion of the common law tradition may be based on anti-Catholic bias (as it surely is among such horrors as Australian television talking-head Louise Milligan, author of a libelous book about George Pell). Or it may be based on a genuine revulsion at ecclesiastical cover-ups of sexual abuse and the fear that, if one prominent cleric "gets away with it," others may get away with it down the line. But whatever its roots, this presumption-of-guilt against a class of individuals has far more in common with Stalin's persecution of the Kulaks and his other class and political enemies than it has with any recognizable notion of justice in the English-speaking world.

This second possibility is amplified by the utterly toxic public and media environment that has surrounded George Pell in Australia for decades. Americans and other Anglophones with no direct experience of this cannot really grasp how poisonous the atmosphere has been, for there is no analogue to it anywhere else in the Anglosphere. Moreover, this lethal toxicity is not a by-product of the free-for-

all that is the Internet and the blogosphere, but antedates the Web and social media by decades. And it is prevalent, not just on the fringes, but at the very epicenters of Australian journalism and commentary. The suggestion implicit in the majority decision rejecting Cardinal Pell's appeal – that this atmosphere had no discernible effect on the jury that found the cardinal guilty – beggars the imagination: not least because the trial in which Pell was convicted by a 12-0 jury ballot followed a first trial that ended with a hung jury that voted 10-2 for acquittal.

All of which suggests the strong possibility that Chief Justice Ferguson and Judge Maxwell read the situation far differently than their more distinguished colleague in criminal law, Judge Weinberg, because of distortions in the lenses by which they were reading. And those distortions produced a grave reversal of both the presumption of innocence that is the foundation of criminal law in the Anglosphere, even as they obviated the requirement that the burden of proof rests on the prosecution to persuade jurors beyond a reasonable doubt.

The Next Phase

This story is not over, by any manner of means. And as the story continues – with further investigation of the credibility of the complainant, further inquiry into the Victoria police fishing expedition against Pell that began two years before a complainant was found, and further consideration of Judge Weinberg's devastating critique of his colleagues' rejection of the cardinal's appeal – it seems to me that, with a potential judgment on all this by the High Court of Australia looming on the horizon, friends of justice in Australia must now come forward with an unambiguous statement of what has long seemed obvious to many others around the world, but which has rarely been said by political, legal, and Catholic leaders *Down Under: George Pell is an innocent man who was falsely accused and has been unjustly convicted of crimes he did not commit. It is not George Pell who is in the dock, now, but the administration of justice in Australia. And the only way to restore justice is for Cardinal Pell to be vindicated by the highest court in the land.*

This simple but entirely defensible statement should be repeated, again and again, by responsible leaders in every professional field in Australia, and indeed by anyone and everyone Down Under who is willing to stand for the truth.

To repeat an image I have used before: this is Australia's Dreyfus Case, and if Australia cannot find it within itself to vindicate justice by acquitting George Pell, then 21st-century Australia will find itself condemned by history to that ignominy in which the biased and mad persecutors of Alfred Dreyfus in the nineteenth century—bigots and hysterics who are global symbols of justice scorned and trampled upon – now find themselves.