

ALL SAINTS NEWS

26th July 2026
8th Sunday of Trinity

Architects of Activism:

How Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson Shaped Modern Human Rights

Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson; Commemoration 30th July.

The modern landscape of human rights, political lobbying, and grassroots activism owes a profound debt to **Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson**. Operating in the late 18th century, this formidable duo did more than challenge the economic scaffolding of the British Empire; they invented the modern template for social justice campaigns. By combining raw, firsthand testimony with rigorous empirical evidence, Equiano and Clarkson established techniques that remain the gold standard for global advocacy groups today.

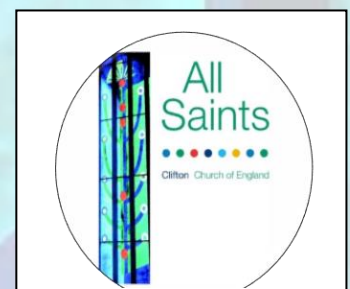
THE BLUEPRINT OF ACTIVISM	
Olaudah Equiano (The Firsthand Witness)	Thomas Clarkson (The Empirical Catalyst)
■ Narrative Memoir ■ Moral & Lived Authority ■ Strategic Lobbying	■ Data Collection & Travel ■ Visual Aids & Artifacts ■ Public Policy Briefs

The Power of Lived Experience

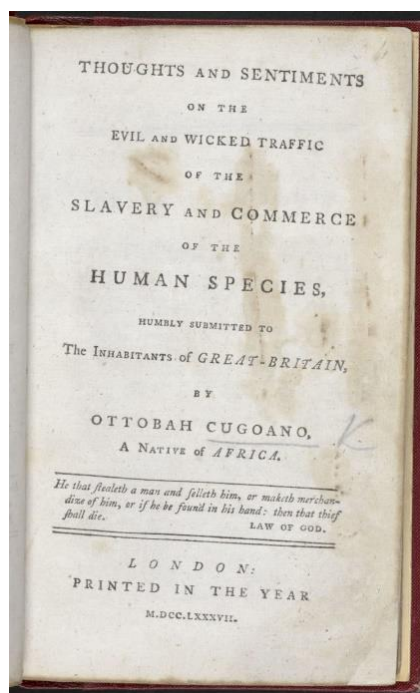
Olaudah Equiano brought the indispensable currency of lived experience to the abolitionist movement. Stolen from West Africa as a child, his journey through the horrors of the Middle Passage gave him a unique authority. In 1789, he published his autobiography, *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano*.

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As noted by the Gilder Lehrman Institute, “Part of the book's great popularity can be attributed to its timely publication at the height of the abolition movement. His first reviewers acknowledged the significance of the first-hand perspective of the Narrative.”

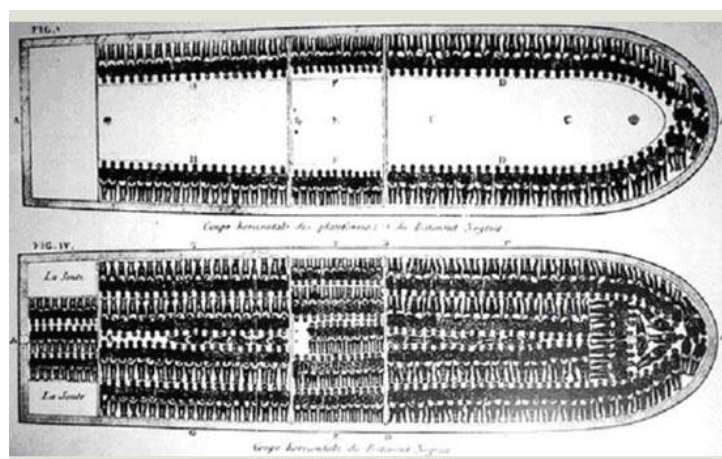
Equiano’s memoir shattered pro-slavery narratives by proving the intellectual and moral equality of Black individuals. His pioneering work with the **Sons of Africa** network established the modern concept of public sensitization and direct political lobbying.

Data-Driven Advocacy

While Equiano appealed to the human conscience, Thomas Clarkson pioneered the mechanics of empirical campaigning. He understood that moral outrage requires concrete data to alter legislation. Traveling over 35,000 miles on horseback, Clarkson interviewed thousands of sailors and accumulated physical evidence—such as slave ship shackles and branding irons—to lay bare the structural cruelty of the trade.

According to the BBC, “Olaudah Equiano and Thomas Clarkson were both adept at getting decision makers to take up the slavery issue. They worked in the same way that political lobbyists do today.”

Clarkson popularized the iconic diagram of the slave ship *Brookes*, creating one of history's first viral visual aids to visually compress human suffering into an undeniable data point.



A Lasting Legacy for the Present Day

The synergy between Equiano’s narrative authority and Clarkson’s investigative research permanently altered how human rights abuses are confronted.

Today, organizations like **Amnesty International** and **Human Rights Watch** use the exact model perfected by these two men:

- **Victim-Centred Testimony:** Elevating the voices of those directly impacted by injustice to drive policy change.
- **Rigorous Fact-Finding:** Utilizing hard data, field reports, and visual evidence to hold power to account.
- **Public Mobilisation:** Orchestrating boycotts, petitions, and awareness tours to build bottom-up civic pressure.

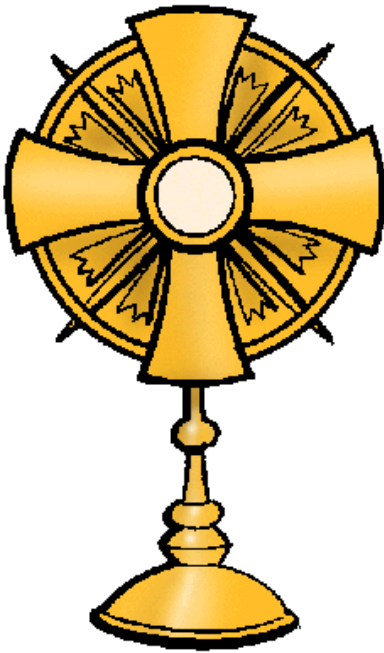
Equiano and Clarkson proved that a marginalized coalition could defeat a deeply entrenched economic empire. Their strategic blueprint remains a foundational roadmap for anyone fighting contemporary global injustices—from human trafficking to modern corporate exploitation.

Eucharistic Adoration or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Eucharistic Adoration or Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is adoring the Eucharistic Presence of Christ. In a deeper sense, it involves the contemplation of the Mystery of Christ truly present before us. During Eucharistic Adoration, we “watch and wait”, we remain “silent” in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces which flow from the Eucharist ... In our adoration of the Eucharistic Jesus, we become what God wants us to be! Like a magnet, The Lord draws us to Himself and gently transforms us.

In its fullest essence ... Eucharistic Adoration is *“God and Man reaching out for each other, at the same time!”*

Because, we believe in the ‘Real Presence’ of Christ in the Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament is given the same adoration and devotion that is accorded to Christ. The exact nature of this Presence is a holy mystery.



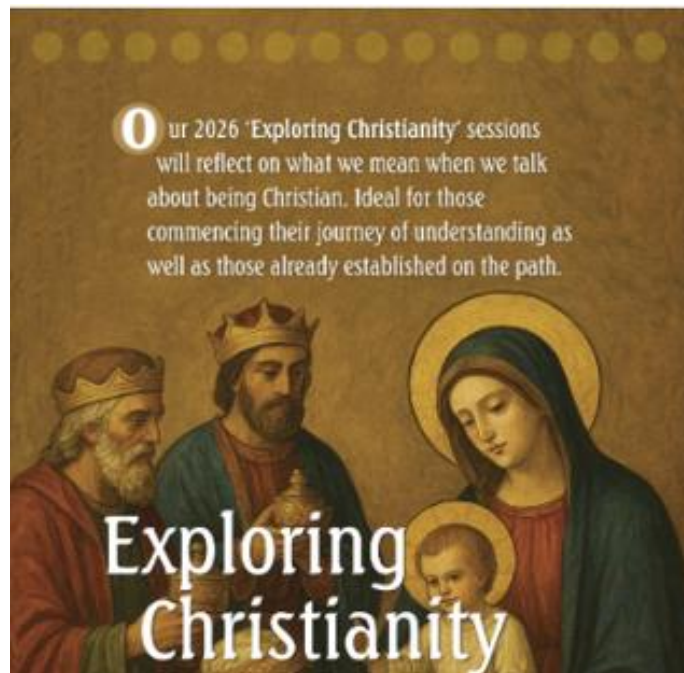
At the beginning of the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a priest or deacon removes the sacred host from the tabernacle and places it in the Monstrance on the Altar for adoration by those gathered together. “Monstrance” is the vessel used in the Church to display the consecrated Eucharistic Host, during Eucharistic adoration or benediction. The word monstrance comes from the Latin word *monstrare*, meaning “to expose”. It is known in Latin as an *Ostensorium*. When a consecrated host is placed in the monstrance, it is said to be a solemn exposition.

We grow spiritually with each moment we spend with Jesus! Through our Adoration, Jesus calls us to a personal relationship (to become His friends and disciples), to “remain in Him” (Divine Intimacy), to “remain in His love” (Keep His commandments). He promises that all those who remain tightly bonded to Him, will bear much fruit and “their joy will be complete”. For without Him, we can do nothing.

Through this “friendship”, we are inspired and strengthened to take on life’s challenges, to carry our daily cross with a new attitude, to become a “new creation” (more and more like Jesus).

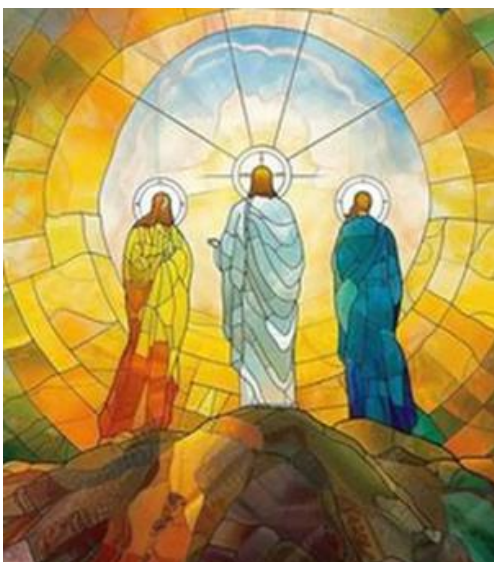
Please do join us for Eucharistic Adoration, at All Saints, from 4.00pm to 5.00pm on Saturday 25th July.

Whilst the Exposition lasts an hour feel free to spend as much or as little time as you wish - to simply ‘dwell in the Presence’.



**The next sessions of Exploring Christianity have been planned.
All sessions are held in the Randall Room at 12.30 after Parish Mass and a light lunch is provided.
You are warmly invited to attend any or all of the sessions**

Sunday 26 th July	Heresies	Dr Mary Benton
Sunday 11 th October	Prayer: Answered and Unanswered	Fr Paul Hawkins
Sunday 25 th October	Anglicanism	Fr Paul Roberts
Sunday 15 th November	The Sacraments	Mthr Nicola Stanley



Thursday 6th August 2026

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

7.00 pm



The Atrium Development

In the latest phase of the work the last part of the atrium is now closed. This will protect the organ from the dust of more demolition and secure the site for safety.

It will remain as a fire escape route so that the church retains its fire compliance. Entry to the sacristy is now via the rear door reached from the side gate of the Vicarage garden.

The office pod has now arrived in the church, this will provide a secure area to house equipment and will mean that all the church can be open all day as the computer can be secured when the 'office' is closed.

The office will soon be relocated just to the side of the pod.

The steels for the extended area of the Atrium are now in place and all the doorways have been widened to ensure accessibility for everyone.



The next pieces of work include knocking through the access to the new toilets in the Randall Room lobby and a major upgrade of the electrical supply to comply with current standards.

A background image of a stained glass window with abstract patterns in shades of blue, yellow, and white. The window is divided into several panes by dark lead lines.

All Saints Church Pembroke Road Clifton

Saturday
August 1st
4pm

Anya Szreter

soprano

Stephen Browne

piano

Mozart, Mahler and...
Manhattan!

retiring collection

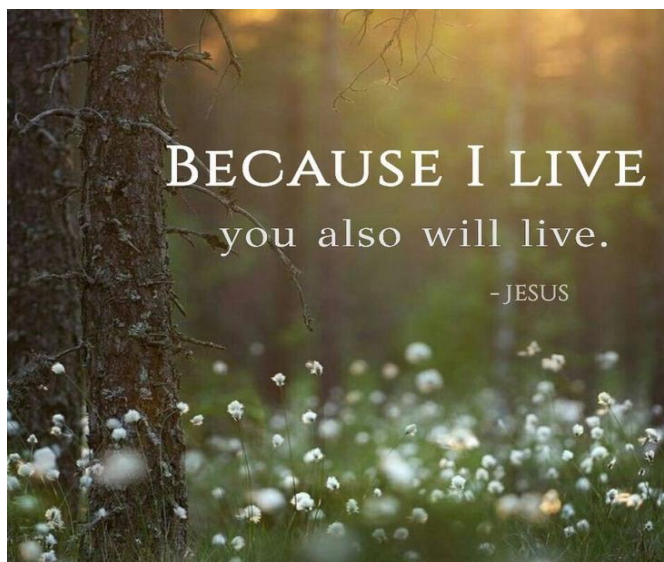
refreshments

Prayers Requests

'In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live.'

(John 14: 19).

Please let Fr Charles know of anyone who would like to be remembered within the weekly prayer list or anyone who you would like to be remembered in prayer.



Those of the parish and our hearts whom we remember in our Prayers:

Sunday

Tabitha Clark, Ruth and Richard Harding, Katie Norman, Neal Gordon, Joyce Shepherd, Cynthia Ashford Nicky Epina Sarah Jean Bradford Ossama & Clare Sader Debbie Gibbs Sara Maitland Jessica Smith Sue Gaylard-Hughes Georgina Harford

Monday

Tuesday.

Wednesday

Katrina and Katherine King, Philip Miles, Samantha Tucker, Maureen Mumford Jennie Williams

Thursday

Friday

Charlotte Hopkins, Caroline Semon, Nadine Benn The O'Sullivan family

Saturday

The Departed

Brian Davage Jean Payne Jeremy Younger (Pr) Judith Bramhall Andrew Densham

Years' Minds - this week we remember:

Margaret Edwards Patrick Dillon Charles McLean Madge Arnold Elaine Sanders Fr Ken Semon Trevor White (Pr)

ALL SAINTS PRAYERS

Mon 27	Pray for those who will this weekend be setting off on any kind of pilgrimage: for safety, companionship, insight and spiritual growth as they journey.
Tue 28	Be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you.
Wed 29	Mass 10.00am Mary, Martha and Lazarus, Companions of our Lord Give thanks for friendship. Pray for our friends
Thurs 30	William Wilberforce and anti-slavery campaigners About one million people enter the slave trade as victims each year – now! We pray for all those who are victims, those who are the ‘traders’ that they may turn from their work, and those who work to eradicate this market
Fri 31	Mass 10.00am Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus, 1556 Today we remember Ignatius of Loyola, Jesuit founder, gifted spiritual director, and writer of the Spiritual exercises. Pray for all those who accompany others on their spiritual journey offering companionship, prayer and direction.
Sat August 1	Give thanks for the transformational gift of the World Wide Web. Recognise those whose lives have been transformed by the ability to have access to information, knowledge and learning; those who manage to maintain and grow connections between friends, families, learning networks; those who provide reasoned and real-time insights into world events. Pray for all who work in the digital world. Pray for those who become victims of this gift through its ‘wrong use’ – abuse, bullying and fraud.
Sunday 2	Trinity 9 Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace Early Worship 9.00am Parish Mass 10.30am

If you would like to give regularly to the Church, please set up a standing order to the church account, details below
Parochial Church Council of All Saints
Account No. 65256747
sort code 08 92 99
 Gift Aid forms are available from the office
office@allsaintsclifton.org

We are committed to safeguarding children, young people, victims of domestic abuse and vulnerable adults.

If you have any Safeguarding concerns please contact :
 The Parish Safeguarding Officers - Caroline Davenport & Janice Callow at safeguarding@allsaintsclifton.org