



THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ENGLISH MARTYRS AND ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



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'Together, Reach Out and Welcome All with Joy, Compassion and Unfailing Love'

PARISH PRIEST FATHER GERRY WALSH

St Augustine's Presbytery, 256 Painswick Road, Matson, Gloucester GL4 4BS
Tel: 01452 412702 Email: gerry.walsh@cliftondiocese.com
St Augustine of Canterbury Church, Matson Lane, Matson, Gloucester GL4 6DT
Email: matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftondiocese.com

Catholic Schools for the Parishes

St Peter's Catholic Primary School
www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk Tel: 01452 524792
St Peter's Catholic High School & Sixth Form Centre
www.stpetershigh.gloucs.sch.uk Tel: 01452 711200

Parish Administrator Marisa Wood

Core Office Hours from 9am to 1pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday based at
English Martyrs Church, 247 Tuffley Lane, Tuffley, Gloucester, GL4 ONX
Tel: 01452 504997 Email: tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftondiocese.com

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

English Martyrs Sue Knight Email
PSR.tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftondiocese.com
St Augustine's Katherine Heffernan Email:
PSR.matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftondiocese.com

SUNDAY MASS TIMES: St Augustine's 6:30pm Saturday and 11:00am Sunday **English Martyrs** 9.00am Sunday
CONFESSIONS: English Martyrs Saturday after morning mass **St Augustine's** Saturday 5.45pm to 6.15pm & on call

Parish Prayer

O God be at the heart of our parish and in all our hearts,
Strengthen our faith and our hope in Your promises.
Grant us a spirit of self-sacrifice, so that, with your grace, and by the
Power of the Holy Spirit, we may radiate Your love to everyone we met.
Help us to reach out with joy and mercy, to build a loving, healing community.
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



Fourth Sunday of Advent 22nd December 2019 Year A

Responsorial Psalm	Let the Lord enter! He is the King of glory.
Gospel Acclamation	The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God is with us.'
Communion Antiphon	Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS	SAINT AUGUSTINE'S	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sat 21 st Dec		6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	<i>O Oriens</i> People of the Parishes
Sun 22 nd Dec	9.00am Mass	11.00am Mass	<i>O Rex Gentium</i> Thomas Hedderman Anniv Dec'd members of the Beer & O'Keffe Families
Mon 23 rd Dec		9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass	<i>O Emmanuel</i> For the Intentions of Anthony & Patricia Fray Smith and family
SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD			
Evening of Tues 24 th Dec.	5.30pm Family Mass for Christmas 10.30pm Carols 11.00pm Mass during the Night	7.30pm Family Mass for Christmas	Families and Friends Holy Souls People of the Parishes
Wed 25 th Dec		10.00am Christmas Day Mass	Jean Hill RIP
Thurs 26 th Dec			<i>Feast of St Stephen</i> Fr Gerry Away
Fri 27 th Dec			<i>Feast of St John Apostle</i> Fr Gerry Away
Sat 28 th Dec	No Morning Mass, Rosary or Confessions	6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	<i>Feast of the Holy Innocents Martyrs</i> John & Sarah Nevin Anniv

PLEASE JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS AFTER MASS ON SUNDAY IN THE CHURCH HALLS

Christmas Masses 2019: Christmas Eve Tues. 24th Dec. English Martyrs Family Mass 5.30pm; St Augustine's Family Mass 7.30pm; English Martyrs Mass during the Night 11pm with carols and the proclamation of Christmas from 10.30pm and light refreshments afterwards. **Christmas Day Wed. 25th Dec.** St Augustine's Mass of Christmas Day 10.00am

Christmas Eve – Family Mass at 5.30pm: Will include a children's nativity story for which children have been rehearsing over the last few Sundays after Mass.

Christmas Eve – Family Mass at 7.30pm: We are looking for children to participate by dressing as the main characters in the nativity story and taking part in our procession to the crib. Costumes will be provided on the night, but you are also welcome to bring your own. Please contact Tony Sharpe on 07963 091170 to let him know your child would like to take part of for further information.

Christmas Collection: There are envelopes available in both parishes for your donations for Christmas. The collections taken at our four Christmas Masses together with money given in the envelopes which may be left in any collection, handed to Fr Gerry or posted in any of the parishes letter boxes contribute significantly to support his income for which he is very grateful.

Office Closed: The Parish office is now closed till 9am on Friday 3rd January 2020. Marisa Wood is having a well-earned family holiday having got to grips with a number of new technologies and ways of doing things during the last year.

English Martyrs Eucharistic Adoration: Will be from 1pm to 5pm on Thursday 9th January 2020.

Going Away on Holiday or Travelling: We pray for all those parishioners who are away over Christmas & the New Year and for those travelling at this time that they will have safe journeys and that they will come back renewed and refreshed.

Thank you: To everyone involved in any way in preparing the two Churches for our Christmas Masses and for the liturgies over Christmas. It is often said it 'takes a village to bring up a child' similar it takes a committed team who freely and generously give up their time to make our Churches and Liturgies what they are for Christmas. Thank you everyone!

St Augustine's 200 Club: Several numbers are now free due to parishioners moving away or dying so for £12 a year you could be entered into the monthly draw where £100 is given away in prize money. Please phone Claire Cooper 0452 614173 for further information. You have to be in it to win it.

St Peter's High School Casual Exam Invigilator Posts: St. Peter's are looking to recruit a number of Casual Exam Invigilators to join our invigilation team, £9.20/hour (includes holiday pay) Invigilators need to be available during the months of **November, May & June** and must be available for at least **6 sessions** per week **Start Times:** Morning Session – 8.45am start , Afternoon Session – 12:30pm start .The post requires you to oversee and supervise examinations and to ensure that guidelines and regulations for the integrity and security of the examination papers and procedures are followed during examination sessions. Further information can be found on the school website, Eteach or by contacting Karen Thompson via recruitment@sphs.uk.com

Music Night: Thank you to all those who supported the Music Night last Saturday evening, 14th December at English Martyrs in any way. A fun filled music evening with delicious food was enjoyed by all who attended. £389.95 was raised from the Music Night contributions plus £104.00 for the raffle held that evening a **grand total of £493.95** which will go to the building fund.

Parish collections: English Martyrs: Standing Orders received in November £1,406 Parish Fund £195 Building Fund both via the Diocese being the amounts individuals paid in October and £163 paid directly by individuals to the Parish. **Loose Offertory for 15th Dec** £88.76. **Outstanding Loans:** Diocesan Loan for the Hall at 2.75% as at 20th December £1,255.54 and Interest Free Parishioner Car Park Loans £17,500 **St Augustine's: Standing Orders received in November** £1,073 via the Diocese being the amounts individuals paid in October and £874.02 paid directly by individuals to the Parish. **Loose Offertory and Envelopes** £1,081.75 **Thank you all for your continued generous support.**

Year of Communion Reflection for Fourth Sunday of Advent

When families are expecting the birth of a child there is great anticipation and the nearer the time comes, the greater the excitement. The birth of a child is always a sign and message of hope, a new life is coming, a new future. As we approach Christmas day, we remember that Christ came into our world as a vulnerable baby, bringing new life and new hope, God with us, Emmanuel. Christmas reminds us that God did not stay at a distance from us but entered into the depths of our world and our lives, coming to us in the human form of a tiny, vulnerable baby. In Jesus we have a God who so loves us so much that he wants to walk with us, sharing our very humanity in all its messiness. This Christmas as we remember the birth, let us also remember that Jesus comes to us again, each and every day, not as a baby but the one who loves us with an infinite love and a deep desire for our genuine and complete happiness, which lasts much longer than one day.

Please pray: For those who have died recently especially: Mary McVann who died on 4th Dec and whose Requiem is on Friday 3rd Jan at 11am with her, coffin reception on Thursday 2nd Jan at 4.30pm at St Augustine's. **Please remember all whose anniversaries occur at this time and all those who mourn especially Mary's family and friends. Please also pray for the sick especially:** Allan Irvine, John Connors, Elsie Cavanagh, Jo Markey, Susan Maher, David Rogers, Ellen Wagner, Kath Griffiths, Albert Turner, Shelia Robertson, Maria Oldfield, Janet Wagner, Andrea Brushneen, Joan Humphreys, Peggy Keogh, Lisa Knight, Maureen Moloney, Mary Gorman, Michael Gaffney, Elizabeth Bopoto, Keith Hill, Pat Murray, Pat Gilbert, Bridie O'Boyle, Janet Peacey and Elizabeth Knight. **We also pray for** Mgr Liam VG and Parish Priest at St Peter's Gloucester who has been diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma and will be undergoing Chemotherapy starting in January 2020.

