



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@cliftdiocese.com
St Augustine of Canterbury Church, Matson Lane, Matson, Gloucester GL4 6DT
Email: matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftdiocese.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@cliftdiocese.com

Parish Safeguarding Representatives

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



Second Sunday of Advent 8th December 2019 Year A

Responsorial Psalm	In his day's justice shall flourish and peace till the moon falls.
Gospel Acclamation	Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.
Communion Antiphon	Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS	SAINT AUGUSTINE'S	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sat 7 th Dec		6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	Martin O'Connor Anniv
Sun 8 th Dec	9.00am Mass	11.00am Mass	Mary Frances Gray Anniv Denise Willoughby RIP
Mon 9 th Dec		9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass	The Immaculate Conception of the BVM Tony Woods Anniv
Tues 10 th Dec	9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass		Private Intention JH
Wed 11 th Dec		10.00am Mass	Michael Jennings Anniv
Thurs 12 th Dec			Fr Gerry's Day off
Fri 13 th Dec	10.00am Mass		St Lucy Holy Souls
Sat 14 th Dec	9.30am Rosary 10.00am Mass	6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	St John of the Cross Theodora Allum Anniv People of the Parishes

Please pray: For those who have died recently especially: Dorothy 'Patsy' Gardner who died on 16th Nov and whose Requiem is on Friday 20th Dec. Mary McVann who died on 4th Dec and whose Requiem is on Friday 10th Jan. We also remember James Purdey and Beryl O'Reilly who died recently. **Please remember all whose anniversaries occur at this time and all those who mourn especially Patsy's and 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 is awaiting results from a biopsy he had last Monday.

First Holy Communion Saint Augustine's: The next session is on Sun 15th Dec at 9.45am in the hall.

Discussion Group at St Augsutine's: Next meeting Wed 4th Dec at 7.30pm in the hall. Continuing discussion around Sister Wendy Beckett's book on prayer.

St Augustine's Prayer Group: Will not be meeting in December but any prayers that you wish to place in the box in the porch will be gladly offered up by the prayer team.

English Martyrs Children's Party: Sunday 8th December 2.30pm to 4.30pm. .

St Augsutine's T@3: Christmas party this Tues 10th Dec at 3pm. Do come along for a warm welcome and a bit of Christmas cheer & chat.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC NIGHT with dinner at English Martyrs: Saturday 14th December 2019 at 7.00pm.

Christmas Masses 2019: Christmas Eve Tues. 24th Dec. English Martyrs Family Mass 5.30pm; St Augsutine'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: If you would like your child/children to dress up and take part in the nativity story during the mass please contact Nikki O'Neill or Lucy Pearce after mass this weekend or tel. Nikki on 07976 958402. Rehearsals will continue in the Church after the 9am 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.

Carol Singing: Come and join the Church in Tuffley carol singers at The Pike and Musket in Windsor Avenue on Tues 17 Dec at 6pm. All welcome to come and bring some Christmas cheer to others.

Recycle at The Redwell Centre: Do you have items that are still in great condition or new? Would you like some extra money or space for Christmas? Do you want to grab some bargains? Drop of your item with a price and the Redwell Centre will sell it for you, you will receive 50% and 50% will go towards the running of the centre. Sun 8th Dec 11am to 1pm. Further information from The Redwell Centre, Redwell Rd, Matson GL4 6JG 01452 381070.

Diocese of Clifton Year of Communion: Began last weekend. For further details and videos of the Bishop's Homily at the recent evening prayer see <https://cliftondiocese.com/communion/>

Diocese of Clifton 'Pastoral Ministry' Formation Course Information Evenings: Bishop Declan has decided to train suitable Catholic lay women and men for the paid position of 'Pastoral Ministry' across the Diocese of Clifton. There have already been some information evenings and there will be a further meeting in our area at St Thomas More Parish Hall Cheltenham on Wed. 11th Dec. where you will have the chance to learn more about the proposed training course which is due to start in September 2020. The meeting starts at 7.30pm, with refreshments at 7pm and will conclude by 9pm.

Church in Tuffley Christmas Hampers: There are still a few sheets in a folder in the lobby. Simply take one and buy what is described so that we can help prepare 40 hampers along with the other Christian Churches in Tuffley for Christmas and help feed 160 or so people in need. Items need to be returned and placed in the Christmas Hamper crates no later than Sun 15th Dec. Help is also required on Tues 17th Dec at 10am at St George's to pack the 50 hampers. Thank you for any support you can give,

General Election 2019: Copies of the Message from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales press release of 29th Nov on the General Election are available in the Church lobbies. It can also be found on our website on the newsletter page

Christmas card appeal for Prisoners of Conscience: Amnesty International has supplied us with details of victims of injustice. To support them please take a free copy of 'Write for Rights', which gives details of the cases There are free cards for you to take. You will need to address and post the cards. Thank you

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 Augustine's Church Christmas Clean: Sat 21st Dec. from 10.30am. All willing hands welcome.

St Augustine's Christmas Fete: Thank you to all those who helped on the various stalls and with the raffle and those who attend and supported it in anyway

Second Collection: This weekend for Christmas Flowers in both parishes.

Year of Communion - 2nd Sunday of Advent

The season of Advent is a very real time of waiting and hoping. It might not feel like this because we are so busy doing, rushing from one shop to another, busy in the kitchen, anxiously checking this and checking that, just to ensure that the one day that has become 'Christmas' is a real success. When we stop and ponder on the mystery that is unfolding before us we might find ourselves wondering about who is waiting and who is hoping, Is it us or is it the Lord? It is likely that in our hearts we do have a real sense of longing and of hoping for God and if this is the case how much more might God be longing for us? So many things can get in the way of us experiencing the intimacy of God who longs to console us, to wrap arms around us, to hold us. Advent is a good time to reflect on what might be getting in the way of us being intimate with God. What are the things that prevent us from feeling confident in the presence of God? Though it is important to prepare for Christmas on a practical level, we might want to guard against avoiding the need to prepare on a spiritual level, because the tinsel has become all important.

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



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