



# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ENGLISH MARTYRS AND ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



[www.gloucesteremaoc.com](http://www.gloucesteremaoc.com)

'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@clifondiocese.com](mailto:gerry.walsh@clifondiocese.com)  
St Augustine of Canterbury Church, Matson Lane, Matson, Gloucester GL4 6DT  
Email: [matson.staugustineofcanterbury@clifondiocese.com](mailto:matson.staugustineofcanterbury@clifondiocese.com)

## Catholic Schools for the Parishes

St Peter's Catholic Primary School  
[www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk) Tel: 01452 524792  
St Peter's Catholic High School & Sixth Form Centre  
[www.stpetershigh.gloucs.sch.uk](http://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@clifondiocese.com](mailto:tuffley.englishmartyrs@clifondiocese.com)

## Parish Safeguarding Representatives

English Martyrs Sue Knight Email  
[PSR.tuffley.englishmartyrs@clifondiocese.com](mailto:PSR.tuffley.englishmartyrs@clifondiocese.com)  
St Augustine's Katherine Heffernan Email:  
[PSR.matson.staugustineofcanterbury@clifondiocese.com](mailto:PSR.matson.staugustineofcanterbury@clifondiocese.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.



## Third Sunday of Advent 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019 Year A

<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	Come, Lord and save us.
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Say to the faint of heart; Be strong and do not fear. Behold, our God will come, and he will save us.

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS	SAINT AUGUSTINE'S	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup> Dec		6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	People of the Parishes
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.00am Mass	11.00am Mass	Birthday Intention for SG
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Dec		9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass	Zygmunt Perczynski RIP
Tues 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass		<i>O Sapientia</i> In thanksgiving KW
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7.00pm Mass followed by Confessions	10.00am Mass followed by Confessions	<i>O Adonai</i> Anielka Jennings Birthday Anniv For Reconciliation
Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec			<i>O Radix</i> Fr Gerry's Day off
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec		11.30am Requiem Mass Patsy Gardner	<i>O Clavis David</i> Patsy Gardner RIP
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	9.30am Rosary 10.00am Mass	6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	<i>O Oriens</i> Conversion of Souls to love & follow Jesus's way People of the Parishes

**Please pray:** For those who have died recently especially: Dorothy 'Patsy' Gardner who died on 16<sup>th</sup> Nov and whose Requiem is this Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. Mary McVann who died on 4<sup>th</sup> Dec and whose Requiem is on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan at 11am. Her coffin reception will be on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan at 4.30pm. **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.

**Christmas Masses 2019: Christmas Eve Tues. 24<sup>th</sup> 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. 25<sup>th</sup> 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 or 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.

**St Augustine's Church Christmas Clean:** Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Dec. from 10.30am. All willing hands welcome.

**Advent Gloucester Deanery Reconciliation Service:** At Our Lady's Cheltenham Rd. East Churchdown GL3 1HU on Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00pm.

**Following the canonisation of John Henry Newman,** Reverend Monsignor Roderick Strange will lead an evening on 'Newman: Advent Holiness' at St Gregory's, Cheltenham, on **Wednesday 18 December**, beginning at **7.00pm**. Mgr. Roderick Strange, Professor of Theology at St Mary's University Twickenham, has written & lectured on Newman extensively and has worked as an adviser to the BBC, most notably during the papal visit to the UK. There will be an opportunity to buy his latest book "Newman: The Heart of Holiness", and have it signed by the author.

**Romero Catholic Schools Trust -Swindon based:** The Bishop and Trustees are looking to appoint 6 foundation Directors for this new emerging Multi-Academy Trust of 4 schools in Swindon. The Diocese and schools concerned are looking for people with a range of skills in the following areas: Strategic Planning, Corporate Governance, Project management, Risk management, Change management, Financial management, Employment law and Practice and Education. If you are interested, please contact Director of Schools and Colleges Mrs Colleen Collett at [colleen.collett@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:colleen.collett@cliftondiocese.com)

**Closing date: 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020. Interviews: Week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**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 Christmas Fete:** Many thanks to all who helped at and supported the Fete last Saturday. A magnificent £1,070.93 was raised for Parish Funds.

**Parish collections:** English Martyrs: **Offertory** 8<sup>th</sup> Dec £76.88 **Second collection** for flowers £104.80 Donation of £20. **St Augustine's:** Reports Monthly **Thank you all for your continued support.**

### **Cardinal Nichols' statement on the UK general election 2019**

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster and president of the Bishops' Conference of England & Wales, said: "The result offers a fresh start with some clarity, but it has to be fresh in more ways than politics. A lot of damage has been done over the past few years. It has been toxic, dominated by blame. We, have to put that behind us, look each other in the eye and see the good in the other. As we approach Christmas it is the birth of Christ, the embodiment of God's goodness, that we celebrate. It is that streak of goodness written in every person that we have to see and rediscover. Concentrating on the good in every person is the fresh start we should seek."

### **The O Antiphons,**

The O Antiphons are chants of ancient origin sung or recited at the beginning and end of the Magnificat during the service of Evening Prayer on each of the days leading up to Christmas Day, They, are used from 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> December. Each O Antiphon tells us something about Christ using one of his Old Testament messianic titles and form the basis of the popular Advent hymn, O Come, O Come, Emmanuel. The first letter in reverse of each of the Latin O Antiphons which are: **Sapientia, Adonai, Radix, Clavis David, Oriens, Rex Gentium and Emmanuel** spell **ERO CRAS** which means 'tomorrow I shall come'. And indeed, He our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ comes for the day after the last antiphon is Christmas Eve.

### **Year of Communion Reflection for 3rd Sunday of Advent**

John the Baptist has been arrested and he knows he is going to die. Suddenly his world is not so certain and understandably he begins to question everything. It is a common experience. When faced with a crisis in our own life many of us might respond in the same way. There are many people who have experienced the pain of feeling desolate and bewildered. Loss of job, discovering our child has become addicted to drugs, the death of someone close. Whatever the situation, it can rock our equilibrium and send us off course; turning our world upside down and leaving us not knowing what to do or where to go. When Jesus says, 'happy is the one who does not lose faith in me' he promises that he will always be present in the midst of our lives and in whatever circumstances we find ourselves. Faith is living in the knowledge of this and letting it be at the heart of our lives. It isn't easy and as many of us know it needs us to take the words of Isaiah to heart, 'Courage! Do not be afraid. Look your God is coming.'

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



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