



THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF ENGLISH MARTYRS AND ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY



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@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

NO PUBLIC MASSES UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

CONFESSIONS: Are available on request as long as social distancing and hygiene covid-19 procedures are followed
Please contact Fr Gerry as above

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 Lent MOTHERING SUNDAY Year A 22nd March 2020

DATE	INTENTION OFFERED AT PRIVATE MASS FOR THE CHURCH, PARISHIONERS' AND SOCIETY	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sun 22 nd March	For Mothers and Families	Carmela Marusyczenko Anniv
Mon 23 rd March	For the sick and vulnerable	Con O'Keefe RIP
Tues 24 th March	For Medical Staff	Homeless
Wed 25 th March	For Trust in God and Mary's Maternal Intercession	<i>The Annunciation of the Lord</i> People of the Parishes
Thurs 26 th March	For Politicians	Refugees
Fri 27 th March	For the Holy Church and Her Mission	Holy Souls
Sat 28 th March	For our armed forces and all emergency staff	

Please pray: For all those who have died recently especially Elsie Cavanagh her Funeral will be at 12noon on Wed 1st April and all whose anniversaries occur at this time and all those who mourn. Please also pray for the sick especially: Allan Irvine, John Connors, 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 is undergoing chemotherapy.

Pope Francis has composed a prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick, to implore her protection during the Covid19 coronavirus pandemic: O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

SUSPENDING SUNDAY AND WEEKDAY MASSES: With immediate effect all Public Sunday and weekday masses in English Martyrs and St Augustine's Catholic Churches and indeed all Catholic Churches in England and Wales are suspended until further notice. This follows a decree issued by Bishop Declan on Thursday in line with the guidance of the Bishops of England and Wales. The obligation to attend Mass on a Sunday or Holyday of Obligation is removed until further notice. During this time Catholic Churches will be open at notified times see below for parishioners to have a time for individual prayer, without any organised services.

Parishioners may choose one of the following alternatives to attending Sunday/Weekday Mass in person:

Taking part by watching Mass online or on television and so receive Holy Communion spiritually. Check the diocesan website for details of Mass online from our Cathedral Church of St Peter and St Paul which will start everyday at 930am or <https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/> Mass everyday at 12 noon. This is then later uploaded as a recorded Mass on the same webpage, you can also watch many other devotions on their live stream. You can watch Mass on Youtube from Bishop Robert Baron's Chapel see <https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/> these are live at 12.15pm each day. Churchservices.tv is also a good website to visit to find other live masses at various times from various Churches. The Redemptorists are offering Sunday Mass only which is posted online at 12 noon on Saturday see <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online>

If you cannot access a Mass online reflect of the Sunday Liturgical text, read the Bible, say the Rosary, praying the Prayer of the Church (Divine Office). The iBreviary app or universalis.com can be accessed to aid prayer or use Wednesday Word.

Fr Gerry will say a private daily mass remembering the intentions of parishioners at this difficult time and for the intentions as per the daily liturgy planner.

Baptisms, confirmations will no longer be celebrated until such time when public health advice is that congregations can gather safely. First Holy Communion preparation is suspended and the First Holy Communion Masses are deferred till we can gather safely again

Confession may be offered on request as long as hygiene and social distancing requirements are observed. Please note Mgr Liam can't hear confessions as he is in self-isolation because of his ongoing chemotherapy. Anointing of the sick in danger of death or grave need can be performed by Fr Gerry.

Funeral services should now take place at either the graveside or crematorium. Arrangements for the Mass to be celebrated in memoriam can be arranged when congregations are allowed to gather safely

Church Opening Times: The Bishops have encouraged us to have where possible the Church open for private prayer. Our Churches have normally only been open around service times. For this and next Sunday and for this week our Churches will be open as follows: **St Augustine's:** Saturday evening 5.45pm to 7.15pm, Sunday 10.15am to 11.45am Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to 10.30am. **English Martyrs:** Sunday 8.30am to 10am, Tuesday 9am to 10.30am, Thursday 1 to 4pm and at call during office hours, Saturday 9.30am to 11.30am. If the front door is locked at English Martyrs please knock either on front door and/or one of the fire doors. **St Peter's London Road** Will be open everyday during the day.

Prinknash Abbey Chapel Will be open from 8am to 8.30pm every day.

Meetings: All parish meetings are cancelled until further notice.

St Peter's High School Choral Society Annual Lenten Concert: Due to take place in St Peter's Church on Tuesday 31st March has been cancelled.

Prinknash Abbey: Father Abbot has cancelled the Retreat Day on March 28th because of the coronavirus.

Reconciliation Liturgies: Please note the dates in Holy Rood, Swindon (26th March) and St Gregory, Cheltenham (2nd April) and our own at English Martyrs on 3rd April are now unfortunately cancelled.

Christian Meditation Group: Meetings at Our Lady's Churchdown every Friday from 1.00- 2.00pm are now cancelled.

Behold 2020: This will most certainly still take place. With the Cardinal and many other Bishops and Priest including Fr Gerry rededication of England to Our Lady at 12 noon on Sunday 29th March. Go to <https://www.behold2020.com/> where anyone can download the rededication prayers. There will be a live stream at 12 noon from Walsingham for the rededication.

Other useful Websites: The following might be of help during these times: www.cliftondiocese.com. www.vatican.va. www.churchservices.tv. www.mcnmedia.tv. www.cbcew.org.uk. www.josephfrancis.org/livestream <https://hozana.org/en/prayer-space>. <https://formed.org/faithathome> for this last one they normally charge but for next 40 days its free and they have a host of excellent resources.

Helping Each Other: As parish communities many of you know each other and talk to each other regularly please continue to do so and look out especially for the most vulnerable that you know. We are hoping to contact everyone that has filled in a census form over the coming week to ensure they are ok and establish how they would like to maintain contact. Not everyone has internet etc. so newsletters and other things can be delivered if needs be. We encourage you to complete a census form if you have not and an additional form for these Covid-19 times.

We are trying to build up a list of parishioners who have some time to help with requests we may have especially for those less abled parishioners and others who may have to self-isolate and live alone? Please contact: Marisa or Fr Gerry on 01452 504997 if you might be able to help. Thank you!

Children's Resources: We are aware that most children will no longer be going to school. If you would like Christian resources for children, typically aged 7-12 year olds but adults and confirmation candidates enjoy these to, contact Debbie Cottam on deborahcottam@outlook.com who will happily email them to you.

Fr Gerry's Social Media Presence: At this unrepresented time Fr Gerry is happy to share to his limited social media presence Twitter @GerryWalsh18, he is on Whatsapp his mobile number is 07748175602 and he is also on Skype as fathergerrywalsh. He will be using these more regularly in the current environment to offer support and hold meetings or to facilitate praying together. He will in accordance with Diocesan GDPR requirements not share any of your details with anyone else without your prior consent.

Foodbank: Please remember to continue to buy things for the Foodbank their need is great. Items can be left any time the Church is open for prayer.

Parish Finances: English Martyrs: Cash Offertory 15th March £40.44 Cafod so far £65.00. **St Augustine's** Reports monthly

Sunday Reading References for 4th Sunday of Lent Year A

First Reading 1 Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13 *God gives Samuel a special insight to choose Jesse's Son david*

Psalm 22 (23) The Lord is my Shepherd there is nothing I shall want

Ephesians 5:8-14 *Rise from the Dead and Christ will shine on you*

John 9:1-41 *The blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.*

Year of Communion - Sunday March 22nd - 4th Sunday of Lent

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives sight to a man born blind. First, he can see physically and then with the eyes of faith. We too, through baptism, have been given the eyes of faith, but we can struggle to see what it is that God is asking of us. Through our sinfulness, we can find ourselves overwhelmed by darkness. Jesus longs to bring us out of this darkness. He wants to open our eyes, our minds and our hearts to the compassionate and merciful love he has for us. Lent gives us this special time and opportunity for facing our darkness and seeking once more the light which heals and forgives. Walking in the light of Christ, we walk in freedom and we walk in hope



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