



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

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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 ALL MASSES AT 10AM

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.



Fifth Sunday of Lent. Year A 29th March 2020

DATE	INTENTION OFFERED AT PRIVATE MASS FOR THE CHURCH, PARISHIONERS' AND SOCIETY	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sun 29 th March	For volunteers helping the sick and vulnerable and for England as it is Re dedication as Mary's Dowry	People of the Parishes
Mon 30 th March	For those in financial difficulties	Heather Coburn RIP
Tues 31 st March	For those preparing to be received into or baptised in the Catholic Church	Concetta Alongi RIP
Wed 1 st April	For those who mourn the loss of loved ones	Elsie Cavanagh RIP
Thurs 2 nd April	For ecumenism in the Christian faith	George Hancock III
Fri 3 rd April	For interfaith dialogue	Eugenia Bocko RIP
Sat 4 th April	For the sick and vulnerable	Family Intentions PG

Please pray: For all those who have died recently especially Elsie Cavanagh her Funeral Service at the crematorium will be at 1pm on Wed 1st April immediate family only. A memorial mass will held when we can gather again. We also pray Heather Corburn **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 at the end of his evening meditation on Mark 4:35-41 at his extraordinary Urbi et Orbi on the evening of Friday 27th March from the steps of St Peter's entrusted us all to the Lord, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, so that our faith might not waiver in this time of crisis saying: "Dear brothers and sisters, from this place that tells of Peter's rock-solid faith, I would like this evening to entrust all of you to the Lord, through the intercession of Mary, Health of the People and Star of the stormy Sea. From this colonnade that embraces Rome and the whole world, may God's blessing come down upon you as a consoling embrace. Lord, may you bless the world, give health to our bodies and comfort our hearts. You ask us not to be afraid. Yet our faith is weak and we are fearful. But you, Lord, will not leave us at the mercy of the storm. Tell us again: 'Do not be afraid' (Mt 28:5). And we, together with Peter, 'cast all our anxieties onto you, for you care about us' (cf. 1Pet 5:7)." see <https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2020-03/pope-francis-urbi-et-orbi-blessing-coronavirus.html>

HELPING EACH OTHER: Thank you to those parishioners who volunteered to help practically by for example shopping. We have been advised by the Diocese in order to ensure requirements with all current and future Government requirements and to avoid duplication that we can now only help remotely as a parish. People who are not in a risk category and who have the time are encouraged to join official government and council run volunteer groups such as the NHS Volunteers or via the official volunteer hub for Gloucestershire which can be found at: <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gloucestershires-community-help-hub/>

As parish communities many of you know each other as friends and talk to each other regularly please continue to do so and look out especially for the most vulnerable that you know who may be confused or lonely directing them to where they can get help as required.

Covid-19 Supplementary Document: A number of things are going to remain more or less constant for a number of weeks in this Covid-19 pandemic so a two pages of Supplementary Information have been produced covering the following topics What to do when there are no Public Masses and Services, what's happening about other liturgical things, Easter duties, Act of Contrition, Prayer websites/apps, Free Catholic Resources and other useful websites.

Churches and Halls Closed: Following the Prime Minister's announcement on Monday 23rd March both Churches and their halls are closed and there are no public masses or services until further notice.

English Martyrs Office Closed: Since last Tuesday afternoon as required by the Diocese Marisa Wood our Parish Administrator has been working from home. She can be contacted via her diocesan email account as on the front of the newsletter.

Meetings, Reconciliation Liturgies: All parish meetings are cancelled until further notice as are all public liturgies retreat days and concerts.

Join us for your Parish Mass daily at 10am: Fr Gerry's Private Mass over Skype with live video starts at 10am everyday indicated on the liturgy planner above from one of the Parish Churches or if needs be the Presbytery, You can join this by becoming part of the EMAOC Parishioners Group by either contacting Fr Gerry through your Skype Account at his Skype Account fathergerrywalsh or by using the url <https://join.skype.com/IMJtoOE71NTR> and joining as a guest,

Other parish virtual prayer services: Fr Gerry is also using Skype for Rosary occasionally and other services.

Behold 2020: This will most certainly still take place. With the Cardinal and many other Bishops and Priests including Fr Gerry the rededication of England to Our Lady as her Dowry will happen at 12 noon this 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.

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 his limited social media presence Twitter @GerryWalsh18, he is on WhatsApp his mobile number is 07748175602 and he is also on Skype see above.

Mass Offerings: Fr Gerry is offering daily mass and is happy to take requests for masses over the phone or by email.

Easter Triduum and Easter Sunday: The Vatican Congregation for Liturgy and the Sacraments has decreed that the Easter Triduum will take place in a simplified form in parish churches and Cathedrals without the faithful being present. Pope Francis will be doing this at St Peter's Rome and Fr Gerry from English Martyrs. As previously announced prior to the Covid-19 lockdown the times of the Easter Triduum all of which you can follow and join in with if you are able to via Skype are as follows:

English Martyrs: Triduum 7.30pm Maundy Thursday Mass of the Last Supper (no washing of feet) Thursday 9th April

3pm Good Friday Celebration of the Passion of the Lord Friday 10th April

9pm Easter Vigil Saturday 11th April. **St Augustine's:** 10am Mass only **Easter Sunday** 12th April

Over this week Fr Gerry will consider along with those already on the Skype Group whether to share The Divine Office and Stations of the Cross.

Finance: We are very grateful for all who give to either parish via standing order especially at this time when we have no cash collections. You can give to either parish by standing order with or without gift aid. If you normally give by envelope at St Augustine's if you can afford to we would be grateful if you put aside each weeks donation and bring them we can gather again safely. Thank you for your ongoing support

Year of Communion - Sunday 29th March - 5th Sunday of Lent

There are many, including Christians, who struggle to believe in the resurrection and yet it lies at the heart of our faith. Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead as a powerful sign of the new life offered to us in faith. Jesus, himself, rose from the dead and we too have had the experience of rising to life in baptism. This eternal life continues to grow within us. Why is it then that sometimes we choose not life but death? We take the easy way out of difficult situations, even if it is the wrong way. We do not live according to the gospel but according to our own selfish motives. When we do this, we are more dead than alive. Today's gospel is an invitation to emerge from the tomb of all that keeps us imprisoned. It is a wonderful opportunity to rise once more to joy, love and freedom.

