



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

The office is open for 9 hours a week. Marisa will be in on Monday/Tuesday  
Marisa remains furloughed for her other 9 hours. Please email or phone  
**English Martyrs Church**, 247 Tuffley Lane, Tuffley, Gloucester, GL4 ONX  
Tel 01452 504997 Email: [tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftdiocese.com](mailto:tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftdiocese.com)

## Parish Safeguarding Representatives

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

**NO CONFESSIONS ON SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

## 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 meet.  
Help us to reach out with joy and mercy, to build a loving, healing community.  
We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen.



**Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A 13<sup>th</sup> September 2020**

<b>Entrance Antiphon</b>	Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	Speak, Lord, your servant is listening, you have the message of eternal life.
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS	SAINT AUGUSTINE'S	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept		6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	People of the Parishes
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9.00am Mass	11.00am Mass	Tony Doyle Anniv J J God Protection and Blessings
Mon 14 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass		<i>Exaltation of the Cross</i> Patrick Gilleran Sick
Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept		9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass	<i>Our Lady of Sorrows</i> Anielka Jennings RIP
Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	6.30pm Mass		<i>Saints Cornelius and Cyprian</i> Sheilagh Banner RIP
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept			<b>Fr Gerry on leave till 25<sup>th</sup> September</b>
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept		No morning Mas	
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	No Morning Mass or Confessions	No confessions 6.30pm (Vigil) Mass	Janetta Mills RIP

**ALL MASSES EXCEPT 6.30PM ON SAT 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPT WILL BE AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY LIVE VIA  
THE SKYPE GUEST LINK <https://join.skype.com/IMJtoOE71NTR>**

**PARISHIONERS OR OTHERS CAN ATTEND ALL MASSES AT THIS TIME UP TO THE CHURCH  
CAPACITY LIMIT. PLEASE DO NOT FORGET YOUR FACE COVERING  
THE CHURCHES WILL OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER 30 MINUTES BEFORE MASS STARTS**

**Next Weekend:** With Fr Gerry away, we welcome Fr Paul Brandon to 6.30pm Mass on Saturday and Fr Steve Squires to our 2 Sunday Masses.

**Please pray:** For all those who have died recently and all whose anniversaries occur at this time and all those who mourn. **Please also pray for the sick especially:** Those in hospital with Covid-19, John Connors, Susan Maher, Ellen Wagner, Kath Griffiths, Albert Turner, Shelia Robertson, Maria Oldfield, Janet Wagner, Andrea Brushneen, Joan Humphreys, Peggy Keogh, Lisa Knight, Maureen Moloney, Mary Gorman, Jim Young,, Elizabeth Bopoto, Pat Murray, Pat Gilbert, Bridie O'Boyle, Janet Peacey and Elizabeth Knight. We also pray for Fr Donal Daly former Parish Priest at Our Lady's Churchdown who is in hospital following a stroke.

**First Holy Communion 2019/20 Children:** Fr Gerry and the lead catechists Debbie at English Martyrs and Tony at St Augustine's met at the end of August to discuss how we can best proceed to complete the preparation for and celebrate with children who started their preparation last year for First Holy Communion. Since then the Diocese has indicated we could potentially open our hall and toilet facilities and the Government has announced the 'Rule of 6' which includes children in England which would limit any celebration to 6 people and we now know the R Rate is again above 1.

As Places of Worship are Covid-19 safe environments we can with social distancing measures, face coverings and other requirements gather for Masses and other services these have to be timely, ideally not more than 45 minutes.

Education is also an exempt activity if Covid-19 secure. Under all the current legislation and Church guidance the Diocese and our insurers may allow us to gather in our halls for First Holy Communion preparation, although without catechists who are extremely clinically vulnerable, but even that still is not certain and we are also aware that parents may not wish their children to be in too many diverse groups at this time.

For all these and other reasons it was felt that for the vast majority of children and their families it would be best to delay the celebration of First Holy Communion which was due this year 2020 to 2021. The hope is that preparation can be completed and then a First Holy Communion Mass celebrated during March '21 in English Martyrs and mid-June '21 in St Augustine's. Please be aware these plans are subject to change due to the pandemic. If any parent wishes to explore the possibility of doing something different for their child(ren) please speak to your lead catechist and/or Fr Gerry.

**First Holy Communion 2020/21 Children:** At this stage given all the Covid-19 uncertainties it is far from certain when and how the 2020/21 First Holy Communion preparation will be run. The hope is we could celebrate First Holy Communion at the usual times the first Saturday of May in English Martyrs and mid-June in St Augustine's but these may need to be changed. In order to get some idea of numbers, so Fr Gerry and the catechists can plan as soon as things become clearer, please ask Fr Gerry after Mass or email him on gerry.walsh@cliftondiocese.com for an Expression of Interest Form. These should be returned by Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

**Season of Creation:** The annual ecumenical Season of Creation runs from 1st September until 4th October. This year, is the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si' and we are especially asked by him to take part in this season. There are a number of ways in which we can do this – for example see <https://cliftondiocese.com/laudato-si/> or <https://seasonofcreation.org/> - and, of course, we can pray so each week the newsletter will include a prayer.

**Church in Tuffley 'Refresh':** Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Sept at 7.30pm Refresh will have a Season of Creation Theme. The Ecumenical Prayer Service will be held in the enclosed garden behind the Church at English Martyrs. Please bring with you something from God's Creation which will be used during the service and a jumper or coat if you feel the chill of an autumn evening.

**Second Collection:** The first Holy See collection is normally taken on Good Friday is for Holy Places of Palestine which have suffered greatly because of lack of pilgrims and will be taken this weekend and over the weekdays afterwards. There will be an EXTRA basket provided for your donations from this weekend for a week in both Churches clearly marked.

#### **Year of Communion Gospel Reflection for 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Bud Welch, an American whose daughter was killed in the Oklahoma bombing describes how he was eaten up with hate and a desire for revenge. When he realised that this hate inside was killing him, he started to think about his daughter and what she would have wanted. Being able to move forward when we have suffered comes when we are released from our pain. We need healing, we need to be able to forgive and we need to be forgiven. It is difficult because it can feel like a betrayal of the past. How can we let go and forgive? Forgiving another does not come easily to us. Harder still is the struggle we have seeking forgiveness for wrongs that we have committed. Yet the capacity to forgive and be forgiven is necessary if cycles of violence are to be broken. We do not have to do this alone. The love which God has for us also brings forgiveness and the chance to renew our relationships and begin again. It is a chance for us to have a different future one that is not dictated to by what has happened in the past. For Bud Welch it was his faith and his desire for healing that led him to forgive the killer. His act of forgiving, he says, 'freed him' more than it freed the killer. He found peace and freedom and the chance to once again think of his daughter with joy.

#### **Season of Creation Prayer**

God of the universe, we thank you for your many good gifts -  
for the beauty of Creation and its rich and varied fruits,  
for clean water and fresh air, for food and shelter, animals and plants.  
Forgive us for the times we have taken the earth's resources for granted.  
Transform our hearts and minds so that we would learn to care and to share,  
to touch the earth with gentleness and with love, respecting all that you have made.  
Help us to respect the rights of all people and all species  
and to be willing to share your gifts today and always. Amen.

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