



# 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 Monday and Tuesday this week. Marisa remains on the Furlough Scheme for her other 9 hours.

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)



## Christmas Anticipation Prayer

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most-pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.

In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God,  
to hear my prayer and grant my desires, [here mention your request]  
through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and of His blessed Mother. Amen.



## Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2020

<b>Entrance Antiphon</b>	Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	I will sing for ever of your love, O Lord.
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me
<b>Communion Antiphon</b>	Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS	SAINT AUGUSTINE'S	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sat 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec		6.30pm Mass	<i>O Radix</i> Janetta Mills RIP
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	9.00am Mass Confessions after Mass	11.00 am Mass Confessions after Mass	Thomas Henderman Anniv Eilish Buckley RIP
Mon 21 <sup>st</sup> Dec	10.00am Mass		<i>O Oriens</i> Conversion of Souls to Know, Love and Follow Jesus' Way
Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec		10.00am Mass	<i>O Rex Gentium</i> Rosamma Varkey RIP
Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	10.00am Mass		<i>O Emmanuel</i> Fr Gerry's priesthood
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	7.00pm Christmas Mass	5.00pm Christmas Mass 9.00pm Christmas Mass	<i>Christmas Eve</i> For the intentions of P J Reilly Margaret Birthday Intention Deceased Members of the Maligaspe Family
Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am Christmas Mass		<i>Christmas Day</i> People of the Parishes
Sat 26 <sup>th</sup> Dec	No Mass or Confessions today	No Mass or Confessions today	<i>Feast of St Stephen</i> Fr Gerry's Day off

**ALL MASSES CAN BE ATTENDED IN PERSON AND ARE AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY  
VIA THE SKYPE GUEST LINK <https://join.skype.com/IMJtoOE71NTR>**

**PLACES OF WORSHIP IN GLOUCESTER ARE FOLLOWING THE NEW TIER 2 RULES FOR ENGLA**

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR FACE COVERING IF COMING TO ONE OF THE CHURCHES FOR MASS IN PERSON,  
OR SILENT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION AND CONTINUE TO FOLLOW ALL COVID-19 TIER 2 GOVERNMENT  
INSTRUCTIONS AND CHURCH PROCEDURES INCLUDING TRACK AND TRACE AND NO INTERACTION WITH  
OTHERS NOT IN YOUR FAMILY/BUBBLE IN CHURCH. FINALLY, IF YOU TOUCH A RESOURCE PLEASE TAKE IT**

**Please pray:** For all those who have died recently especially: Joan Humphreys and all whose anniversaries occur at this time and all those who mourn. **Please also pray for the sick especially:** Deacon David Hebbs and others in hospital with Covid-19 and John Connors, Susan Maher, Ellen Wagner, Kath Griffiths, Elizabeth Knight, Albert Turner, Maria Oldfield, Janet Wagner, Andrea Brushneen, Peggy Keogh, Lisa Knight, Maureen Moloney, Mary Gorman, Jim Young, Elizabeth Bopoto, Pat Murray, Pat Gilbert, Bridie O'Boyle, Rosemary Bernard, Janet Peacey and Nicholas Payne.

**Christmas 2020:** The times and locations of Christmas Masses as well as music for this year in our parishes are as follows:  
**Christmas Eve Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December:** 5pm St Augustine of Canterbury with carols on CD, 7.00pm English Martyrs with a family choir and 9.00pm St Augustine of Canterbury with organ and a small choir

**Christmas Day Friday 25<sup>th</sup> December:** 10am English Martyrs with carols played on the keyboard.

**As the newsletter is being prepared there remains availability at all 4 Masses either in the Church or if not then in the adjoining Church Hall. We would prefer it if you booked, please do so as soon as possible and no later than 12 noon on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December when the booking system will be closed those who have not booked will be required to complete track and trace when they come.**

If you wish to book a place at either of the 2 Masses at St Augustine's if you have internet access please go to the Eventbrite url <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-eve-masses-tickets-131606401289> and click on your preferred Christmas Mass time and book there.

Similarly, if you wish to book a place at either of 2 Masses at English Martyrs and if you have internet access please go to the Eventbrite url <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-masses-2020-tickets-131623073155> and then click on your preferred Christmas Mass. You may also book a place(s) at any Christmas Mass by phoning or emailing Marisa at the parish office or Fr Gerry.

**Booked seats must be occupied no later than 10 minutes before the start of Mass** after that they may be allocated to others. The 5pm and 7pm guaranteed Church seats are now all taken however a draft seating plan indicates we can accommodate more in the Church. Please book the possible Church/Hall tickets for these places and we will sit you in the Church if we can do so safely.

Please indicate the number of places you wish to book remembering that you cannot book more than 6 and you can only book a place for those within your own household or support bubble with whom as far as possible you will be seated. We are limited in the number we can accommodate in the Church because of Covid restrictions. Once we have reached the safe capacity for each mass no one else will be admitted to the Church. We will also be using our Church halls as overflows especially for the Christmas Eve 5pm and 7pm Masses. You will be able to watch and hear the Mass in the hall and also receive Holy Communion. If the hall has also reached safe capacity, we will not be able to admit you. We remind you that the current suspension of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass also applies to Christmas.

All Masses will be available virtually on our usual Skype link see the front of the newsletter. The 5pm Christmas Eve Mass will also be on the Zoom url <https://zoom.us/j/98121849305?pwd=S0llQ2pFR3ZSOUZISnF2bGFNSWFEdz09> as will the 7pm on Christmas Eve Mass url <https://zoom.us/j/97659487097?pwd=YVZBYkE1QVJoOXJsaVYvMXdQeGQzZz09>

The Bishops of England and Wales are encouraging us to recognise the significance of the Octave of Christmas (December 25<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> January) and to avail of the opportunity to attend mass on one of these days as a Christmas Mass – noting that that will be no English Mass in either Church on 26<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Midnight Mass starting at 11.45am will be on BBC1 on Christmas Eve will be broadcast from Clifton Cathedral with Bishop Declan as the main celebrant.

**Please note all 6 English Masses at St Peter's Gloucester on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are fully booked do not attend if you have not booked.**

**First Holy Communion:** Those who have not done any preparation before will be starting their course on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January after Mass at English Martyrs at 10am and before Mass at St Augustine's at 10.15am attending with their parents in the Church Halls. There will be a parents' meeting prior to that on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm. The hope is in both parishes that First Holy Communion for them and those who have already done most/some of the course will be able to do so in May. Please keep the children their families and catechists in your prayers. If you have a child in school Year 3 and above whom you wish to start in January please contact Fr Gerry as soon as possible and no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2021.

**Churches in Tuffley- Hampers:** A big thank you to all who contributed in any way for our hamper collections. We made 40 Hampers which were distributed to 8 schools. That was 10 Hampers above our original target.

**Second Collection:** This weekend for Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) who support seafarers many of whom have been on ships for far longer than usual because of the pandemic.

### **Reflection on the Gospel for the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

In a painting of the Annunciation by Henry Ossawa Tanner there is no angel evident. Instead, Mary's gaze is fixed on a tall, thin pillar of white cloud at the end of her bed. She is attentive and focused as if something is stirring within her and she is discerning what this might be. Advent is such a time for all of us – to be attentive to the stirrings in our own hearts. Being attentive in what is generally a very busy time, is not easy. However, given the pandemic, perhaps this year our focus could be a little different. Perhaps this year is an opportunity to be more attentive to the things which really need our attention. What are those things? Can we pause and listen to God inviting us into a deeper relationship with him? Is it possible we are being asked to give new life to something special and can we respond to that invitation as Mary did, with that enormous 'Yes'?

### **A JOYFUL, BLESSED AND SAFE CHRISTMAS**

**TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS FROM FR GERRY & MARISA**



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