



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

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Parish Administrator Marisa Wood

The office is open 9am to 4.30pm Monday & Tuesday and 9am to 12noon Friday.

English Martyrs Church, 247 Tuffley Lane, Tuffley, Gloucester, GL4 ONX

Tel 01452 504997 Email: tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftodiocese.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 Safeguarding Representatives

English Martyrs Sue Knight Email

PSR.tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftodiocese.com

St Augustine's Katherine Heffernan Email:

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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



Second Sunday of Advent (Year C)

Sunday 5th December 2021

Entrance Antiphon	O people of Sion, behold, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.
Responsorial Psalm	What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad.
Gospel Acclamation	Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind shall see the salvation of God.
Communion Antiphon	Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS	SAINT AUGUSTINE'S	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sat 4 th Dec		6.30pm Vigil Mass	Sally Campbell RIP
Sun 5 th Dec	9.00am Mass	11.00am Mass	Special Intention Sheila Gannon Ken Beer Birthday RIP
Mon 6 th Dec	9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass		Mary Frances Anniv
Tues 7 th Dec		9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass	St Ambrose Doreen "Jacquie" May Turton RIP
Wed 8 th Dec	10.00am Mass		Immaculate Conception of the BVM Peter & Belinda Morgan RIP
Thurs 9 th Dec	1pm to 5pm Adoration		Fr Gerry's Day off
Fri 10 th Dec		10.00am Mass	Eilish Buckley Anniv
Sat 11 th Dec	9.30am Rosary 10.00am Mass	6.30pm Sunday Vigil Mass	Repose of the souls of Orphans

Confessions: English Martyrs Saturdays after morning Mass to 11.15am St Augustine's Saturdays 5.45pm to 6.15pm

ALL MASSES AND LITURGIES ARE AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM AT
<https://zoom.us/j/96050045104?pwd=YWsrTnVXVUJsL2dxMlVUy9aU1c5UT09>

Meeting ID: 960 5004 5104 Passcode: 448036



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

The Synod and Advent “Preparing the Way”

“Always remember this: life is a journey. It is a path, a journey to meet Jesus. At the end, and forever. A journey in which we do not encounter Jesus is not a Christian journey. It is for the Christian to continually encounter Jesus, to watch him, to let himself be watched over by Jesus, because Jesus watches us with love; he loves us so much, he loves us so much and he is always watching over us. To encounter Jesus also means allowing oneself to be gazed upon by him.” (Pastoral visit to the Roman Parish of Saint Cyril of Alexandria)

Any journey we make requires preparation. The more people involved, the greater the preparation which is required to ensure that the journey goes well. These weeks of Advent give us the opportunity to prepare for our parishes and communities to participate well when we “walk together” in a synodal way.

At the heart of this synodal journey is the desire that we will all grow closer to the Lord and to one another. As an individual how could you be involved. Perhaps you could be a facilitator, who will help the conversations we will have with each other and indeed with those who do not come to our parish Church in a ‘prayerful listening’ mode. Thanks to those who have already volunteered.

Perhaps this week on Thursday 9th December you could come and pray during 5 hours of adoration from 1-6pm at English Martyrs for the Synodal Journey, for the future of our Parishes and indeed your own private intentions. Please sign up on the list in the Church lobby if you can be there for 30 minutes or perhaps an hour but feel free to come for a shorter time.

Could you, prayer the simplified version of a prayer used by the Bishops at every session of the Second Vatican Council:

As we stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.
With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.
We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.
Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth and what is right.
All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

KEY WORDS FOR THE SYNODAL PROCESS

The theme of the Synod is "For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation, and Mission." The three dimensions of the theme are communion, participation, and mission. These three dimensions are profoundly interrelated. They are the vital pillars of a Synodal Church. There is no hierarchy between them. Rather, each one enriches and orients the other two. There is a dynamic relationship between the three that must be articulated with all three in mind.

Communion: By his gracious will, God gathers us together as diverse peoples of one faith, through the covenant that he offers to his people. The communion we share finds its deepest roots in the love and unity of the Trinity. It is Christ who reconciles us to the Father and unites us with each other in the Holy Spirit. Together, we are inspired by listening to the Word of God, through the living Tradition of the Church, and grounded in the *sensus fidei* that we share. We all have a role to play in discerning and living out God's call for his people.

Participation: A call for the involvement of all who belong to the People of God – laity, consecrated and ordained – to engage in the exercise of deep and respectful listening to one another. This listening creates space for us to hear the Holy Spirit together, and guides our aspirations for the Church of the Third Millennium. Participation is based on the fact that all the faithful are qualified and are called to serve one another through the gifts they have each received from the Holy Spirit. In a synodal Church the whole community, in the free and rich diversity of its members, is called together to pray, listen, analyse, dialogue, discern and offer advice on making pastoral decisions which correspond as closely as possible to God's will (ICT, Syn., 67-68). Genuine efforts must be made to ensure the inclusion of those at the margins or who feel excluded.

Mission: The Church exists to evangelize. We can never be centred on ourselves. Our mission is to witness to the love of God in the midst of the whole human family. This Synodal Process has a deeply missionary dimension to it. It is intended to enable the Church to better witness to the Gospel, especially with those who live on the spiritual, social, economic, political, geographical, and existential peripheries of our world. In this way, synodality is a path by which the Church can more fruitfully fulfil her mission of evangelization in the world, as a leaven at the service of the coming of God's kingdom.

Further Information

Clifton Diocese has a host of resources including videos about the Synod Process and from various Diocesan input on its Synod page which you can find at <https://cliftondiocese.com/synod/>

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 and John Connors, Susan Maher, Ellen Wagner, Elizabeth Knight, Albert Turner, Maria Oldfield, Janet Wagner, Andrea Brushneen, Peggy Keogh, Lisa Knight, Maureen Moloney, Mary Gorman, Jim Young, Elizabeth Bopoto, Pat Murray, Deacon David Hebbes, Fr Donal Daly, Janet Peacey, Nicholas Payne, Claire Cooper, Dorothy Flower and a lady undergoing chemotherapy for breast cancer.

Advent Resources: Are available in the Church lobbies. Walk with Me A Journey of Prayer for Advent 2021 and Walk with me Children's Calendars as well as My Day by Day which includes some of the readings of Mass for each day of Advent. These resources will not be sent by post. However please do get in touch if you would like a copy of anything and are unable to attend Mass.

First Holy Communion 2022: Applications are now closed. The first parents meeting will be this Wednesday 8th December at 7.30pm in English Martyrs Hall. Details of what we hope will be future in person meetings and the proposed dates of First Holy Communion will be distributed to parents at the meeting. This will be the only meeting till 2022.

English Martyrs First Thursday Adoration: The date this month has been moved to Thursday, 9th December AND times available for prayer have been increased from 1pm until 6pm. Please consider coming along for 1/2 hour or an hour to pray for the forthcoming Synodal conversations, as requested by Pope Francis, for our Parish as we look forward to the future and for your own private intentions. A sign-up sheet is available in the Church lobby to ensure we have at least 2 or 3 people in church at any one time.

St Augustines - A Christmas Musical Evening to Support the Homeless: In the Church hall on Tuesday 14th December at 7.30pm. Tickets will be on sale at back of church at weekend Masses. £2.50 to include mulled wine and a mince pie. All welcome.

Christmas Music Evening at English Martyrs: On Sat 18th Dec 2021 from 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Enjoy Christmas music with the 'Love to Sing' Community Choir. Mince pies, mulled wine, tea, coffee and soft drinks will be served in the interval. (Feel free to bring your own drink as well, if you want to!) Tickets are £5 Adult, £3 Child, £15 Family (2 adults, 3 children). Please remember to bring a face-mask. Tickets available after Sunday Mass. Get your tickets soon as places are limited!

English Martyrs Christmas Eve 5pm Vigil Mass with the children - Would your child/children like to take an active part in the Christmas Play during the 5pm Mass? If so, please see Lucy or Nikki after mass. Rehearsals will now be after each Sunday 9am mass until Christmas. For more information contact Nikki on 07976 958402.

Christmas Masses: The 4 Masses for Christmas 2021 in the two parishes are as follows:

Friday 24th December: 5pm at English Martyrs with Children's Christmas Play

7pm at St Augustine's and 10pm at English Martyrs

Saturday 25th December: 10am at St Augustines. Please note there will be NO evening Mass on 25th December.

Matson Lantern parade and Carols: On Friday 10th December starting at the Phoenix Centre. Matson Lane at 3.30pm. The parade will finish at Matson Shops and a Christmas fair will take place on the green. Local Churches are planning some carol singing on the green from 5.30pm and would welcome any extra singers - all welcome.

Bells and Candles at St Katherine's Matson: On Tuesday 14th December for 3pm to 7pm. Remember your loved ones in this simple but loving way. Write their name on a bell and hang it on a tree. Ring a bell, so that echos to the sky. Light a candle and remember the love that you shared. All welcome. Individuals, families, or friends groups. Free mince pies and hot beverages will be available.

English Martyrs Church in Tuffley Christmas Hampers: Please ensure all items are brought to Church by no later than 10.15am THIS Sunday 5th December as the final items will be picked up shortly after that. The packing of the hampers will take place on Wed 8th Dec at St George's Church starting at 8.45am. Volunteers needed to pick and pack the hampers, tie labels on, and then deliver them to the schools, Please let Fr Gerry know asap if you can help out.

Christmas Flowers Collection: Will be take place in both parishes this weekend

Pope Francis Catechesis on St Joseph 1st December 2021

Joseph through his dream were he was told that Mary had conceived by the Holy Spirit and he should take her home as his wife came to a deeper understanding of divine justice and its authentic demands. Joseph and Mary's openness to God's saving plan brings their love to a maturity expressed in the virtues of chastity, fidelity, respect and humility. Far from restricting our freedom, these virtues in fact give our love direction and endurance. In this sense, Joseph and Mary can serve as an example not only to young people engaged to be married, but to all of us, who also in the midst of life's inevitable challenges, are called to discover the true joy and freedom that come from trusting in God's just and providential concern for our lives. Once again Pope Francis ended his catechesis with a new prayer:

Saint Joseph, you who loved Mary with freedom,
and chose to renounce your fantasies to give way to reality,
help each of us to allow ourselves to be surprised by God and to accept life not as something
unforeseen from which to defend ourselves, but as a mystery that hides the secret of true joy.
Obtain joy and radicality for all engaged Christians, while always being aware
that only mercy and forgiveness make love possible. Amen.

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/pope/news/2021-12/from-falling-in-love-to-mature-love-pope-message-for-couples.html>



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