

# WELCOME

SUNDAY Year A

Newsletter 26<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVESRE



#### Entrance Antiphon

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

#### Reading from the prophet Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17

*As for you, my sheep I will judge between sheep and sheep.*

#### Responsorial Psalm

**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.**

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.

You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes. My sight of foes. My head you have anointed with oil my cup is overflowing.

Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life. In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever.

#### Second Reading of letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-20-25

He will hand over the Kingdom to God the Father, so that God may be all in all.

#### Gospel Acclamation

**Alleluia, alleluia. Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessing on the coming kingdom of our Father David! Alleluia!**

#### GOSPEL According to Matthew 25:31-46

He will take his seat on his throne of glory, and he will separate men one from another.

#### Communion Antiphon

**The Lord sits as, king for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.**

Diocese Prayer Link: St Catherine Frome, St Dominic, Mells.

**We pray on this Youth Sunday for Young People and continue to pray for true peace and reconciliation for all peoples across the world.**



# 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@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:gerry.walsh@cliftodiocese.com)

St Augustine of Canterbury Church, Matson Lane, Matson, Gloucester GL4 6DT

Email: [matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftodiocese.com)

## Parish Administrator Marisa Wood

The office is open Monday Tuesday from 8.30- 16:00 and Friday 0900 - 12:00

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

Tel 01452 504997 Email: [tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftodiocese.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 Safeguarding Representatives

English Martyrs Sue Knight Email

[PSR.tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:PSR.tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftodiocese.com)

St Augustine's Katherine Heffernan Email:

[PSR.matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftodiocese.com](mailto:PSR.matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftodiocese.com)

## 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

## Parish Liturgies and Liturgical Days

DATE	ENGLISH MARTYRS	SAINT AUGUSTINE'S	MASS INTENTION AND LITURGICAL DAY
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov		6.30pm <b>Vigil Mass (Sat)</b>	Joe Donnelly RIP
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.00am <b>Mass</b>	11.00am <b>Mass</b>	Phyl Williamson B'day Remembrance Barbara Connors RIP and for the intentions of John Connors
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.30am <b>Adoration</b> 10.00am <b>Mass</b>		Thanksgiving Ajay Mathew and Honey Joseph
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov		9.30am <b>Adoration</b> 10.00am <b>Mass</b>	Eternal rest for Tejiri, Egba and Clementina Bakpa
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	9.00am <b>Mass</b>		Thanksgiving JB
Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov			<b>Feast of St Andrew Apostle</b> <b>Fr Gerry's Day off</b>
Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec		10.00am <b>Mass</b>	<i>St Alexander Briant</i> Amelia Jojin B'day Thanksgiving
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	9.30am <b>Rosary</b> 10.00am <b>Mass</b>	6.30pm <b>Vigil Mass (Sunday)</b>	Cavanagh Family Healing & Special Intention People of the Parishes

**Confessions times this week:** English Martyrs after Mass on Saturday Morning 10.45am to 11.15am and St Augustine's before Saturday evening Mass from 5.45pm to 6.15pm and upon request to Fr Gerry

**Please Pray for Dear Myra Meheran who died on 21<sup>st</sup> November her Requiem Mass will be at English Martyrs at 10.30am on 8<sup>th</sup> December, we also pray for her family and all who mourn that they will be comforted as the Lord promised. Please pray for the sick especially:** James Broslin, Margaret Knight, Max Hall, Zita Drummond, John Connors, Susan Maher, Ellen Wagner, Maria Oldfield, Janet Wagner, Andrea Brushneen, Peggy Keogh, Maureen Moloney, Jim Young, Elizabeth Bopoto, Pat Murray, Janet Peacey, Nicholas Payne, Claire Cooper, Dorothy Flower, Bernadette Williams, Teresa Kilker, Jan Donnelly, Roman Peacey, Rita Smith, Monica Evans, Patrick McGovern, Julia Brenchley, Kathleen Withers, Edgar Rebello, Ian Gough, Maria Oandasan, Alan Dinsmore, George O'Neill, Maria McGovern and by special request Phil Bawden. **A gentle reminder that names can only be added to the pray list for the sick if individuals or their legal representatives have consented in order to comply with GDPR regulations.**

**Children's Liturgy of the Word at St Augustine's:** Will be available next Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November. It currently runs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. We would welcome any new leaders or helpers that might enable us to run more frequently.

**Faith Discussion Group:** The next meeting is this Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November. The meetings are in St Augustine's parish hall on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. (refreshments from 7.15 p.m.). The last date for 2023 is 13<sup>th</sup> December.

**English Martyrs Children's Mass:** The next Children's Mass will be on **Christmas Eve, Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December at 4 pm!** If you would like your child/children to take an active part in the Children's Mass, by doing a reading, playing an instrument or dressing up and taking an acting role in a short, narrated Nativity Play during the homily time, please see Lucy or Nikki after the Children's Mass today. It's very important we have names this weekend in order to see how many children want to be involved. Rehearsals will start after Sunday mass this Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> November.



**English Martyrs Youth Club:** The Youth Group, open to youth from both parishes and beyond. Normally meets on the First and Third Fridays of the month. Usual times are between 7.30 – 9.30pm in the hall at English Martyrs. Come and join us on. The youth group is open to all children in school year groups 7 – 13. The current Youth Group Mission Statement and Ground Rules are on the notice board at English Martyrs and on the website.

**St Augustine's Autumn Fete took place on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November:** A HUGE THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT AND ESPECIALLY TO ALL THOSE WHO ORGANISED THE FETE. The provisional amount raised will be announced at 11am Sunday Mass this weekend.



**Christmas Social with Music at English Martyrs on Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Dec 2023 from 7.30pm to about 10.00pm.** Join us for a great Christmas Social! It will be 'bring a plate' to share. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided. (Feel free to bring your own drink as well, if you want to!) Tickets cost £2 for an Adult and £1 for a Child. **Tickets available after Sunday Mass.** Get your tickets soon, as places are limited!



**Calling all entertainers.** Are you willing to tell a joke or a funny story; or perhaps play some music at our Christmas Social? It would be great if you would – please contact George O'Neill or Nora Watson and let them know.

**Christmas Hampers CiT:** Once again this year we together with the Church in Tuffley (CiT) are seeking to provide 40 Christmas Hampers for some of the most-needy families in Tuffley via the local schools. English Martyrs is committed to providing enough for 10 hampers. Thanks for your response last Sunday the first 5 hampers are sorted. However, we still have 5 to go and we need to complete everything by next weekend! Nikki O'Neill will be available once again in the lobby with flyers and a sign-up sheet for what you will provide, so we don't have too much of one item and not enough of another.

**St Augustine's Giving Tree:** This year focusses on Gloucester City Mission. Donations needed are mainly small food items that will be distributed to rough sleepers and also used to make meals for them in their Cafe Revive (Eastgate Mall). Also needed are new pairs of pants for their "Undies Under the Tree" appeal. Donations don't need gift wrapping and please leave in the nearby box, last date 17 December. Thank you very much.

**Mass Times for 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent and Christmas 2023:** This year the Fourth Sunday of Advent is on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December which later in the day becomes Christmas Eve. Therefore, the decision has been taken to cancel the 11am Mass at St Augustine's on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December. There will still be the 6.30pm Vigil Mass at St Augustine's on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and the 9am Mass on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December at English Martyrs for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, both these Masses will have NO music.

Our Masses for Christmas Eve/Day this year are as follows: **Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 4pm Christmas Eve Mass at English Martyrs, 6pm Christmas Eve Mass at St Augustine's, 10pm Christmas Mass during the Night at English Martyrs Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 10am Christmas Day Mass at St Augustine's.**

**Newman Association:** There will be a talk on **Tuesday 5 December at 2.30pm**, in the lounge of Sacred Hearts' Hall, Moored Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, GL53 9AU. Fr Stephen Corrigan studied Politics and Theology at Leeds University before going to St John's Seminary, Womersley. He was ordained in July 2021 and is currently the assistant priest at St Peter's Gloucester. He will speak to us on *The Challenges of the Synod for Priests and People*. All are welcome. Admission: £3 (members & students free) Enquires to Stephanie Jamison, tel: 01242 539810.

**The St Peter's RC High School Choir:** Warmly invites you to our annual Carols by Candlelight at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Stroud on Friday 15th December at 7pm. This will be an uplifting yet reflective sequence of Christmas music and readings, suitable for all the family. Tickets will be available from the main school Reception on 01452 520594 from 1 December. To reserve tickets in advance for collection on the door, please email: [boxoffice@sphs.uk.com](mailto:boxoffice@sphs.uk.com) Adults: £3 Concessions: £1

**Starting School?** If you have a child born between **1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020**, then **now** is the time to apply for a place at a primary school for admission from **September 2024** onwards. You must complete an application form that is available from the school admissions team of the Gloucestershire County Council. If your child has been baptised and you are applying for a Catholic school, you **must** also provide a copy of the baptism certificate to the school. Please ensure you apply by the closing date of **15 January 2024**. If you can't find your child's baptism certificate. **Please ask the Parish where they were baptised for a new certificate as soon as possible if you can't find the original**

**Have you considered leaving a Legacy to Clifton Diocese:** Each year in the UK, about £3.9 billion pounds is left to charities in people's wills. Such legacies are now a major lifeline for charities. It is worth noting that for most medium and large charities bequests make up at least one third of their annual income on average. For example, for Cancer Research UK, legacies provide the largest single source of their income: over 36%. For the RNLI, legacies represent a staggering 64% of their annual income. Similarly, the British Heart Foundation relies on legacies which now make up 53% of their income.

You can choose whether the legacy is left for the general purposes of the Clifton Diocese, for a particular purpose like the Priest Retirement Fund or for your parish. A new legacy leaflet has been produced by the Diocese and is available in our Church lobbies gives further information.

**CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal:** Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

**Publications:** 2024 Clifton Diocesan Directory (£6) and Liturgical Diary (£6.50) now available in the lobby at English Martyrs. St Augustine's in the lobby.

### **Alexander Briant 1556-1581**

Alexander Briant (or Bryant) was born in Somerset (1556), and entered Hart Hall, Oxford (now Hertford College), at an early age. While there, he became a pupil of Father Robert Parsons which led to his conversion to the Catholic Church. Having left the university he entered the seminary at Douai, and was ordained priest in 1578. He was assigned to the English mission in August of the following year to work as a priest in his own county of Somerset. After working only briefly he was arrested in April 1581 by a group who were searching for Father Parsons. After spending some time in Counter Prison, London, he was taken to the Tower where he was subjected to tortures that, even in Elizabethan England, stand out for their viciousness. The rack master admitted that Briant was "racked more than any of the rest," and following a public outcry was imprisoned for a few days for cruelty. With six other priests Briant was arraigned, on November 16, 1581, on the charge of high treason, and condemned to death. In a letter to the Jesuit Fathers in England written from prison he says that he felt no pain during the various tortures he underwent, and adds: "Whether this that I say be miraculous or no, God knoweth, but true it is." He also asked that he might become a Jesuit, having vowed to offer himself should he be released. Accordingly he is numbered among the martyrs of the Society. He was scarcely more than twenty-five years old on 1 December, the day of his martyrdom. He suffered with Edmund Campion and Ralph Sherwin.

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As one of the Clifton Diocesan Saints, as he was born and worked as a priest in Somerset, he is now Patron of one of the Pastoral Areas of Clifton Diocese covering the 9 Parishes of: St Joseph's Portishead, St Francis Nailsea, The Immaculate Conception Clevedon, St Gerard Knowle, Sacred Heart Chew Magna, Christ the King Knowle West, St Pius Withywood, St Bernadette Witchurch and St Dunstan Keynsham.

**ALL MASSES AND ADORATION BEFORE MASS TIMES ARE AVAILABLE VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM AT**  
<https://zoom.us/j/96050045104?pwd=YWsrTnVXVUJsL2dxMlVUy9aU1c5UT09>  
**Meeting ID: 960 5004 5104 Passcode: 448036**