

WELCOME

SUNDAY Year A

Newsletter 19th NOVEMBER 2023

THIRTY THIRD IN ORDINARY TIME



Your talent is Gods
gift to you
What you do with it is
your gift back to God



Entrance Antiphon

The Lord said, I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction you will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Reading from the book of Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20- 30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her?

Responsorial Psalm

O blessed are those who fear the Lord

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways! By the labour of your hands you shall eat. You will be happy and prosper.

Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house; your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord. May the Lord bless you from Zion in a happy Jerusalem all the day of your life.

Second Reading of letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians 5:1-6

Let not the Day of the Lord overtake you like a thief.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia. Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life. Alleluia!

GOSPEL according to Matthew 25:14-30

You have been faithful in small things, come and join in your master's happiness.

Communion Antiphon

To be near God is my happiness, so place my hope in God the Lord.

Diocese Prayer Link: St Thomas of Canterbury, Fairford with Cricklade.

We pray with the Bishops of England & Wales: That the regional instabilities created around the Gaza Conflict will not lead to a wider conflict, fuelled by anti-Semitism, xenophobia and terrorism.

We call on all in England and Wales to find the good in others. No one should live in fear in their community, or school, or workplace because of their faith or because of events taking place in this conflict. Our support for one another will be our strength both in these difficult times and in the future.

We pray that the violence will cease. As we approach the Holy Season of Advent, we pray that Christ the Prince of Peace will guide all devastated by this conflict into the ways of truth, reconciliation, and respectful co-existence.

We echo the appeal of a First World War veteran who, at the age of 100, said that "In war nobody wins. You might as well talk first. You have to in the end."



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 Monday Tuesday from 8.30- 16:30 and Friday 0900 - 12:00

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

Tel 01452 504997 Email: tuffley.englishmartyrs@cliftondiocese.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@cliftondiocese.com

St Augustine's Katherine Heffernan Email:

PSR.matson.staugustineofcanterbury@cliftondiocese.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 18 th Nov		6.30pm Vigil Mass (Sat)	Bill & Ksenmia Karas RIP
Sun 19 th Nov	9.00am Mass	11.00am Mass	John Edward Gerard Kelly and Edmund Patrick James Kelly RIP Denise Willoughby RIP
Mon 20 th Nov		12 Noon Requiem Mass for Manuel Mendes Brazao	Manuel Mendes Brazao RIP
Tues 21 st Nov	9.30am Adoration 10.00am Mass		<i>The Presentation of the BVM</i> Anthony (Tony) Gray RIP
Wed 22 nd Nov	10.00am Mass	1.00pm Funeral Service for Anne Hancock	<i>St Cecilia</i> People of the Parishes
Thurs 23 rd Nov			Fr Gerry's Day off
Fri 24 th Nov		12.00 Noon Mass	<i>Sts. Andrew Dũng-Lạc & Companions</i> Rosamma Varkey RIP
Sat 25 th Nov	9.30am Rosary 10.00am Mass	6.30pm Vigil Mass (Sunday)	Nikki and George O'Neill's Intentions Joe Donnelly RIP

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

Please pray for Repose of the Souls of: Manuel Brazao whose Requiem Mass is at St Augustine's on Monday 20th Nov at 12 Noon and for Anne Hancock whose Funeral Service is at St Augustine's on Wednesday 22nd November at 1pm. May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and may the Lord comfort all those who mourn. 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, Desmond Woods, Roman Peacey, Rita Smith, Myra Merehan, 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 26th 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.

St Augustine's Projects: Every year the Parish supports both a local and overseas charity. It was agreed for 2024 these would be the Gloucester Food Bank and Mary's Meals.

Faith Discussion Group: The meeting on 22nd November is cancelled. The meetings are in St Augustine's parish hall on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. (refreshments from 7.15 p.m.) The dates for the rest of this year are 29th November and 13th December.

English Martyrs Children's Mass: The next Children's Mass will be on **Christmas Eve, Sunday, 24th 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 next Sunday, 26 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.

English Martyrs Gift Fair: A massive thank you to everyone who took part or supported the Gift Fair in anyway on Saturday 12th November. It was a huge success and raised an amazing £1,566.76.



St Augustine's Autumn Fete is taking place on Saturday 25th November: From 11am to 2pm. Thank you to those who have signed the list to run a stall or help. Donations are welcome now. Please leave them at the back of church. We need toys and games, bottles, books and gifts for the tombola stall. On the day we will need donations of cakes. Please, do all you can to make this a huge success. Most of all please come and join us on the day for a delicious lunch or just a good chat.

RAFFLE for St. Augustine's Autumn Fête: Raffle tickets will be on sale after Masses this and next weekend 11th/12th and 18th/19th November. If you cannot attend the fête (on the 25th) then bring some cash to buy raffle tickets after Mass and support the parish.

Christmas Social with Music at English Martyrs on Sat 16th 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.

Monthly LGBT+ Mass at St Nicholas of Tolentino Catholic Church Bristol BS5 0RE Next Mass Sunday 19th November @ 3pm All partners and their families are most welcome. The mass is followed by refreshments and a social time. For live stream details follow the link on the parish website <https://tolentino.org.uk>

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. Nikki O'Neill will speak briefly about this at the end of the 9am Mass. 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 will be available in the lobby after the 9am Mass.

Joint Parishes Pastoral Council Minutes: It was agreed at the St Augustine's Parish open meeting that not only should the latest signed minutes, which happens at the meeting after that where the minutes were taken, be available on the noticeboard at each parish and on the website (on the Resources page) but they should also be emailed out to anyone who receives the Weekly Newsletter.

Weekly Newsletter Email: If you wish to be added to the weekly newsletter email please send Fr Gerry an email. This week the email will have attached in pdf format the Newsletter, the Mass Readings for the 33rd Week, the Wednesday Word reflection based on this Sunday's readings as well as the Minutes of the Joint Parishes Pastoral Council. If you no longer wish to receive the email please also let Fr Gerry know.

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**

St Peter's Catholic Primary School Tour— Reception 2024 intake: If your child will be 4 years old between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024 and you would like a tour of the school and a talk from the Headteacher, the following date is available: Wednesday 22nd November at 1.45pm If you are interested, please telephone the office (01452 524792) to book a place

St Wulstan Pastoral Area News: A first Concelebrated Mass for the Deceased of the Pastoral Area with Fr Gary Brassington as the Principle Celebrant as Dean was hosted at English Martyrs on Friday 10th November followed by refreshments in the Hall was appreciated by all who attended. Thanks to those who facilitated the music and sacristy side of things and to those who provided the refreshments afterwards.

Later the Clergy of the new Pastoral Area met for the first time in the hall.

Forest of Dean/Newent Parishes: Due to health reasons, Fr Frank Wainwright has stepped down as parish priest of the Forest of Dean and Newent Parishes. Fr Liam and Fr Stephen from St Peter's along with clergy from St Wulstan Pastoral Area supported by some of the retired priests within Clifton Diocese will be providing pastoral care of the parishes until such time as a new parish priest is appointed

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 15 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 Adults: £3 Concessions: £1

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 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 should have some available next week.

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