

Mass Text for the Third Sunday of Lent

My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

First Reading: Exodus 17:3-7

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

Response:

O that today you would listen to his voice:
'Harden not your hearts'.

Second Reading: Rom 5:1-2, 5-8

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Lord, you are really the saviour of the world:
give me the living water, so that I may never get
thirsty.

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel: John 4:5-42

Communion Antiphon:

For anyone who drinks it,
says the Lord,
The water I shall give will become in him
a spring welling up to eternal life.

MASS TIMES for the coming week

Saturday 18th March

Vigil Mass of the Third Sunday of Lent

St John's: 5pm Private Intention (A Tomline)

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Pro Populo

SUNDAY 19th March

The Third Sunday of Lent

English Martyrs: 9am Eileen O'Brien RIP
(O'Brien)

St John's: 11am Pro Populo

Mass times for the coming week

MONDAY 20th March

Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 21st March

St John's: 9.30am Joanne Hill's Intentions
(M Hill)
(Followed by Stations of the Cross)

WEDNESDAY 22nd March

English Martyrs: 9.30am Deceased parents,
relatives and friends of the Mee and O'Connor
families (M O'Connor)

(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
and Benediction)

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form
Latin Mass

THURSDAY 23rd March

St John's: 9.30am Deceased members of the
Clifford family (N Clifford)

FRIDAY 24th March

English Martyrs: 9.30am Dr Delfosse's Intentions
(A Furlong)
(Followed by Stations of the Cross)

SATURDAY 25th March—

The Annunciation of the Lord

English Martyrs: 9.30am For the conversion of
England
(Followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation and
reciting of the rosary)

Weekend Masses as usual



**PARISHES OF
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**

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19th March 2017
Third Sunday of Lent (Yr A)

Unlucky in love, lonely, broken and marginalized, the Samaritan woman in today's gospel represents all those in our society who live lonely and unloved lives. She represents everyone who has been forgotten or who lives on the edges of society. She represents all those who thirst for more from life.

Since Jesus and the Samaritan woman are standing by a well, Jesus uses 'water' to describe God's love to her. Love is like water. Without water we live with a yearning. Without water we wither like plants and die. Jesus tells us that he gives the water of eternal life. The 'water of life' satisfies all of our longings and yearnings and is offered to us all whoever we might be. God's love makes us whole.

So how do we make 'the water of life' a reality? Start close to home. Decide to bring Jesus' love into the life of someone in your family or neighbourhood. It's difficult to stand next to a fountain and not get wet! It's difficult to witness God's love and not become immersed. Once we get into the habit of spreading God's love without judgement and without prejudice others will start to adopt that habit too.



In your prayers, please remember...

Cyril Verling, Jenny Evans, Amanda Gender, Christopher Almeida, Anna Pearce, Mary Guinan, Maureen Logan, Mary McCrystal, Margaret Goldsworthy, Sophia Farmer, Janina Krokowska, Ann and Cyril Tomline, Terry Appleyard, Charlotte Pyatt, Val Claridge, Joan Russell and all the sick of the parish.



Following on from the Year of Mercy, on Saturday 25th March we will be having an extra hour adoration after the 6.30pm Mass at English Martyrs, with the opportunity for Confession during it.

CTS Read of the month for March: St Joseph Prayers and Devotion

On 20th March the Church celebrates the feast of St Joseph spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St Joseph is the patron saint of fathers, immigrants, workers, those seeking employment and a happy death. This pocket-sized booklet explains the life of St. Joseph and contains a treasury of prayers to this beloved saint.

Pick up a booklet from Heavenly Harrods for the discounted price of £1.00. Share with friends.

Breaking Barriers—Healing evening at St James Church, Forbury Road, Reading on Friday 7th April, 7.30pm—9.30pm. Details on the noticeboard. All welcome.

Abortion Bill—This week please pray for the defeat of the private members bill going through Parliament at the moment which seeks to widen the scope for abortion, including abortion up to birth.

Diocesan Formation for Mission Team—This Lent, join the Formation for Mission Wednesday Gospel Webinar, every Wednesday from 7 to 8 pm, to discover the depths of the Sunday Gospel.

Find out more about God, about yourself and about the Church.

Take the time to ponder the Word of God and to ask the questions you cannot ask in church during the homily!

You can join the webinar wherever you are, from a computer with a good internet connection and the sound turned up.

Here are a few steps to join the webinar:

1. Register: <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/formation/webinar>
2. You will receive a confirmation email, and reminder emails after that.
3. On Wednesday at 7pm, join the webinar by clicking on the link in your confirmation/reminder email.

English Martyrs Church is open for prayer Tuesday to Friday mornings until 1pm. **If you have a key, please do not lock the church during these times.** Thank you.

Parish Safeguarding Rep

Kath Oldham—katholdham@hotmail.co.uk

CTWA Prayer Cycle

Please pray for
St John's Church, Wallingford

SVP RAFFLE.

SVP thank everyone who supported the National Raffle last weekend. We wish you luck in the draw!



SOUP LUNCHES AT ST JOHN'S

Each Friday in Lent the SVP will be serving bread and homemade soup from 11.30am - 2.30pm. Money received from donations will go to the Baby Feeding Centres in the Sudan, both North and South. We hope you will support this venture and bring along your friends. A choice of delicious soups guaranteed!

Easter Raffle Tickets—on sale at English Martyrs this weekend.

Chrism Mass, St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth – Tuesday 11th April 2017

The Pastoral Area is once again running a bus to the Cathedral for the Chrism Mass this year. The bus will leave Our Lady and St Edmund's, Abingdon at 7.45am and English Martyrs, Didcot at 8.15am, returning at around 3pm. The cost of a seat is £12, payment required on booking. Please call Didcot parish office to book a place on 01235 812338, email didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. All bookings must be received by Friday 31st March.

Pastoral Area Youth Activities

St Edmund's youth group - St Edmund's (Abingdon) parish centre - Saturday 1st April -

8-10 yr olds - 1:30 - 2:30pm

11-12 & 13-14 yr olds 3 - 4:30pm

North Hinksey youth group - Our Lady of the Rosary Church - Sunday 2nd April -

11-15 yr olds 2:30 - 4pm

Youth Mass at 4:15pm followed by refreshments in the Rosary Room

Heavenly Harrods has a new selection of gifts for first Holy communion including silver jewellery; rosaries and missals, There is also a selection of children's books and missals. Come and have a browse after weekend Masses.

Advance notice

The Carmelite day pilgrimage to Walsingham is on 24 June 2017. Pick-ups: 06:30am at Redbridge park and ride; 07:00am at Peartree park and ride. Firm commitment and payment by 1 June. Cost depends on numbers- £27 up to £40 per person. All welcome! Contact Armelle Belcher via the Parish Office to book.

Mission boxes—Please remember to bring your mission boxes to church for counting over the next couple of weeks. Thank you.

Telephone Number for SVP

**If you know of anyone in need please call
07580539765.**

Last week's Collections:

£1440

Thank you for your donations