

Mass Text for the Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

Have mercy on me, O Lord,
for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 14:2-5

Response:

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Second Reading: James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

By his own choice the Father made us his children
by the message of the truth,
so that we should be a sort of first-fruits
of all that he created
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Communion Antiphon:

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

MASS TIMES for the coming week

Saturday 1st September

Vigil Masses for The Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

St John's: Sacrament of Reconciliation:
4:30-4:50pm

In September the Angelus will be said before the Vigil Masses

St John's: 5:00pm Margaret O'Loughlin RIP
(Preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4.30pm)

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Pro Populo
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at English Martyrs 5:50-6:20pm)

SUNDAY 2nd September

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

English Martyrs: 7.30am Extraordinary Form Latin Mass (15th Sunday after Pentecost)
Richard Guinan RIP

English Martyrs: 9:00am Eithne Naughton RIP (Naughton family)

St John's: 11am Pro Populo

Mass times for the coming week

(English Martyrs is open mornings, Tuesday to Friday 9.15am-1pm, for private prayer)

MONDAY 3rd September

Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 4th September—St Gregory the Great

St John's: 9.30am Margaret and Vincent McCarthy RIP, Arthur McCarthy RIP, James Stoker RIP (M Taylor)

English Martyrs: 2pm Funeral Service for Gordon Garford-Warren RIP

WEDNESDAY 5th September

English Martyrs: 9.30am John Daly's welfare
(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction)

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form Latin Mass Anthony Walter Scott RIP

THURSDAY 6th September

St John's: 9.30am David Watson RIP (A Watson)

FRIDAY 7th September—Votive Mass of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

English Martyrs: 9.30am Margaret Carr RIP
(Church open all day for private prayer)

SATURDAY 8th September—The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

English Martyrs: 9.30am Lynda and Gerald Sharp's Intentions
Followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation and reciting of the rosary)

Mass times as usual for the weekend



Thames ISIS
Catholic Pastoral Area

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

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2nd September 2018

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B)

Today's Gospel casts Jesus in a prophetic light, as one having authority to interpret God's law. Jesus' quotation from Isaiah today is ironic (see [Isaiah 29:13](#)). In observing the law, the Pharisees honor God by ensuring that nothing unclean passes their lips. In this, however, they've turned the law inside out, making it a matter of simply performing certain external actions.

The gift of the law, which we hear God giving to Israel in today's First Reading, is fulfilled in Jesus' Gospel, which shows us the law's true meaning and purpose (see [Matthew 5:17](#)). The law, fulfilled in the Gospel, is meant to form our hearts, to make us pure, able to live in the Lord's presence. The law was given that we might live and enter into the inheritance promised to us—the kingdom of God, eternal life.

Israel, by its observance of the law, was meant to be an example to surrounding nations. As James tells us in today's Epistle, the Gospel was given to us that we might have new birth by the Word of truth. By living the Word we've received, we're to be examples of God's wisdom to those around us, the "first fruits" of a new humanity. This means we must be "doers" of the Word, not merely hearers of it. As we sing in today's Psalm and hear again in today's Epistle, we must work for justice, taking care of our brothers and sisters, and living by the truth God has placed in our hearts.

The Word given to us is a perfect gift. We should not add to it through vain and needless devotions. Nor should we subtract from it by picking and choosing which of His laws to honour. "Hear me," Jesus says in today's Gospel. Today, we're called to examine our relationship to God's law.

Is the practice of our religion a pure listening to Jesus, a humble welcoming of the Word planted in us and able to save our souls? Or are we only paying lip-service?

Scott Hahn

In your prayers, please remember:

Jenny Evans, Christopher Almeida, Anna Pearce, Mary Guinan, Maureen Logan, Mary McCrystal, Margaret Goldsworthy, Sophia Farmer, Ann Tomline, Joan Walker, Terry Appleyard, Val Claridge, Joan Russell, Audrey Edwards, Martin Connolly, Rosa Maria Santos, Laurence Turner, and all the sick and housebound of the parishes.



Flame, 2nd March 2019

Booking for Flame is now open! This is a highlight national event for Catholic young people in Wembley Arena, featuring inspirational international speakers, award winning music and celebrating faith and the young Church. Last year 350 people attended from Portsmouth Diocese, joining over 8000 people from all over the UK. Ages 14 - 25. Please see poster for more details.

NB. Under 18s must attend as part of a group. Over 18s may register as an individual if their parish is not organising a group.

Diocesan Youth Events—The Diocese is organising a variety of events for young people for the Autumn term, including the annual Altar Servers’ Day and Youth Sunday with Bishop Philip. Please see <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/youth/> for details of these and other upcoming events.

Apostleship of the Sea invites you to a Mass in honour of our patron Stella Maris, Our Lady Star of the Sea. Come pray for the work of Apostleship of the Sea and for seafarers on Tuesday 18th September 2018 at 1215pm in St John’s Catholic Cathedral, Bishop Crispian Way, Portsmouth, PO1 3HG. Bishop Philip Egan will celebrate Mass, followed by a reception. All invited. Please RSVP by email to salvina@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

Kerala floods: an SVP appeal

As you’ve probably seen in the media, terrible floods have been taking place in Kerala in southern India. Hundreds of people have been killed and many more are missing; countless homes have been washed away, and the monsoon season is set to continue until early September. Kerala is the most Christian state in India – it has more churches than any other region. The leading Catholic volunteering charity, the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), is very active there and they are doing great work helping the victims of the flood in local communities. However, they desperately need funds. Please contribute to the SVP’s Kerala appeal. To donate visit www.svp.org.uk, telephone 020 7703 3030 or send cheques made out to SVP (write ‘Kerala appeal’ on the back) to SVP, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB. And please remember our sisters and brothers in Kerala in your prayers.

Sex Abuse Scandal—You may like to listen to Bishop Robert Barron on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ncMEXr60AeI> to hear his Q&A session on the recent scandals within the Church.

Please make sure your mobile phone is turned off during Mass.

Parish Safeguarding Rep

For all adult and child safeguarding issues, please call Stefania Harford Tel: 07846559700

CWTA Prayer Cycle

The Free Church, Brightwell

A very big welcome to Fr Mick Kelly (S.J.) who joins us here in Didcot and Wallingford whilst on sabbatical for a couple of months. You may be interested to read an article written by Fr Mick here <https://www.eurekastreet.com.au/article.aspx?aid=56296>.

Parish Welcome Weekend and Social Event, 9th September—unfortunately due to lack of support we have had to cancel this event. Please note that Mass times in both churches will be as usual over this weekend.

Confirmation Programme —We will be starting our parish Confirmation programme in October this year. If you have a child who is 13 years or above who would be like to be confirmed (Confirmation will take place around May 2019 at Portsmouth Cathedral), please pass your name to the parish office.

First Holy Communion Programme—Our parish programme will begin later in September. Sessions will take place after Mass on Sundays, for children aged 8 or above. Please contact the parish office to put your child’s name on the list.

RCIA course starting in mid-September—If you know of anyone who would like to become a Catholic, or if you are already a Catholic and would like to attend a refresher course, Fr Phillip will be running the next RCIA course after the summer. Please contact the Parish Office to sign up.

The Carmelite Spirituality Group meet on Friday 7th of September at 2:00pm in the tea room at English Martyrs. All welcome.

Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride—8th September 2018. We need volunteers to take part in this popular fund raising event, where we can claim back half of our sponsorship money. Volunteers are needed to cycle or walk and be sponsored, also welcomers are required on the day. Please see Lilandia and Raymond Eaton at St John’s or Doug and Kim Henderson at English Martyrs for further details or sponsorship forms.



Soul in Didcot is a community social action event taking place on 29th September. All are welcome to take part, please see poster at the back of church for details.



Thursday Coffee Mornings after 9.30am Mass at St John’s. All donations go to charity. Come along and enjoy a coffee and chat and maybe even cake!

Advance Notice—There will be a flower workshop on 1st September, at English Martyrs. More details soon...

Telephone Number for SVP

If you know of anyone in need please call 07580539765.

Last week’s Collection: £1329

Thank you for your donations