

**Mass Text for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Entrance Antiphon**

You are just, O Lord,  
and your judgement is right;  
Treat your servant in accord  
with your merciful love..

**First Reading:** Isaiah 35: 4-7

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 145: 7-10

**Response:** My soul, give praise to the Lord.

**Second Reading:** James 2: 1-5

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord your servant is listening: you have the  
message of eternal life.  
Alleluia.

**Gospel:** Mark 7: 31-37

**Communion Antiphon:**

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,  
so my soul is yearning for you, my God;  
my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

**MASS TIMES for the coming week**

**SATURDAY 9th September**  
**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30-4:50pm**  
**St John's: 5pm Pro Populo**

**English Martyrs: 6:30pm Stefania & Wadyslaw**  
**Wieczorek R.I.P. (J Krowkowska)**

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

**SUNDAY 10th September**  
**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**English Martyrs: 9:00am Pro Populo**

**St John's: 11:00am John Quarterman R.I.P.**  
**(SVP)**

**Mass times for the coming week**

**MONDAY 11th September**

**Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am**

**TUESDAY 12th September The Most Holy Name of**  
**Mary**

**St John's: No Mass today**

**WEDNESDAY 13th September St John Chrysostom**

**English Martyrs: 9:30am Richard Guinan R.I.P.**  
**First Anniversary (M Guinan)**

**English Martyrs: 7:30pm**

**Extraordinary Form Latin Mass Noel Clifford's**  
**Intentions**

**THURSDAY 14th September The Exaltation of The**  
**Holy Cross**

**St John's: 9:30am Noel Clifford's Intentions**

**FRIDAY 15th September Our Lady of Sorrows**

**English Martyrs: 9:30am Charles & Mary Bush**  
**R.I.P. (R. Bush)**

**SATURDAY 16th September St Cornelius**

**English Martyrs: 9:30am Maureen Norris Phillips**  
**R.I.P. (A Johns)**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: 10:00-10:30am**

*Weekend Masses as usual*



**PARISHES OF**  
**THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot**  
**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**  
*www.thamesisis.org.uk*

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**10th September 2017**  
**23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)**

To give correction occasionally is an unpleasant duty, and to receive it is an equally unpleasant duty. Which is harder? An honest answer tells us a lot about our personality.

Every one of us has experienced confrontation over our behaviour at one time or another. How did we respond? More than likely we didn't respond well. None of us like to have our faults pointed out. At worst it can send us into a spiral of heated indignation and stubborn denial, protesting our innocence and hurling accusations back in retaliation. Ultimately, whether the criticism was taken on board or not depends on the spirit in which it was given. Was the criticism dealt by a friend with our best interests at heart, or was it dealt in a spirit of anger and come-uppance? How the criticism was dealt and how we responded is key in our dealings when it's our turn to correct someone else.

Most of us dislike having to correct someone else; we procrastinate and beat about the bush. Mightn't it be easier all round if we pretended the problem didn't exist? The main flaw with that strategy is that the papers are full of serious examples of what can happen when problems are side stepped and left to fester. How many people have allowed abuse, deception, injustice and even holocaust because they have kept quiet and avoided confrontation? There's no getting round it, there will come a time when we need to meet confrontation head on.

Today's gospel tells us how to confront someone we know to be in the wrong. We should make the confrontation on a one to one basis in a spirit of love and empathy. If our attempts at putting things straight fail, we should attempt to involve a third party. An extra pair of objective ears can often take the heat out of a situation; this is why people often take their problems to a counsellor. When Jesus says "Where there are two or three gathered in my name....." he is making it clear how important we are to one another. No man is an island; we all need each other's support. We all need each other's empathy, and there will come a time, when we all need a good honest dose of tough love.

**In your prayers, please remember:**

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, Audrey Edwards, Martin Connolly and all the sick of the parish.

**Volunteers are urgently needed for leading the First H.C. programme**

Please contact the Parish Office. A DBS check will be arranged.

**We are all Witnesses (Acts 2:32) Essential Training for Catechists**

This course, sponsored by our Diocese, has been arranged for five Fridays in Lent, starting on Friday 23rd February, in the hall behind St John Vianney Church, Charlton Rd, Wantage, OX12 8ER from 7:30-9:00pm. Limited spaces so early registration is recommended. Contact Jacky at [jackymattam@btinternet.com](mailto:jackymattam@btinternet.com). No charge, but a donation will be appreciated.

**Ride & Stride**

If anyone would like to donate online please go [www.justgiving.com](http://www.justgiving.com) and search for Douglas Henderson which will take you to the page.

**Seniors' Lunch at English Martyrs**

This will be served on Thursday 14th September at 12:00noon in the tea room. Menu and form at the back of the church. The next one will be on Thursday 19th October.

**Mass Intentions**

One of our rich Catholic traditions is having a Mass said for a particular intention, maybe for a loved one or a deceased family member. Do consider asking to have a Mass celebrated for your intentions.

**Time for prayer and reflection at English Martyrs**

The church is open for prayer Monday to Friday mornings until 1:00pm and all day with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 3.00-4.00pm on the 1st Friday of each month

**St John's Music Group**

Urgently looking for volunteers, particularly sopranos and tenors. If you can hold a tune in your head and also sing in tune, please do come along. Practice nights are Fridays at 7.15pm. Contact Sue Hunt on 01491 835787 or Mary Hill on 01491 836078 for further information

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**

Kate Keating  
07816 170360

**CWTA Prayer Cycle**

Please pray for St John's Church,

**Posters for Church Notice Boards and leaving leaflets**

If you want to put up a poster or leave leaflets at the back of our churches please pass them through the Parish Office first.

**Diocesan Day for Catechists Saturday 14th October 2017 at St John's Cathedral Portsmouth**

For everyone involved or interested in Catechesis and Children's Liturgy of the Word. The day will consist of:

Mass of Thanksgiving for all Diocesan Catechists;  
'Scripture in Catechesis' by fr Richard Ounsworth,OP;  
3 forums on using Scripture in children, youth and adult Catechesis;  
presentation of Scriptural resources for all ages and contexts;  
times of prayer, discussion and fellowship;  
lunch provided.

Register: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/formation](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/formation) or [ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or 01590681874

**Young Catholic Adult Weekend @ Douai Abbey 20th -22nd Oct 2017**

Are you 18-40? Do you want to deepen your knowledge of the Catholic faith, learn its devotions and meet like minded people? Young Catholic Adults are organizing a weekend at Douai Abbey with Lawrence Lew O.P., and Canon Poucin ICKSP. You'll be able to hear catechetical talks, learn how to sing Gregorian Chant, say the Rosary, socialize and have fun. Book soon as places are limited! All Masses are in the Old Rite. To book go to <http://www.youngcatholicadults.co.uk/events.htm>. Prices start from £18.50.

**Certificate in Parish Mission and Ministry**

In conjunction with Maryvale Institute and FFM our Diocese is running a special one year certificate course for anyone involved in parish ministry. This would be particularly beneficial for catechists, members of the pastoral council, youth leaders, those working with families, youth, and ministers of Holy Communion. It involves a study of various aspects of the parish mission such as youth, families and the mission to the sick and housebound and helps people to understand the mission of a parish and the practicalities of reaching out in the task of evangelization. Details on church noticeboards and funding help is available.

**SVP Awareness Month—Welcoming the Stranger**

Each week this month there will be a new poster at the back of church. Please read it.  
"Social Isolation is the main poverty of our time. When combined with any other kind of poverty, social isolation makes any kind of difficulty much bigger."  
"Let us be evangelised by the poor." This is the very strong message of the Pope, which we consider is the core of our Vincencian commitment. (Bertrand Ousset, Former National President of

*Telephone Number for SVP*

If you know of anyone in need please call  
07580539765.

*Last week's Collections:*

**£1325**

*Second Collection this week:  
Catholic Education Service*

*Thank you for your donations*