

**Mass Text for the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Entrance Antiphon**

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

**First Reading:** Wisdom 2:12, 17-20

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 53:3-6, 8

**Response:**

The Lord upholds my life.

**Second Reading:** James 3:16-4:3

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 9:30-37

**Communion Antiphon:**

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

**MASS TIMES for the coming week**  
**Saturday 22nd September**  
**Vigil Masses for The Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*In September the Angelus will be said before the Vigil Masses*

**St John's:** 5:00pm *Pro Populo*  
(Preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4.30pm)

**English Martyrs:** 6.30pm *Manuel Claro RIP*  
(C Grou)  
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at English Martyrs 5:50-6:20pm)

**SUNDAY 23rd September**  
**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

**St John's:** 11am *Private Intention*

**Mass times for the coming week**  
**(English Martyrs is open mornings, Tuesday to Friday 9.15am-1pm, for private prayer)**

**MONDAY 24th September**

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

**TUESDAY 25th September**

**St John's:** 9.30am *James Trainor RIP (Perp)*

**WEDNESDAY 26th September—SS Cosmas &**

**Damian**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am *Mr Swanzy RIP*  
(C Wall)

(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction)

**English Martyrs:** 7.30pm *Extraordinary Form Latin Mass Thomas Hughes' Intentions*

**THURSDAY 27th September—St Vincent de Paul**

**St John's:** 9.30am *Anthony W Scott RIP (G Scott)*

**FRIDAY 28th September**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am *Val Claridge's Intentions*  
(A Furlong)

**SATURDAY 29th September—The Holy Archangels**  
**Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am *Ruichi and Nalake's Intentions (R Perera)*

(Followed by reciting of the rosary and Sacrament of Reconciliation)

**Mass times as usual for the weekend**



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

Parish Priest: Fr Phillip Harris, 15 Manor Crescent, Didcot OX11 7AJ  
Telephone: 01235 812338  
Office e-mail: [didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)  
  
(Parish Office in Presbytery open Tuesday to Friday mornings for all enquiries)  
Fr Phillip's e-mail: [ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**23rd September 2018**  
**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B)**

In today's First Reading, it's like we have our ears pressed to the wall and can hear the murderous grumbings of the elders, chief priests, and scribes—who last week Jesus predicted would torture and kill Him (see [Mark 8:31](#); [10:33-34](#)).

The liturgy invites us to see this passage from the Book of Wisdom as a prophecy of the Lord's Passion. We hear His enemies complain that "the Just One" has challenged their authority, reproached them for breaking the law of Moses, for betraying their training as leaders and teachers.

And we hear chilling words that foreshadow how they will mock Him as He hangs on the Cross: "For if the Just One be the Son of God, He will . . . deliver Him . . ." (compare [Matthew 27:41-43](#)).

Today's Gospel and Psalm give us the flip side of the First Reading. In both, we hear of Jesus' sufferings from His point of view. Though His enemies surround Him, He offers Himself freely in sacrifice, trusting that God will sustain Him.

But the Apostles today don't understand this second announcement of Christ's passion. They begin arguing over issues of succession—over who among them is greatest, who will be chosen to lead after Christ is killed.

Again they are thinking not as God, but as human beings (see [Mark 8:33](#)). And again Jesus teaches the Twelve—the chosen leaders of His Church—that they must lead by imitating His example of love and self-sacrifice. They must be "servants of all," especially the weak and the helpless—symbolized by the child He embraces and places in their midst.

This is a lesson for us, too. We must have the mind of Christ, who humbled Himself to come among us (see [Philippians 2:5-11](#)). We must freely offer ourselves, making everything we do a sacrifice in praise of His name.

*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.



**Child, Youth and Family Team (CYFT) Retreats 2018 - Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 13:30-17:30 and Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October 10:30-14:30.**

Following the call of Jesus to ‘Come away by yourselves...and rest a while’, everyone working with children, young people and their families in Thames Isis, is invited to attend **one** of two retreat days this autumn. Join us for a time of refreshment and renewal! For more information or to sign up, email Maria at [tipayouthadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tipayouthadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**SCIENCE – OR – RELIGION? A SYMPOSIUM.**

A big diocesan Symposium is taking place on Saturday 3rd November 2018, 10 am – 4 pm in The Discovery Centre in Winchester (opp. St. Peter’s church) on Science and Religion. Two leading scientists will ask whether recent research on the Universe suggests the existence of a Creator. There will also be a series of workshops led by experts on such topics as Christianity and Extra Terrestrial Life, the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence and whether human consciousness is immortal. The Symposium is open to all, whether religious or not. See the diocesan e-News for more details. Places are limited and bookings are now open at <https://portsmouthdiocese.eventbrite.co.uk>

John and Maureen Logan would like to thank Fr Phillip and all who attended John’s reception into the Catholic Church last Saturday. They would also like to thank all who organised such a lovely spread after Mass, especially for the wonderful cakes and refreshments. They were very touched by the loving kindness of so many parishioners.



**DAY FOR ADULTS WHO HELP WITH CHILDREN’S LITURGY, FIRST COMMUNION, CONFIRMATION, BAPTISM, RCIA, etc**

**Saturday 20th October, 10am to 4pm at Portsmouth Cathedral, led by the Formation for Mission Team**

Bishop Philip will celebrate Mass in thanksgiving for all diocesan catechists and Children’s Liturgy teams. The day will be spent reflecting on the mission, charisms and role of the catechist, and sharing insights in workshops about ‘making our teaching session great’. Lunch will be provided. Everyone involved or interested in catechesis and children’s Liturgy is welcome. **Book here:** <http://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists> or phone the Dominican Sisters: 01590681874.

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**

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

**CWTA Prayer Cycle**

The Free Church, Brightwell-cum-Sotwell

**Safeguarding Training**—The latest training available for those who either have new DBS checks or require refresher training is on 6th October at English Martyrs, Reading, and 20th October at St Bernadette’s Church, Pangbourne. To book, please contact [soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Tel: 023 92 816396 / 023 92 836511

**Confirmation Programme—further details**

If you have a child in year 8 or above (aged 12 and over) 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 by 4th November. The first session for young people will take place on 25th November, with sessions for parents on 9th and 18th November. Meetings will take place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 3pm-5pm.

**First Holy Communion Programme**—Our parish programme will begin in November.

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-October**—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.

**Next Seniors’ Lunch**—Thursday 18th October. Please sign up on the noticeboard at English Martyrs if you would like to attend.

**24 Hour Adoration**—will take place at English Martyrs on Wednesday 31st October. We need at least two people in the church at all times. Please sign up on the sheet in church.

**Christian Aid Sponsored Walk**—Saturday 13th October from 9am, starting from Chilton Church, OX11 0SR. Brian McNamee from English Martyrs will be the point of contact for this walk. If you would like to join him, please catch up with him at the weekend.

**Youth Group Fun Day coming up on 6th October.**

Annual Pastoral Area Fun Day at Our Lady and St Edmund’s parish centre on Saturday 6th October from 14:00-17:00. Activities include: giant bouncy castle; sumo wrestling suits; art and crafts; indoor and outdoor games and face painting. Families welcome. Cost: £5 per child. Children under 8 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Light refreshments will be provided.



**SVP AWARENES MONTH - Going beyond Boundaries**

"Let us do without hesitation whatever good lies at our hands." (Bsd Frederic Ozanam)  
The SVP are aware that poverty exists beyond where we can see. The posters we display each week highlight just some of the places where you can find Members of the SVP helping others. If you know of anyone who needs help please contact a member of our parish SVP.

**Telephone Number for SVP**

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

**Last week’s Collection: £1325**

**Thank you for your donations**