

Mass Text for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

Within your will, O Lord,
all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things,
the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are Lord of all.

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 127

Response:

May the Lord bless us
all the days of our lives.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:9-11

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.

MASS TIMES for the coming week

Saturday 6th October

Vigil Masses for The Twenty-Seventh 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 *Eithne Naughton RIP*
(Naughton family)
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at English Martyrs 5:50-6:20pm)

SUNDAY 7th October
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

English Martyrs: 7.30am *Extraordinary Form Latin Mass*

English Martyrs: 9:00am *Pro Populo*

St John's: 11am *Tony Pollard RIP and deceased members of the family (D Pollard)*

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

MONDAY 1st October September
Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 9th October
St John's: 9.30am

WEDNESDAY 10th October
English Martyrs: 9.30am *Lech Wiczorek RIP*
(K Henderson)
(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction)

English Martyrs: 7.30pm *Extraordinary Form Latin Mass*

THURSDAY 11th October
St John's: 9.30am *Jill and Steve Calderbank RIP*
(D Kennedy)

FRIDAY 12th October
No Mass Today

SATURDAY 13th October
No Morning Mass Today

Mass times as usual for the weekend



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

www.thamesisis.org.uk

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Fr Phillip's e-mail: ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

7th October 2018
Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B)

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus with a trick question.

The "lawfulness" of divorce in Israel was never an issue. Moses had long ago allowed it (see [Deuteronomy 24:1-4](#)). But Jesus points His enemies back before Moses, to "the beginning," interpreting the text we hear in today's First Reading.

Divorce violates the order of creation, He says. Moses permitted it only as a concession to the people's "hardness of heart"—their inability to live by God's covenant Law. But Jesus comes to fulfill the Law, to reveal its true meaning and purpose, and to give people the grace to keep God's commands.

Marriage, He reveals, is a sacrament, a divine, life-giving sign. Through the union of husband and wife, God intended to bestow His blessings on the human family—making it fruitful, multiplying it until it filled the earth (see [Genesis 1:28](#)).

That's why today's Gospel moves so easily from a debate about marriage to Jesus' blessing of children. Children are blessings the Father bestows on couples who walk in His ways, as we sing in today's Psalm.

Marriage also is a sign of God's new covenant. As today's Epistle hints, Jesus is the new Adam—made a little lower than the angels, born of a human family (see [Romans 5:14](#); [Psalm 8:5-7](#)). The Church is the new Eve, the "woman" born of Christ's pierced side as He hung in the sleep of death on the cross (see [John 19:34](#); [Revelation 12:1-17](#)).

Through the union of Christ and the Church as "one flesh," God's plan for the world is fulfilled (see [Ephesians 5:21-32](#)). Eve was "mother of all the living" (see [Genesis 3:20](#)). And in Baptism, we are made sons and daughters of the Church, children of the Father, heirs of the eternal glory He intended for the human family in the beginning.

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, Margaret Healy and all the sick and housebound of the parishes.



Child, Youth and Family Team (CYFT) Retreats 2018 - Saturday 29th September 13:30-17:30 and Saturday 13th 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

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>

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.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children has produced postcards so that you can send a message to your MP urging him/her to vote against a dangerous abortion bill which is coming up in the House of Commons on Tuesday 23rd October 2018. The bill seeks to decriminalise abortion which would remove any effective legal protection for unborn babies and their mothers in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Postcards available at back of

SVP AWARENESS MONTH WEEK 5 - Get Involved

"Charity must never look to the past, but always to the future" (Blessed Frederick Ozanam).

THERE WILL BE A SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR THE WORK OF THE SVP, ESPECIALLY IN KERALA, INDIA, TO HELP THE VICTIMS OF THE FLOOD DAMAGE.



Please remember to turn your mobile phone 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-cum-Sotwell

New Heating System at English Martyrs—We have appointed a contractor to replace the central heating system and work will begin shortly. We will update everyone as to progression. In order to pay for the new heating system, we will have to apply for funds from the Living our Faith Scheme that so many parishioners generously donated to in previous years. If you have any objection to us using these funds, please contact Fr Phillip in writing.

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 14th October. The first session for young people will take place on 25th November, with sessions for parents on the 11th 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 on Sunday 18th 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 —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 beginning on 25th October. Please contact the Parish Office to sign up.

Join us for a Night of Light to celebrate the Vigil of All Saints from 16:30-18:30 at English Martyrs Catholic Church Didcot, on Wednesday 31st October. Come along dressed as your favourite Saint or wear something white. There’ll be art and crafts, games, cake and cookie decorating and clay modelling and much more to enjoy! No tricks only treats! Everyone welcome. Children under 8 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Cost: £2 per child. Contact Melanie at tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to book your place.

Mission Kids is a club is for children who have made their First Holy Communion and would like to continue exploring their faith while also having fun with their friends. The group will meet at English Martyrs on the Second Saturday every month in term time from 10:30-12:00. For more information or to sign up, everyone is invited to our Open Morning, on Saturday 10th November 10:00-12:00 at English Martyrs. More details from tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Flower Workshop, 1st December—Please sign up for this popular event which will take place at St John’s. Information will be on display at the back of church soon.

24 Hour Adoration—Please note change of date. This will now take place on 1st December.

Telephone Number for SVP

**If you know of anyone in need please call
01235 812338**

**Last week’s Collection:
£1315**

**Second Collection this weekend:
St Vincent de Paul Society**

Thank you for your donations