

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

**Entrance Antiphon**

If you, O Lord,  
should mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand?

But with you is found forgiveness,  
O God of Israel.

**First Reading:** Wisdom 7:7-11

**R sponsorial Psalm:** Ps 89:12-17

**Response:**

Fill us with your love that we may rejoice.

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 4:12-13

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 10:17-30

**Communion Antiphon:**

The rich suffer want and go hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

**MASS TIMES for the coming week**  
**Saturday 13th October**

**Vigil Masses for The Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**St John's:** 5:00pm Eileen Parker RIP  
(G Snoxall)

(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 14th October**

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**English Martyrs:** 9:00am Teresa Johnson RIP  
and Teresa Swain RIP (P McLoughlin)

**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 15th October**

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

**TUESDAY 16th October**

**St John's:** 9.30am

**WEDNESDAY 17th October**

**English Martyrs: 11am Requiem Mass for  
Christina Bradley RIP**

**English Martyrs:** 7.30pm Extraordinary Form  
Latin Mass

**THURSDAY 18th October**

**St John's:** 9.30am Violet Hedges and Holy Souls  
(Perp)

**FRIDAY 19th October**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Donald Welch RIP  
(Foundation)

**SATURDAY 20th October**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Mary Leavey RIP  
(Naughton family)

(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**

[www.thamesisis.org.uk](http://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)

**14th October 2018**

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B)**

The rich young man in today's Gospel wants to know what we all want to know—how to live in this life so that we might live forever in the world to come. He seeks what today's Psalm calls “wisdom of heart.” He learns that the wisdom he seeks is not a program of works to be performed or behaviors to be avoided. As Jesus tells him, observing the commandments is essential to walking the path of salvation—but it can only get us so far.

The Wisdom of God is not precepts, but a person—Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Wisdom whose Spirit was granted to Solomon in today's First Reading. Jesus is the Word of God spoken of in today's Epistle. And Jesus, as He reveals Himself to the rich man today, is God.

In Jesus we encounter Wisdom, the living and effective Word of God. As He does with the rich man today, He looks upon each of us with love. That look of love, that loving gaze, is a personal invitation—to give up everything to follow Him. Nothing is concealed from His gaze, as we hear in the Epistle. In His fiery eyes, the thoughts of our hearts are exposed, and each of us must render an account of our lives (see [Revelation 1:14](#)).

We must have the attitude of Solomon, preferring Wisdom to all else, loving Him more than even life itself. This preference, this love, requires a leap of faith. We will be persecuted for this faith, Jesus tells His disciples today. But we must trust in His promise—that all good things will come to us in His company.

What, then, are the “many possessions” that keep us from giving ourselves totally to God? What are we clinging to—material things, comfort zones, relationships? What will it take for us to live fully for Christ's sake and the sake of the Gospel?

Let us pray for the wisdom to enter into the kingdom of God. With the psalmist, let us ask Him, “Teach us.”

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.



The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is because the liturgical Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honour the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful. Pray the Rosary this month for world peace.



**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

A huge thank you from the SVP for your generous donations last weekend. A total of £610.48 was raised and will be used to support the victims of flood damage in Kerala, India.



**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.

*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**  
St John’s, Wallingford

**New Heating System at English Martyrs**—Work has commenced on the installation of the new heating system at English Martyrs. In order to pay for this 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**

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. A preliminary session for parents and young people will take place at 3pm on Sunday 11th November, followed by meetings on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, starting on 25th November, 3pm-5pm at St John’s, Wallingford.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Rosary**—Recitation of the rosary will take place at a parishioner’s home in Didcot on Mondays from 22nd October, 6.30pm—7.30pm. Please contact the parish office if you would like to take part, and your name will be forwarded to the organiser.

**24 Hour Adoration**— 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:**  
**£1364**

**Thank you for your donations**