

Mass Text for the Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me!

Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation.

First Reading: Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 17:2-4, 47, 51

Response:

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life:

you have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34

Communion Antiphon:

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

MASS TIMES for the coming week

Saturday 3rd November

Vigil Masses for The Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

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 4th November

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

English Martyrs: 7.30am Extraordinary Form Latin Mass—Noel Clifford's Intentions

English Martyrs: 9:00am Pro Populo

St John's: 11am Margaret Carr RIP (A-M Bromley)

Mass times for the coming week

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

MONDAY 5th November

Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 6th November

No Mass Today

WEDNESDAY 7th November

English Martyrs: 9.30am Kieran Leavey RIP

(Naughton family)

(followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction)

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form Latin Mass

THURSDAY 8th November

St John's: 9.30am In thanksgiving on the feast of St Elizabeth of the Trinity (Armelle OCDS)

FRIDAY 9th November—The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

English Martyrs: 9.30am John Bateman RIP (C King)

SATURDAY 10th November

English Martyrs: 9.30am Alan Daniel Parker on the anniversary of his baptism (A Johns) (Followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation and reciting of the rosary)

Vigil Masses for 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

St John's: 5pm David Watson RIP (A Watson)

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Pro Populo

SUNDAY 11th November

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

English Martyrs: 9am Terry Hobin RIP (H Hobin)

St John's: 11am Pro Populo

(Please note Mass will start late due to the Remembrance Service taking place in Wallingford)



Thames ISIS
Catholic Pastoral Area

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

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4th November 2018

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B)

Love is the only law we are to live by. And love is the fulfillment of the Law that God reveals through Moses in today's First Reading (see [Romans 13:8-10](#); [Matthew 5:43-48](#)).

The unity of God—the truth that He is one God, Father, Son, and Spirit—means that we must love Him with one love, a love that serves Him with all our hearts and minds, souls and strength.

We love Him because He has loved us first. We love our neighbour because we can't love the God we haven't seen unless we love those made in His image and likeness, whom we have seen (see [1 John 4:19-21](#)).

And we are called imitate the love that Christ showed us in laying His life down on the cross (see [1 John 3:16](#)). As we hear in today's Epistle, by His perfect sacrifice on the cross, He once and for all makes it possible for us to approach God.

There is no greater love than to lay down your life (see [John 15:13](#)). This is perhaps why Jesus tells the scribe in today's Gospel that he is not far from the kingdom of God.

The scribe recognizes that the burnt offerings and sacrifices of the old Law were meant to teach Israel that it is love that He desires (see [Hosea 6:6](#)). The animals offered in sacrifice were symbols of the self-sacrifice, the total gift of our selves that God truly desires.

We are called today to examine our hearts. Do we have other loves that get in the way of our love for God? Do we love others as Jesus has loved us (see [John 13:34-35](#))? Do we love our enemies and pray for those who oppose and persecute us (see [Matthew 5:44](#))?

Let us tell the Lord we love Him, as we do in today's Psalm. And let us take His Word to heart, that we might prosper and have life eternal in His kingdom, the heavenly homeland flowing with milk and honey.

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.



BAMENDA SUNDAY this weekend Every year we have a **special collection** to support the projects driven by our friends in our twinned Diocese of Bamenda, Cameroon.

Please ensure you see a copy of the Bamenda Newsletter to see the mutual benefits of our twinned relationship and how much your help is needed in these troubled times.

Pilgrimage to the Holy Land Wed 15th-22nd May 2019. In the Footsteps of Jesus, visiting the Holy Sites in Jerusalem, Nazareth, the Dead Sea & more. Cost: £1360pp. 50 places. Flights from Heathrow. Deposit £250pp. Led by Canons John O'Shea & Michael Dennehy. Apply to St James, Reading on 0118 957 4171 or email stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. A trip of a lifetime - experience the land of the Old Testament and that of Jesus & his disciples. Applications to be in ASAP. **Info evening Fri 16th Nov at 7.30pm at St James.**

Each November **CAFOD holds Memorial Masses** across England and Wales in honour of supporters and loved ones who have died. It is a time to come together and to reflect on the lasting impact our loved ones have had on the world. We pray they find peace and that we can continue their legacy of love in their memory. The Memorial mass for CAFOD Portsmouth will be on Sunday 18th November at 9am at Our Lady of Lourdes Church Hungerford RG17 0AF. Everyone is welcome.



Heavenly Harrods Repository has many new Christmas items in stock from candles, advent calendars to cards and small gifts. Come and have a browse after mass.

Mass in thanksgiving for the Canonisation of Archbishop Oscar Romero, 24th November, 2pm at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, followed by an address in the Discovery Centre on his life and works. All welcome.

Pope Francis' Monthly Prayer Intention November 2018

It's befitting in a month of remembrance, that Pope Francis asks us to pray for peace. We are asked to imagine a worldwide culture of peace in which conflicts within and between communities and countries are managed through nonviolent means. It isn't beyond us. We can all start building peace in our own small ways, from ethical shopping, to campaigning for fairer and far reaching human rights. We can begin by building understanding and awareness in our own families. We can teach our children what it must feel like to walk in someone else's shoes.

Parish Diaries for 2019 are now available free of charge from the back of both churches. Please take one.

Mission Boxes — Please return your mission boxes to church now for counting. Thank you. **Ride and Stride** sponsorship money also due now—thank you for your support.

Parish Safeguarding Rep

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

CWTA Prayer Cycle

St Agatha's Church, Brightwell

The Didcot and Wallingford Men's group meet on the last Wednesday of the month after the Latin Mass at English Martyrs. This is an opportunity to talk about your spiritual journey and personal relationship with God and the Church, as well as meet new people. It is a very informal meeting with a bit of time catching up, and a bit of time considering a passage from the bible or other important truth. All welcome, bring a topic you would like to discuss! The next meeting will be on 31st October. Please let the parish office know that you will be able to attend.

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.

REMINDER The next **PPC Meeting** will take place on Thursday 8th November, 7pm at the presbytery.

Thursday 8 November, Feast of St Elizabeth of the Trinity, a Carmelite Saint, model and teacher of prayer. The 9:30 Mass at St John's will be celebrated by Fr Matthew Blake. It will be followed by short talks from a few Secular Carmelites and celebrations afterwards in the hall. Everyone welcome!

24 hour Adoration—The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at English Martyrs from after 9.30am Mass on Saturday 1st December until 9am Mass on Sunday 2nd December. We need a minimum of two people in the church every hour. Please put your name on the list at the back of church if you can stay. Thank you.

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 10:00-11.30am at English Martyrs. More details from tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Churches Together Didcot and District—We currently need parishioners to represent English Martyrs on the Churches Together team in Didcot. Please contact the parish office if you think you can help. Thank you.

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

Telephone Number for SVP

If you know of anyone in need please call
01235 812338

Last week's Collection:
£1352

Thank you for your donations