

**Mass Text for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Save us, O Lord our God!  
And gather us from the nations,  
to give thanks to your holy name,  
and make it our glory to praise you.

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 70:1-6, 15, 17

**Response:**

My lips will tell of your help.

**Second Reading:** I Cor 12:31-13:13

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

I am the way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
no one can come to the Father except through me.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 4:21-30

**Communion Antiphon:**

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your merciful love.

O Lord, let me never be put to shame,

for I call on you.

**MASS TIMES**

**Saturday 2nd February**

**Vigil Masses for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**St John's:** 5pm Helen M Spragg RIP (C Doran)  
(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 3rd February**

**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**English Martyrs:** 7.30am Extraordinary Form Latin Mass (with blessing of throats) Minnie Harris RIP

**English Martyrs:** 9:00am Nell Pedzik RIP (D Pedzik)

**St John's:** 11am Pro Populo

**Mass times for the coming week**

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

**MONDAY 4th February**

No Mass this morning  
(See [www.thamesisis.org.uk](http://www.thamesisis.org.uk) for details of Mass times at St Mary's, East Hendred)

**TUESDAY 5th February**

**St John's:** 9.30am Michael and Valerie O'Hara RIP

Please remember to turn off your mobile phone during Mass.

**WEDNESDAY 6th February**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Naughton Family's Intentions (A Furlong)  
(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction)

**English Martyrs:** 7.30pm Extraordinary Form Latin Mass John and Ivy Dean RIP

**THURSDAY 7th February**

**St John's:** 9.30am George and Kitty Hockley RIP

**FRIDAY 8th February**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Theresa Fisher RIP (C Wheatley)

**SATURDAY 9th February—**

**Oru Lady on Saturday**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Mgr Tony Philpot RIP  
(Followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation and reciting of the rosary)

**Vigil Masses for the Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**St John's:** 5pm Pro Populo

**English Martyrs:** 6.30pm Annie Furlong's Intentions on her birthday (JL)

**SUNDAY 10th February**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**English Martyrs:** 9am Pro Populo

**St John's:** 11am Margaret and Christopher Doran RIP (C Doran)



**PARISHES OF  
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot  
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**  
[www.didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org](http://www.didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org)

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)

**3rd February 2019**  
**Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr C)**

God's words in today's First Reading point us beyond Jeremiah to Jesus. Like Jeremiah, Jesus was consecrated in the womb and sent as a "prophet to the nations" (see [Luke 1:31-33](#)). Like the prophets before Him, Jesus too faces hostility. In today's Gospel, the crowd in His hometown synagogue quickly turns on Him, apparently demanding a sign, some proof of divine origins—that He's more than just "the son of Joseph."

The sign He gives them is that of the prophets Elijah and Elisha. From their colorful careers Jesus draws two stories. In each, the prophets bypass "many . . . in Israel" to bestow God's blessings on non-Israelites who had faith that the prophets were men of God (see [1 Kings 17:1-16](#); [2 Kings 5:1-14](#)). "None . . . not one" in Israel was found deserving, Jesus emphasizes.

His point isn't lost on His audience. They know He's likening them to the "many . . . in Israel" in the days of the prophets. That's why they try to shove Him off the cliff. As He promised to protect Jeremiah, the Lord delivers Jesus from those who would crush Him.

And as were Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is sent to proclaim God's gift of salvation—not exclusively to one nation or people, but to all who realize in faith that from the womb God alone is their hope, their rescuer, their "rock of refuge," as we sing in today's Psalm.

Prophecies, Paul tells us in today's Epistle, are partial and pass away "when the perfect comes." In Jesus, the word of the prophets has been brought to perfection, fulfilled in those who have ears to hear, as He declares in today's Gospel.

Greater than the gifts of faith and hope, Jesus shows us how to love as He loved—to love God as our Father, as the one who formed us in the womb and destined us to hear His saving Word. This is the salvation, the "mighty works of the Lord," that we, like the psalmist, are thankful to proclaim daily in the Eucharist.

Scott Hahn

**In your prayers, please remember:**

Jenny Evans, Christopher Almeida, Anna Pearce, Mary Guinan, Maureen Logan, Mary McCrystal, Margaret Goldsworthy, Ann Tomline, Joan Walker, Terry Appleyard, Joan Russell, Audrey Edwards, Rosa Maria Santos, Laurence Turner, Margaret Healy, Nina Oakes, Jacob Oakes, Jidechi Ejiofor and all the sick and housebound of the parishes.



**Volunteer Opportunity – Evening Receptionist in Woodley for Marriage Care**



Do you enjoy meeting people and putting them at their ease? Would you also welcome some quiet time secure in the knowledge that your presence is helping our vital relationship counselling service? We are looking for a friendly and helpful volunteer who can spare a couple of hours on Monday evenings, a couple of times per month, at our venue in Woodley. You will meet and greet couples who come for counselling and remain in the venue during counselling sessions. For more details and informal enquiries please contact: Sue Cooper 07939495774 or email [reading.admin@marriagecare.org](mailto:reading.admin@marriagecare.org)

**Chief Operating Officer required by the Diocese or Portsmouth**

This job vacancy incorporates leading the entire business function of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Trust (“The Charity”) to deliver the Bishop’s Vision. The Diocese includes 91 parishes, 53 schools and covers the area from Portsmouth to Windsor and from to Hungerford and Bournemouth and also includes the Channel Islands.

The COO will work closely with the Trustees of the Charity to convert the Bishop’s Vision into a Strategy from which a Financial Strategy will be developed. Working closely with the Chairs of each of the Vicariates, the holder will need to develop processes by which their respective strategies are implemented.

The holder will provide leadership to all the staff that empowers them to identify the changes required to improve the efficiency of the business function thereby furthering the impact of the Bishop’s Vision in a cost-effective manner. The culture of the organization will need to be developed in order to measure the success of various initiatives such that best value can be identified.

The holder will support the Communications Director to develop communications across the administration of the diocese to create a more inclusive culture between the Diocesan organisation and the Parishes.

**Further information and application forms available from [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).**

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**

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

**CWTA Prayer Cycle**

St Mary’s Church, Cholsey

**PPC Meeting**—the next meeting will be held at the Presbytery on Tuesday 5th February at 7pm.

**Mission Kids**—the next session will be this Saturday 9th February which is a cinema trip. More details from [tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Next Seniors’ Lunch** will take place on Thursday 14th February at Noon. Please sign up on the list at the back of church if you would like to go. Thank you.

**SVP - DATE FOR YOUR DIARY** Skittles evening on March 15th. A fun evening for all the family. More details to follow.

**Lent Soup Lunches**—will take place at English Martyrs on 7th March, then 14th, 21st, 28th and 4th April at noon. Please put these dates in your diary and come along and support these events. All funds will go to charity.

**Flower Workshop**—Our Easter Flower Workshop will take place on Saturday 23rd March, at 11am at English Martyrs. The cost will be £10. This event is open to everyone—please put your name on the list at the back of church if you would like to attend.

**Portsmouth Diocese Don Bosco Camp 2019:**

28th July - 3rd August 2019 an opportunity for secondary school boys to have an exciting, activity-packed camping holiday in a safe but challenging countryside setting. Further information: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/youth/donbosco](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/youth/donbosco) and contact: [dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

On Saturday 9th February, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed, and it really does save lives. For details of our live saving work see [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com). Details on poster at the back of church.

**NEW WEBSITE**—We have launched a new parish website which can be found here:

**[www.didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org](http://www.didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org)**

Please take a look around the new site—the weekly newsletter can be found here along with other information, including Mass times.

*Telephone Number for SVP*

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

*Last week’s Collection:  
£1362*

*Thank you for your donations*