

**Mass Text for the Fifth Sunday of Easter**

Sing a new song to the Lord,  
for he has worked wonders;  
in the sight of the nations  
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**First Reading:** Acts 6:1-7

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 18-19

**Response:**

May your love be upon us, O Lord,  
as we place all our hope in you.

**Second Reading:** 1 Peter 2:5-9

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.  
No one can come to the Father except through me.'  
Alleluia.

**Gospel:** John 14:1-12

**Communion Antiphon:**

I am the true vine and you are the branches,  
says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him,  
bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

**MASS TIMES for the coming week**

**Saturday 13th May**

**Vigil Masses of The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**St John's:** 5pm Angela Wood and family's  
Intentions (M Parris-Dollar)

(Sacrament of Reconciliation from 4.30pm)

**English Martyrs:** 6.30pm Pro Populo

(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at English  
Martyrs 5.50pm—6.20pm)

**SUNDAY 14th May**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**English Martyrs:** 9am Jenny and Lucy Gray's  
Intentions (A Gray)

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

**Mass times for the coming week**

**MONDAY 15th May**

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

**TUESDAY 16th May**

**St John's:** 9.30am

(Followed by reciting of the rosary)

**WEDNESDAY 17th May**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Emma Green RIP

(A-M Kershaw)

(Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
and Benediction)

**THURSDAY 18th May**

**St John's:** 9.30am Peter Hogan's Intentions

(C Jeffery)

**FRIDAY 19th May—Dedication of the**

**Cathedral of St John, Portsmouth**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Giselle Halst's Intentions

(A Gray)

**SATURDAY 20th May**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am For the health and well-  
being of Anna Connelly

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

*Weekend Masses as usual*



Thames ISIS  
Catholic Pastoral Area

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

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Fr Phillip's e-mail: [ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**14th May 2017**

**Fifth Sunday of Easter (Yr A)**

Today's Gospel follows after Our Lord had washed his disciples' feet at the Last Supper. It is as if the Apostles' minds were veiled; their struggle to understand is recorded by John in today's Gospel because it helps us understand. The first and most important thing that the Lord impresses on the disciples is not to worry: "Do not let your hearts be troubled" - they are to trust: in him and in his Father. What Christ had taught them, what he had shown them, everything he was doing, meant that there was no need for them to worry, only to trust. Their place and ours with God the Father - in other words, our eternal happiness - is prepared for us.

How do we know this? How can we be sure of this? Because, as Jesus explains, he is the Way, the Truth and the Life: "No one can come to the Father except through me." The trust we are called to have is in God the Father and in Jesus, the Son whom he sent, precisely to bring us to that place prepared for us with God in heaven.

Christ is the Way because he has opened the way to his Father through his perfect giving of himself for us on the Cross, redeeming us, reconciling us with the Father - and he is the only one who could do that, since, as he explains later, he is in the Father and the Father is in him: it is the Father "who is doing this work"; he is the Truth, the one we can trust and believe in; he is the Life - death could not hold him, and his victory over death when he burst from the tomb on Easter Day opened up that gift of New Life to all those who will follow his Way and believe in his Truth.

Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life is with us as we live our lives and he continually calls us to trust, to turn to him more and more. Let us live our lives as those who are God's people - a people set apart, but still in the world: a people that will not let their hearts be troubled because we have placed all our trust in the Lord Jesus who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

*Fr Phillip*



**In your prayers, please remember...**

Cyril Verling, Jenny Evans, Amanda Gender, Christopher Almeida, Anna Pearce, Mary Guinan, Maureen Logan, Mary McCrystal, Margaret Goldsworthy, Sophia Farmer, Janina Krokowska, Ann and Cyril Tomline, Terry Appleyard, Charlotte Pyatt, Val Claridge, Joan Russell and all the sick of the parish.



**CTS read of the month for May:**

**A brief History of English Catholicism**—discounted price of £1.00. On 4th May the Church celebrates the feast of the English martyrs who so bravely gave their lives for the Catholic faith in this country. This small booklet is a perfect way for parishioners to learn more about the rich and fascinating history of the Catholic faith in England.

**Road to Pentecost**, a prayer guide for Eastertide £2.50 per copy. A prayer guide leading you through a journey of 50 days of prayer and reflection in preparation for Pentecost.

**Heavenly Harrods**—We have a selection of confirmation cards and gifts and a selection of statues of Our Lady specially for the month of May, come and have a browse.

**Deputy Head Vacancy—St Edmund’s Catholic Primary School, Abingdon**

Our governors wish to appoint a committed, practising Catholic to join the established leadership team in our warm and welcoming school from September 2017 (January 2018 start would be considered), following the retirement of our current Deputy Head.

We are also currently advertising for a KS2 teacher for September 2017.

Further details of both posts are available on the school website or contact Mrs Berny Pratt, School Business Manager, for an application pack (01235 521558). Closing date for applications is 17th May 2017.

**Pastoral Area Youth Activities**

**Freedog in June**—There will be a pastoral area youth group trip to 'Freedog' in Swindon on **Saturday 10th June**. We will meet at Freedog (Urban Activity Centres, Unit 30, Techno Trading Estate, Kembrey Park, Bramble Road, Swindon, SN2 8HB. Tel. no. 01793 251555) at **1pm**. Parents and younger/older siblings are welcome to join us. A 1 hour session will cost around **£12** including the cost of jump socks. Please bring a packed lunch, or money to buy lunch or a snack.

For more information email [info@freedog.com](mailto:info@freedog.com) or Melanie at [tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Mission Boxes**—if you have a Mission Box, please bring it to church with you as soon as possible for counting. Thank you.

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**  
Kath Oldham—[katholdham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:katholdham@hotmail.co.uk)

**CTWA Prayer Cycle**  
Please pray for  
The Free Church, Brightwell cum Sotwell

**A Day of Recollection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**—will be held at Stonehill House OX14 4AA on Saturday 27th May., 10am—4pm. This day is compulsory for all existing and future ministers. New faculties will be issued for all ministers on the day. Please email [pcarroll@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:pcarroll@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to confirm your attendance, telephone 01235 520375.

**Flower Demonstration**—There will be a demonstration of arranging church flowers for a pedestal on Monday 22nd May at 2.30pm at St John’s Church in Wallingford, by Pam Seymour, a local experienced demonstrator. Refreshments will be served afterwards. If you are interested in flower arranging or may like to join our rotas, or if you are just interested, please do come. The demonstration is for both English Martyrs and St John’s. Please ring the parish office for more details, or speak to Gay Bosley.



**Secular Franciscan Order Day of Recollection, 3rd June**—to be held at Elmthorpe Convent, Oxford Road, Cowley. The theme of the day will be around ‘Evangelisation in the 21st century in the charism of St Francis of Assisi’. The day will include two spiritual talks, devotions, time for prayer and reflection, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. All welcome, begins 9.30am with refreshments until 4pm. Bring a packed lunch, refreshments available. Offerings gratefully received.

**Clifton Diocesan Annual Pilgrimage to Glastonbury**, 9th July 2017. Please see noticeboards at the back of both churches for details.

**The next Carmelite day** at Boars Hill is on Wednesday 31st of May after the 9:30 mass. It will be led by Sue Pacey OCDS and the title is 'Pauline: the spiritual mother of St. Therese of Lisieux'.

**Peace Actions for May**

- May is Mary’s month. Use Mary’s month to pray the rosary for peace.
- 13<sup>th</sup> May is ‘World Fair Trade Day’. It’s a good feeling to walk round the supermarket looking for the Fair Trade logo and knowing you are doing your little bit to help third world farmers thousands of miles away.

Churches Together in Britain and Ireland will be providing a website covering the response of the churches to the 2017 General Election taking place on 8 June 2017. Make sure you are making choices based on the needs of the poorest. Visit [ctbi.org.uk/general-election-2017](http://ctbi.org.uk/general-election-2017)



**English Martyrs Church** is open for prayer Tuesday to Friday mornings until 1pm. **If you have a key, please do not lock the church during these times.** Thank you.

*Telephone Number for SVP*

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

*Last week’s Collections:*  
**£1412**

*Thank you for your donations*