

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

The Lord became my protector.  
He brought me out to a place of freedom;  
he saved me because he delighted in me.

**First Reading:** Isaiah 49:14-15

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 61:2-3, 6-9

**Response:**

In God alone is my soul at rest.

**Second Reading:** I Cor 4:1-5

**Gospel Acclamation:**

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

**Gospel:** Matthew 6:24-34

**Communion Antiphon:**

I will sing to the Lord who has been  
bountiful with me,  
sing psalms to the name  
of the Lord Most High.

**MASS TIMES for the coming week**

**Saturday 25th February**

**Vigil Mass of the Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

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

**English Martyrs:** 6.30pm Elizabeth and Mathew Oglesby RIP, David Oglesby RIP and Phillip Oglesby RIP (Michelle and Doreen Wells)

**SUNDAY 26th February**

**The Eighth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**English Martyrs:** 9am Pro Populo

**St John's:** 11am

For a selection of photographs taken at the Consecration of English Martyrs last week-end, please see [www.thamesisis.org.uk](http://www.thamesisis.org.uk) (under Didcot). Thanks to Ellen Dickson for permission to use.

**Mass times for the coming week**

**MONDAY 27th February**

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

**TUESDAY 28th February**

**No Mass Today**

**WEDNESDAY 1st March—Ash Wednesday**

**English Martyrs:** 6.30am

**St John's:** 12.30pm

**English Martyrs:** 7.30pm

**THURSDAY 2nd March**

**St John's:** 9.30am Nikos Papadakis RIP (R Papadakis)

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

**FRIDAY 3rd March**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Mary Joan Obey RIP (R Perera)  
(Church open all day for private prayer)

**SATURDAY 4th March**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Eileen Doherty's welfare (Naughton family)

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

Weekend Masses as usual, plus additional Extraordinary Form Latin Mass at English Martyrs on Sunday 5th March, 7.30am



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)

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Parish Secretary: Mrs Joanna Robins

(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)

**26th February 2017**

**Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr A)**

We hear from Our Lord in this week's Gospel passage taken from the Sermon on the Mount that we cannot be slaves of both God and money. Being a slave is being deprived of one's freedom. What can Our Lord mean when he speaks of us being slaves of God or slaves of money?

Money is often seen as the way out of slavery: having a healthy economy is seen as the way by which a nation can improve the standard of living of its people and escape from poverty and debt. However, money can also be given undue importance in our lives and it is then that we can become enslaved to it. Being able to have the detachment that Jesus talks about is a challenge for us: "...do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself." How can we do this when we have a mortgage to pay, a family to look after, a car to run and so many other pressures?

Jesus' answer is trust. A trust that puts our perceived dependence on money into perspective: trust in God. God gives us everything: he has given us life, he has created us and the world around us. We are told to set our hearts on God's kingdom first and on his righteousness: then all that we need will be given to us. This level of trust in God means that money is a secondary concern for us: instead God asks us to keep him at the centre of our hearts and to let him rule our lives. In a positive sense we become slaves of God because we give him our free will, our time, our talents, our all, and trust him to guide us in everything.

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.



**Ash Wednesday** (1st March) is the first day of Lent, and the day we come to church to be reminded of our need to repent. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. We are reminded that fasting means cutting down on the amount of food we eat, abstinence means abstaining from something altogether.

**CAFOD Lent Fast day Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Florence is a hard working mother who has been helped by CAFOD's partner in Zambia to learn to become a fish farmer and so provided for her family, and give her children a brighter future by enabling them to go to school. Please support the CAFOD Lent fast day and ensure that more people like Florence can turn tiny fish into something amazing. Many thanks.

**Maryfield Convent – Catholic Residential Care Home**

**London Rd., Hook, Hampshire, RG27 9LA Tel: 01256 762394**

Maryfield is a residential care home that provides care and comfort to members of all religious denominations. Mass is celebrated daily in the convent chapel and the sisters and staff provide continuous, quality care, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. We presently have vacancies. If you would like to arrange a visit, or require further information, please call: 01256 762394 and speak to Trish Davies

**Witness**

Young people aged between 9 and 19 who enjoy singing and drama are invited to take part in WITNESS - a new musical for Easter by James Garnett. Taking part is free, and rehearsals will be on the first and second weekends in April at Trinity Church, Abingdon. The performance will be on Palm Sunday (9 April) at 4.00. Further details and a booking form are attached, and are also available from the [Trinity Abingdon website](http://Trinity Abingdon website). You are welcome to contact [james.garnett@tesco.net](mailto:james.garnett@tesco.net) with any questions.

**THE BIG SING** with John Bell . John Bell, the hymn writer and broadcaster from the Iona Community, will be leading a Big Sing at Wesley Memorial Methodist Church, New Inn Hall St, Oxford OX1 2DH on Saturday 25th March 7.30-9.30pm No musical experience needed. Please see poster in church porch for more details.

**CTS Read of the month for March: St Joseph Prayers and Devotion**

On 20th March the Church celebrates the feast of St Joseph, spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St Joseph is the patron saint of fathers, immigrants, workers, those seeking employment and a happy death. This pocket-sized booklet explains the life of St Joseph and contains a treasury of prayers to this beloved saint.

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**

Kath Oldham—[katholdham@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:katholdham@hotmail.co.uk)

**CTWA Prayer Cycle**

Please pray for  
Cholsey Free Church

**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.

**The Women's World Day of Prayer service** for the Wallingford area, is to be hosted this year by the Brightwell Free Church on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March, at 12.00.** The service has been written by the Christian women of The Philippines and the theme is, "Am I Being Unfair to You?" On this day, this service will be taking place in 170 countries and islands. The service is open to all – men and women – so please do come and take part, bring a neighbour or friend. The service lasts approx. one hour and refreshments will be served afterwards.

**Next Seniors' Lunch**—Thursday 9th March at midday. Sign up list at the back of English Martyrs. Please put your name down if you would like to attend.

**Talk on St John of the Cross**—Barbara Thacker will be giving this talk on Thursday 9th March, at 7.30pm, in the altar room at English Martyrs. All are welcome.

**Safeguarding Officer required—URGENT**—The voluntary post of Safeguarding Officer for both parishes has become available. If you can help in this role, please contact the parish office. Full training will be given. A big thank you to Kath Oldham for all her efforts over recent years.

**Carmelites**—The first of this year's Carmelite film evenings will be at the Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill on Monday 6th March at 7:00pm. The film will be "Risen" and will be followed by a discussion. The next Carmelite Day will be the 22nd of March. St. Elizabeth of the Trinity - to be another humanity for Christ. Led by Roderick Campbell-Guion OCDS.

**Are you celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> or Anniversary over 60 years?** If so Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of Celebration. This will take place at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2017** at 11 am. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. If you would like to come, please visit the Diocesan website <http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/anniversaries/> and complete the on-line form, Or send an email to [anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) Please note this address is not monitored daily and you may have to wait for a reply, so please be patient. Or contact Liz Murphy at St Bede's Parish office on 01256 465214 To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a **COPY** of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you complete the form. Alternatively send via email to above email address or by post to the following address:  
St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX  
Please mark envelope Significant Wedding Mass

*Telephone Number for SVP*

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

*Last week's Collections:*

**£1085**

*Thank you for your donations*