

**Mass Text for Christ the King****Entrance Antiphon**

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

**First Reading:** Daniel 7:13-14

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 92:1-2, 5

**Response:**

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.

**Second Reading:** Apocalypse 1:5-8

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 18:33-37

**Communion Antiphon:**

The Lord sits as King for ever.

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

**MASS TIMES****Saturday 24th November****Vigil Masses for Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**St John's:** 5:00pm Deceased members of the Clifford Family (N Clifford) (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 25th November****Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

**English Martyrs:** 9:00am Patrick and Mary Sexton RIP

**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 26th November**

No Mass in Didcot or Wallingford (please refer to East Hendred newsletter (www.thamesisis.org.uk) for details of Mass times at St Mary's)

**St John's:** 1pm Funeral Service for Tina Plazes RIP

**TUESDAY 27th November**

**St John's:** 9.30am Marvyn Piuenta RIP (Almeida family)

**WEDNESDAY 28th November**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Michael Ainger RIP (J Connolly) (followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction)

**English Martyrs:** 7.30pm Extraordinary Form Latin Mass Rosa Guinn's welfare

**THURSDAY 29th November**

**St John's:** 9.30am Jane Marie Gaffney RIP (G Snoxall)

**FRIDAY 30th November—St Andrew**

**No Mass Today**

**SATURDAY 1st December—St Edmund Campion**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am The Holy Father's Intentions (There will be no Sacrament of Reconciliation or reciting of the rosary this morning) 24 Hours Exposition begins following Mass

**Vigil Masses for the First Sunday of Advent**

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

**English Martyrs:** 6.30pm Mary Angela Evans RIP (J Wells)

**SUNDAY 2nd December****First Sunday of Advent**

**English Martyrs:** 7.30am Extraordinary Form Latin Mass Pro Populo

**English Martyrs:** 9am Lech Wieczorek RIP (Lazarus family)

**St John's:** 11am Sean Kenny RIP (D Tomas)



Thames ISIS  
Catholic Pastoral Area

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

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**21st November 2018**

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe**

What's the truth Jesus comes to bear witness to in this last Gospel of the Church's year? It's the truth that in Jesus, God keeps the promise He made to David of an everlasting kingdom, of an heir who would be His Son, "the first born, highest of the kings of the earth" (see [2 Samuel 7:12-16](#); [Psalm 89:27-38](#)).

Today's Second Reading, taken from the Book of Revelation, quotes these promises and celebrates Jesus as "the faithful witness." The reading hearkens back to Isaiah's prophecy that the Messiah would "witness to the peoples" that God is renewing His "everlasting covenant" with David (see [Isaiah 55:3-5](#)).

But as Jesus tells Pilate, there's far more going on here than the restoration of a temporal monarchy. In the Revelation reading, Jesus calls Himself "the Alpha and the Omega," the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. He's applying to Himself a description that God uses to describe Himself in the Old Testament—the first and the last, the One who calls forth all generations (see [Isaiah 41:4](#); [44:6](#); [48:12](#)).

"He has made the world," today's Psalm cries, and His dominion is over all creation (see also [John 1:3](#); [Colossians 1:16-17](#)). In the vision of Daniel we hear in today's First Reading, He comes on "the clouds of heaven"—another sign of His divinity—to be given "glory and kingship" forever over all nations and peoples.

Christ is King and His kingdom, while not of this world, exists in this world in the Church. We are a royal people. We know we have been loved by Him and freed by His blood and transformed into "a kingdom, priests for his God and Father" (see also [Exodus 19:6](#); [1 Peter 2:9](#)).

As a priestly people, we share in His sacrifice and in His witness to God's everlasting covenant. We belong to His truth and listen to His voice, waiting for Him to come again amid the clouds.

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, Rosa Maria Santos, Laurence Turner, Margaret Healy and all the sick and housebound of the parishes.



**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. More details from [tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**CHRIST THE KING – ‘YOUTH SUNDAY’**

Three years ago, thanks to a grant from the ‘Living our Faith’ Fund in the Diocese, Thames Isis Pastoral Area was able to appoint a Youth Worker – Melanie Parris-Dollar. Over these three years Melanie has worked hard, but in so large a Pastoral Area, she has not been able to be everywhere. Above all, in such a role, she cannot be expected to ‘take over’ all the work with young people – that work which is already happening thanks to volunteers running all sorts of programmes and activities in the five parishes. Indeed, it was never intended that she should do so.



The grant we have received from the Diocese for the last three years was given on the understanding that the parishes of the Pastoral Area would after that be able to fund the post themselves. Starting last month, this is the first year in which we have had to do so. It was a big new commitment for the parishes to take on, with an annual budget of £32,000 to cover salary and expenses, including some administrative help.

Last year, on this Sunday, with this in view we ran an Appeal in Didcot and Wallingford Parishes, and in Hinksey Parish. We avoided Abingdon and East Hendred, because they were engaged at the time in other major fund-raising efforts. We asked people whether they would be prepared to make a regular monthly contribution towards the Youth Worker post. As a result, we now have a direct income of £5,000. But that still leaves most of the cost to be borne by parish budgets. It has been pledged for this year, but we need to assure it for the future. Further regular contributions would be welcome. If you would like to help, there are leaflets and forms for completion at the back of the Church.

**Apostleship of the Sea – Stella Maris (Christmas Drive)**

As you may know the ships of the world which bring us the many goods we use each day do not stop operating over the Christmas Season. This means that the seafarers who live on-board these ships are also working over the Christmas period and they are very far from home and have no contact with friends and family. Each year the **Apostleship of the Sea (AoS)** seeks your kind donations of woolly hats, toberone chocolates as well as other personal items in support of the many seafarers who work upon the high seas. As well as those much needed items, **AoS** also invites the Faithful to donate any extra rosaries, bibles or small crucifixes. Financial donations are most welcomed as well. For more information on how you may be able to help, please contact your local parish **AoS** representative or Fr John Lavers ([john.lavers@stellamarismail.org](mailto:john.lavers@stellamarismail.org)). The website is: <https://www.apostleshipofthesea.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, Wallingford

**Christmas Raffle**—tickets will be on sale on 24th November, 1st and 8th December and will be drawn on 15th December, cost £1. Prizes on display in the church porch at English Martyrs.



**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.

**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.

**The next Youth Group meeting** will take place on 7th December at 7pm at English Martyrs. It will be a Quiz Night with Supper. Please put the date in your diaries.

**Next Senior’s Lunch will be on 6th December** at noon. Menu and sign up form are in the church porch at English Martyrs.

**Advance notice of Advent Penitential Service**—Tuesday 18th December at 7pm, at English Martyrs. Please put the date in your diaries.

**Christmas Hampers**—Didcot Baptist Church are organising the Christmas hampers this year and have asked for donations of chocolates no more than 500g in weight. We need a total of 55 boxes. They would also be happy to have help for packing of the hampers, which will take place on 14th December at Didcot Baptist Church. Thank you in advance.

**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.

**SVP – Donation of Toiletries for Nursing homes in Didcot and Wallingford**

The SVP will be distributing toiletries to local nursing homes in Didcot and Wallingford to give a gift to the residents for Christmas. Donations such as a bar of soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, shower gel, men’s toiletries etc. will be much appreciated. Boxes for donated items will be at the back of church at English Martyrs and St John’s from 24<sup>th</sup> November until December 16<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for your generosity.

**Advent My Day by Day booklet** now available from the back of church, cost £1.50.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the second collection last week for the Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Sri Lanka. Between both parishes we raised a total of £447.55.

**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 weekend Mass.

*Telephone Number for SVP*

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

*Last week’s Collection:  
£1420*

*Thank you for your donations*