

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Entrance Antiphon:

ALL that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading: Numbers 11:25-29

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 18:8, 10, 12-14. R. v9

Response:

The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

Second Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

Communion Antiphon: Cf.Ps 118:49-50

Remember your word to your servant,
O Lord,
by which you have given me hope.
This is my comfort when I am brought low.



English Martyrs
Vale of White Horse
Pastoral Area

**PARISHES OF
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**
www.didcotandwallingfordcatholicchurches.org

Parish Priest: Fr Phillip Harris, 15 Manor Crescent, Didcot OX11 7AJ
Telephone: 01235 812338

Office email: didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
(Parish Office in Presbytery open Tuesday—Friday 9am to 1pm approximately)
Fr Phillip's email: ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SATURDAY 25th SEPTEMBER Our Lady on Saturday

9.30am *English Martyrs Didcot* David Webster R.I.P. (G. Sayce)

Followed by Confessions

Confessions will take place prior to Vigil Mass St John's Wallingford

5.00pm *Vigil Mass St John's, Wallingford* **Visit of the Relic of St Edmund Campion** Pro Populo

6pm *Adoration before Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot*

6.30pm *Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot* **Visit of the Relic of St Edmund Campion**

Pat & Chris Watts R.I.P. (Foundation)

SUNDAY 26th SEPTEMBER Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am *Mass English Martyrs Didcot* Pro Populo

11.00am *Mass St John's, Wallingford* Arthur Roland Harris R.I.P.

MONDAY 27th SEPTEMBER St Vincent de Paul

TUESDAY 28th SEPTEMBER

12.00noon *Mass St John's Wallingford* Lily Annie Finch R.I.P. (Perpetuity)

WEDNESDAY 29th SEPTEMBER The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

9.30am *Mass English Martyrs Didcot* Tess Daukes R.I.P. (Foundation)

6.30pm *Extraordinary Form Latin Mass* Bobby McBride R.I.P. (A. Talbot)

THURSDAY 30th SEPTEMBER St Jerome

9:30 *Mass St John's Wallingford* Simeone Stone R.I.P. (Perpetuity)

FRIDAY 1st OCTOBER St Teresa of the Child Jesus

9.30am *Mass English Martyrs Didcot* Mary Guinan Intentions (A. Furlong)

English Martyrs Didcot will be open from 9.00am to 4pm for private prayer with Adoration between 3pm & 4pm everyone welcome.

SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER The Holy Guardian Angels

9.30am *English Martyrs Didcot* Private Intentions (A. Furlong)

Followed by Confessions

12.00noon *Baptism* Arley Cadar and Reya Fernando

Confessions will take place prior to Vigil Mass St John's Wallingford

5.00pm *Vigil Mass St John's, Wallingford*

5.50pm *Adoration before Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot*

6.30pm *Vigil Mass English Martyrs Didcot* Pro Populo

SUNDAY 3rd OCTOBER Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

7.30am *English Martyrs Extraordinary Form Latin Mass*

9.00am *Mass English Martyrs Didcot*

11.00am *Mass St John's, Wallingford* Pro Populo

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Today's Gospel begins with a scene that recalls a similar moment in the history of Israel, the episode recalled in today's First Reading. The seventy elders who receive God's Spirit through Moses prefigure the ministry of the Apostles.

Like Joshua in the First Reading, John makes the mistake of presuming that only a select few are inspired and entrusted to carry out God's plans. The Spirit blows where it wills (see John 3:8), and God desires to bestow His Spirit on all the people of God in every nation under heaven (see Acts 2:5, 38).

God can and will work mighty deeds through the most unexpected and unlikely people. All of us are called to perform even our most humble tasks, such as giving a cup of water, for the sake of His name and the cause of His kingdom.

John believes he is protecting the purity of the Lord's name. But, really, he's only guarding his own privilege and status. It's telling that the Apostles want to shut down the ministry of an exorcist. Authority to drive out demons and unclean spirits was one of the specific powers entrusted to the Twelve (see Mark 3:14-15; 6:7, 13).

Cleanse me from my unknown faults, we pray in today's Psalm. Often, like Joshua and John, perhaps without noticing it, we cloak our failings and fears under the guise of our desire to defend Christ or the Church.

But as Jesus says today, instead of worrying about who is a real Christian and who is not, we should make sure that we ourselves are leading lives worthy of our calling as disciples (see Ephesians 1:4).

Does the advice we give, or the example of our actions, give scandal—causing others to doubt or lose faith? Do we do what we do with mixed motives instead of seeking only the Father's will? Are we living, as this Sunday's Epistle warns, for our own luxury and pleasure while neglecting our neighbours?

We need to keep meditating on His Law, as we sing in today's Psalm. We need to pray for the grace to detect our failings and to overcome them.

Scott Hahn

Please make sure your mobile phone is turned off during Mass if you attend in person.

In your prayers, please remember: Jenny Evans, Mary Guinan, Maureen & John Logan Margaret Goldsworthy, Ann Tomline, Joan Walker, Terry Appleyard, Joan Russell, Rosa Maria Santos, Joan Turner, Nina Oakes, Jacob Oakes, Jidechi Ejiofor, Ellen Bailey, Liz Hawkes, Pat McLoughlin, Margaret Healy, Barry Molloy Ben Thomas , David Woodley, Anne O'Brien and all the sick and housebound of the parishes. 

DONATIONS & STANDING ORDERS Donating or setting up a standing order is easy to do, call our bank or go online if you can. Our bank account details: Account name: Portsmouth R C Diocesan Trustees Didcot & Wallingford Sort code 309304 Account no. 00876748. Many thanks for all your donations. If you would like to give electronically we now have a button on the website for donations to the parish or go to <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/english-martyrs--st-john-the-evangelist-didcot-and-wallingford-catholic-parish>

Your donation really does make a difference. Please do continue with your planned giving and if you don't have a standing order, could you kindly put your envelopes through the door of the parish office? Please let us know if you do set up a standing order – we can post or email Gift Aid declaration forms.

St John's Request July 2021. Project 21 Our aim is to make the frontage of St Johns Church more attractive in the hope that it will be more welcoming and also encourage more respect as a place of worship and tranquillity. There have been problems with refuse disposal and fouling over the past months and we wish to put an end to this. We would like to erect a new gate and low railings on top of the existing walls, to enclose a small garden area in front of the church entrance and would welcome any help, specifically in the technical drawings of this idea and garden layout to include planters and pots. If you have expertise in either of these areas we would love to hear from you. We have received a donation to get us started but would appreciate any offers of financial help. Please contact one of the team: Annemarie Bromley: 01491 201672 Ces Wheeler 01491 837260 or Sue Hunt 01491 835787.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 1st October

Our local experts are helping people all over the world adapt to climate change and to protect our common home. By donating to CAFOD this family fast day you can help communities affected by the worst impact of the climate crisis. Please donate by using the envelopes provided, online on our website CAFOD.org.uk/climatecrisis or by texting CAFOD10 to 70580 to donate £10 or choose any whole amount between £1 and £20 e.g. £5 CAFOD5 more information on the CAFOD leaflet. Many thanks for your support. Please take a leaflet and envelope and return next weekend after **Friday 1st October Fast Day**.

English Martyrs Church Didcot will be open from 09.00am to 4pm for private prayer with adoration between 3pm and 4pm, this **Friday 1st October**. All welcome.

Wednesday 3rd November at English Martyrs Didcot 6.30pm Extraordinary form mass will be sung (Missa Cantata) with Schola Abelis: Votive Mass for the unity of the Church.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR ALL THE LATEST NEWS AND GROUP ACTIVITIES.

SVP—If you know of anyone in need please call 01235 812338

The **St Vincent de Paul Society** helps to tackle poverty in all its forms through practical assistance. In order to help our local community we ran an appeal just before Christmas asking for your assistance, in donating items and money. This included a wide range of goods from furniture to white goods and clothes. **Thank you** so much for the generous offers we have already had, we are still processing the requests and matching items with needs. This work has highlighted that people in the area are in desperate need of assistance and we would appreciate further offers, including direct payments to the SVP account. **St Vincent De Paul Society, Account 46078231, sort code 60-60-04**. It is critically important that we continue to identify who needs support in the area too, so if you know of people in need please do get in touch with Fr Phillip. We would also like to take this opportunity to ask anyone who is interested in volunteering with the St Vincent de Paul society to let us know.

Reconciliation (Confessions): Please book an appointment by calling the parish office: 01235 812338 or attend after the Saturday 9.30am mass at English Martyrs Didcot, or before the Saturday 5pm mass at St John's Wallingford.

Father Andrew Byrne will continue to hear confessions at English Martyrs, on Wednesday evenings in the confessional, every fortnight, starting at 6pm, before and during mass. The next date is Wednesday 6th October then two weeks later.

This October, an 'Assisted Dying' Bill will be debated in the House of Lords. If successful it will allow a terminally ill adult with less than 6 months to live, assistance to commit suicide. The Catholic Church teaches that this represents a crime against human life, we cannot directly choose to take the life of another, even if they request it. The Bishops therefore urge you to **PRAY** this Bill is defeated, **WRITE** to Peers and MPs expressing concern about this proposed legislation and **SHARE** our resources and those of our allies, in the weeks ahead with family and friends, especially via social media. Guidance on how to write to politicians can be found here: parliament.uk/get-involved/contact-an-mp-or-lord/ Resources, which will be updated in the weeks ahead, can be found here: <http://www.cbcew.org.uk/life-issues/>

Dominic Knight from St Vincent De Paul (SVP) will be addressing the congregation on the weekend of 9th and 10th October. It has been a busy year for the local SVP, helping dozens of families and disbursing over £10,000 to those in need in the pandemic. It is an important time to let the parish know what we are doing, and try to get more participants, as well as raise funds.

A **BIG** thank you to all our bakers and helpers, who made the welcome weekend a great success, at both English Martyrs and St John's. It was lovely to meet socially again and catch up and a big thank you to everyone who helped made this happen.

Father Phillip

Parish Safeguarding Rep

Our Safety Officer for all adult and child safeguarding issues is Stefania Harford, please contact Stefania via the parish office on 01235 812338, if there is no response and in an emergency then dial 999.