

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

Entrance Antiphon: Sing a new song to the Lord; sing to the Lord, all the earth. In his presence are majesty and splendour, strength and honour in his holy place.

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5,10

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24:4-9. R. v.4

Response: Lord, make me know your ways

Second Reading: Corinthians 7:29-31

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

The kingdom of God is close at hand; believe the Good News.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Communion Antiphon: I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

SATURDAY 23rd January

9.30am *Janina Krokowska, RIP (Private Mass)*

5.00pm *St John's, Wallingford, (Vigil Mass) Pro Populo To book to attend, see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-johns-mass-tickets-117514359613> or contact the parish office.*

SUNDAY 24th January, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am *English Martyrs, Didcot Terence Hobin, RIP (H. Hobin) To book to attend, see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/english-martyrs-mass-tickets-112265930420> or contact the parish office. THIS MASS WILL BE LIVE-STREAMED—for live-streaming go to: www.facebook.com/English-Martyrs-and-St-John-the-Evangelist-Catholic-Churches-174623299248782/*

MONDAY 25th January The Conversion of St Paul

10.30am *Fr Albert van der Most, RIP (Private Mass, Brompton Oratory)*

TUESDAY 26th January St Timothy

12 noon *Margaret Cliffe, RIP (D Kennedy) (Private Mass)*

WEDNESDAY 27th January Feria

English Martyrs, Didcot 6pm Chris & Barbara Wilson, RIP (K & D Henderson) THIS MASS WILL BE LIVE-STREAMED—for live-streaming go to: www.facebook.com/English-Martyrs-and-St-John-the-Evangelist-Catholic-Churches-174623299248782/

THURSDAY 28th January St Thomas Aquinas

9.30am *Kristina Rapiet (Welfare) (M Logan) (Private Mass)*

FRIDAY 29th January Feria

9.30am *Holy Souls in Purgatory especially members of FOSS, RIP (D Kennedy) (Private Mass)*

SATURDAY 30th January Feria

9.30am *Fr Michael Feben, RIP (Private Mass)*

5.00pm *St John's, Wallingford, (Vigil Mass) Pro Populo To book to attend, see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-johns-mass-tickets-117514359613> or contact the parish office.*

SUNDAY 31st January, Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.00am *English Martyrs, Didcot Pat Furlong, RIP (A Furlong) To book to attend, see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/english-martyrs-mass-tickets-112265930420> or contact the parish office. THIS MASS WILL BE LIVE-STREAMED—for live-streaming go to: www.facebook.com/English-Martyrs-and-St-John-the-Evangelist-Catholic-Churches-174623299248782/*

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



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 e-mail: didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

(Parish Office in Presbytery open Wednesday mornings)

Fr Phillip's e-mail: ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

24th January 2021

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

The calling of the brothers in today's Gospel evokes Elisha's commissioning by the prophet Elijah (see 1 Kings 19:19–21).

As Elijah comes upon Elisha working on his family's farm, so Jesus sees the brothers working by the seaside. And as Elisha left his mother and father to follow Elijah, so the brothers leave their father to come after Jesus.

Jesus' promise—to make them “fishers of men”—evokes Israel's deepest hopes. The prophet Jeremiah announced a new exodus in which God would send “many fishermen” to restore the Israelites from exile, as once He brought them out of slavery in Egypt (see Jeremiah 16:14–16).

By Jesus' Cross and Resurrection, this new exodus has begun (see Luke 9:31). And the apostles are the first of a new people of God, the Church—a new family, based not on blood ties, but on belief in Jesus and a desire to do the Father's will (see John 1:12–13; Matthew 12:46–50).

From now on, even our most important worldly concerns—family relations, occupations, and possessions—must be judged in light of the Gospel, Paul says in today's Epistle. The first word of Jesus' Gospel—repent—means we must totally change our way of thinking and living, turning from evil, doing all for the love of God.

And we should be consoled by Nineveh's repentance in today's First Reading. Even the wicked Nineveh could repent at Jonah's preaching. And in Jesus we have “something greater than Jonah” (Matthew 12:41). We have God come as our saviour, to show sinners the way, as we sing in today's Psalm. This should give us hope—that loved ones who remain far from God will find compassion if they turn to Him.

But we, too, must continue along the path of repentance—striving daily to pattern our lives after His.

Scott Hahn



The Calling of Ss Peter & Andrew,
Giovanni Antonio Decio 1480

In your prayers, please remember: Jenny Evans, Christopher Almeida, 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, Bill and Liz Hawkes, Pat McLoughlin, Margaret Healy, Barry Molloy and all the sick and housebound of the parishes.



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>

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
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.

Year of St Joseph Pope Francis has made 2021 a Year of St Joseph, lasting from 8 December 2020 to 8 December 2021. We can, with confidence, entrust ourselves, our families, our homes and our parishes to this Patron of the Universal Church. The Holy Father has issued an apostolic letter, *Patris Corde*, which can be viewed online on the Vatican website.

Could you be a steward for public mass?

We urgently need more volunteers to help steward the public masses if they are to continue. Please contact the Parish Office or Fr Phillip if you can help.
Thank you very much to those who have helped thus far and those who continue to help.

As a parishioner, a disciple of Christ, a member of the lay faithful, what do you think is good about our Diocese? What should we celebrate? What do you think is not so good? And more.....

To complete the questionnaire formulated by the Diocese of Portsmouth, click [here](#). It will take 10 to 20 minutes. It can also be found on the diocesan website. There is a paper version for those unable to access the digital version: leave a message with name and address for Chris Smith our Director of Communications on 02394 216496.

Week of Prayer for **Christian Unity** runs from 18th to 25th January 2021.

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

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Please book an appointment by calling the parish office: 01235 812338

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

Live-Streamed Mass with Bishop Philip

I invite you to join me each weekday morning at 7.30 for Eucharistic Adoration, Morning Prayer and Mass. You can access the channel <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC0bt43XTTtWj7ypESnYBp0A>. The literatures are simple and will include a short holiday for the day. Thus on Wednesdays is in Latin. On Saturday, Mass from the Chapel is at 9am and on Sunday, we are in the Cathedral for mass at 12 noon. You can access the Cathedral channel <https://www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk/live-mass.php>

Respond to Department of Health consultation to stop home abortions!

The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step by step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation> The consultation ends on 26 February 2021.

A joint statement from the Catholic Bishops of England & Wales and Scotland has called on the UK Government to "**forsake its nuclear arsenal**" and to support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, which comes into force on Friday 22 January 2021. The statement quotes from a message from Pope Francis' to the UN calling the complete elimination of nuclear weapons a "moral and humanitarian imperative". It also urges the UK to "strengthen its arms control regulations, tackling the manufacture and sale of other weaponry, which continues to destroy so many lives throughout the world."

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have reminded us we need to sustain each other in our prayer. We are all invited to join a national shared moment of prayer each day at 6pm.

Vaccine Fraud Alert.

The Coronavirus vaccine is only available on the NHS and is free of charge. The NHS will never ask you for details about your bank account or to pay for the vaccine. If you receive an email, text message or phone call purporting to be from the NHS and you are asked to provide financial details, this is a scam.

This weekend we take the annual **collection in support of your Cathedral** in Portsmouth. Appeal envelopes are available at all masses for those who do not have gift aided planned giving envelopes for second collections. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family.

Due to the lockdown and restrictions being imposed on many people travelling, a 'Give as you Live' page has also been created to enable you to donate online at: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal>
Understandably, we all are aware that these are difficult times for us all, but please give generously to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible.

Parish Safeguarding Rep

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