

Mass Text

Entrance Antiphon:

The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power.

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71:1-2. 7-8. 10-13

Response: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Second Reading: St Paul Ephesians 3:2-3. 5-6

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

Communion Antiphon:

We have seen his star in the east and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

MASS TIMES

for the coming week

Saturday 7th January

First Mass of Sunday

St John's: 5pm

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Richard Saunders RIP
(P Saunders)

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

SUNDAY 8th January

The Epiphany of the Lord

English Martyrs: 9am Anne O'Brien's Intentions
(P&T)

St John's: 11am Pro Populo

MONDAY 9th January—The Baptism of the Lord

English Martyrs: 9.30am David and
Julie Lazarus' Intentions

TUESDAY 10th January

St John's: 9.30am Amanda Willcox's Intentions
(E Willcox)

WEDNESDAY 11th January

English Martyrs: 9.30am In thanksgiving (J&DL)
(Followed by Benediction and Exposition of the
Blessed Sacrament)

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Mass in memory of those
named on Jesse tree.

THURSDAY 12th January

St John's: 9.30am Clare Ginger's Intentions
(T Appleyard)

FRIDAY 13th January—St Hilary

English Martyrs: 9.30am John O'Sullivan RIP

SATURDAY 14th January

Our Lady on Saturday
English Martyrs: 9.30am Tess Daukes RIP
(R Frearson)

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



Thames ISIS

Catholic Pastoral Area

**WORSHIPPING COMMUNITIES OF
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot
and ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**

www.thamesisis.org.uk

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871

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8 January 2012

The Epiphany of the Lord

A Better Way

Everyone feels how bare everything looks when the Christmas decorations finally have to come down. The tree, the tinsel and the crib are all packed away and it's as though Christmas never happened. Before we know it, it's back to work and all the same old routines. We might wonder what was the point of it all. Some of us might even feel relieved that everything is back to 'normal'.

Today we hear again the story of the three wise men. The stopping of the star over the stable brought the three men to their 'journey's end', but was it really 'journey's end' when they had to go all the way back home again? The three men experienced something magical and mystical, but then they had to go all the way back home and get on with their everyday lives. Did they experience the same Christmas blues we experience once we have taken the tinsel down. Probably not! Like the first men to land on the moon, climb Everest or make a major discovery, the hearts of the wise men would be changed forever. If we get to the other side of Christmas and feel only relieved that it's all over, we have to ask ourselves what we've missed. If Christmas was a whirlwind of shopping and cooking and partying it's little wonder that we are glad it's all over. The Feast of the Epiphany is the time to dwell on the bit of Christmas we missed out. The three wise men invite us to dwell on the mystery, the promise and the beauty we find in the stable. As the hysteria of a commercial Christmas fades, the Epiphany is a second opportunity to celebrate Christmas in a better way.



St Amand's Catholic Primary School
St Mary's Road, East Hendred, Wantage, OX12 8LF Tel: 01235 833342
www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk

*St Amand's is your local Catholic primary school.
You are welcome to visit the school at any time during term time.*

Applications are welcome from children for all classes.
Please remember our school in your prayers.

Mass will be said in memory of those named on the Jesse tree at English Martyrs on Wednesday 11th January at 7.30pm.

Pope Benedict's Prayers Intention for January 2012 For Victims of Natural Disasters



Britain currently spends nearly £8bn a year on aid, and has committed to increase this to £11bn in the next few years. We can play an active part in making sure this figure keeps on rising. We can play a part by campaigning, by making donations to our own aid agencies, and by praying for those in decision-making roles. This month Pope Benedict invites us to pray ".....**That the victims of natural disasters may receive the spiritual and material comfort they need to rebuild their lives.**"

Peace Actions for January 2012

'Peace Sunday' is celebrated in England and Wales on 15th January 2012

January 18-25 Christian Unity Week. The 2012 theme is 'We will all be changed by the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ'. Find resources at 'Churches Together in Britain & Ireland,' www.ctbi.org.uk

Mark Holocaust Memorial Day on 27 January. Resources are available from Beth Shalom Holocaust Centre (www.bethshalom.com)

Poverty & Homelessness Action Week 28th January - 5th February 2012.
Work with 'Church Action on Poverty' in Poverty and Homelessness Action Week to break the barriers that trap people in poverty and homelessness.



We are currently seeking a new Safeguarding Representative for English Martyrs, as our previous representative has now moved out of the parish. If you are interested in taking on this very important role, please speak to Fr David.

Parish Safeguarding Reps

English Martyrs: Eileen McKeever—Tel: 01235 769373
St John's: Tania Bevis— e-mail: taniabevis@hotmail.com

CTWA Prayer Cycle

Please pray for St Agatha's and St James',
Brightwell-cum-Sotwell

Thank you

May I take this opportunity to thank you all most sincerely for all the very kind Christmas gifts this year. I was overwhelmed by your continued generosity. Thank you also to those who helped to make the Christmas season so special this year. It was lovely to see so many people involved in preparing the church with decorations, flowers and cleaning. Special thanks to the 'flower team' who worked overtime to make the church look so beautiful. May God continue to shower his many blessings upon you and your families over the next year and may the blessed Mother intercede for you all.

The 'Year of Faith'

Pope Benedict XVI has declared a 'Year of Faith' which will begin in October 2012, the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. Announcing the Year, the Pope said 'It will be a moment of grace and commitment to a more complete conversion to God, to strengthen our faith in Him and proclaim Him with joy to the people of our time.' Continuing, the Holy Father said that he intends the year to give 'new impetus to the mission of the whole Church to lead men out of the desert in which they often find themselves, to the place of life, of friendship with Christ.'

Pax Christi—The Peace of Christ

The work of Pax Christi is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Their vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in all its forms. Rooted in Catholic Christianity, they work with all who share their values to abolish war and create communities of peace and justice. Next Sunday is Peace Sunday. Please consider contributing towards Pax Christi's valuable work. More information from www.paxchristi.org.uk. Envelopes available at the back of church. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

Would you like to be the Area Rep for Wallingford on the Area Leadership Team? A new member is needed. Meetings once every six weeks. Interested? See Fr David.

Thank you to all those who supported and helped out at the Children's Christmas parties held in both churches. We had a great turn out and a wonderful time was had by all.

Bitesize

Each new day is a blank page in the diary of your life. The secret of success is in turning that diary into the best story you possibly can.

Douglas Pagels, A Wonderful Resolution For The New Year!

English Martyrs and St John's

Last Week's Collections

£1284.41 61% GA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS