

Mass Text for the Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Entrance Antiphon:

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; be my help.

Do not abandon or forsake me,
O God, my Saviour!

First Reading: Ezekiel 17:22-24

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 91:2-3, 13-16

Response:

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

Second Reading: II Cor 5:6-10

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 4:26-34

Communion Antiphon

There is one thing I ask of the Lord,
only this do I seek:
to live in the house of the Lord
All the days of my life.

MASS TIMES for the coming week

SATURDAY 16th June

Vigil Masses for Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

St John's: Sacrament of Reconciliation:
4:30-4:50pm

St John's: 5:00pm Eithne Naughton RIP
(A Johns)

(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from
4.30pm)

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Pro Populo
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at English
Martyrs 5:50-6:20pm)

SUNDAY 17th June
Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

English Martyrs: 9:00am For our First Holy
Communion children

St John's: 11:00am Pro Populo

Mass times for the coming week
(English Martyrs is open mornings, Tuesday to
Friday 9.15am-1pm, for private prayer)

MONDAY 18th June

Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 19th June

No Mass today

WEDNESDAY 20th June

No Mass this morning

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form
Latin Mass Fr Sean Hearty RIP

THURSDAY 21st June—St Aloysius Gonzaga

St John's: 9.30am Tom Jeffery's Intentions
(C Jeffery)

FRIDAY 22nd June—SS John Fisher and
Thomas More

English Martyrs: 9.30am Harry Kinsella's
Intentions (B Kinsella)

SATURDAY 23rd June—Our Lady on Saturday

English Martyrs: 9.30am Eithne Naughton RIP
(D Lazarus)

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

Weekend Mass times as usual



PARISHES OF
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford
www.thamesisis.org.uk

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Telephone: 01235 812338
Office e-mail: didcot@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

(Parish Office in Presbytery open Tuesday to Friday mornings for all enquiries)
Fr Phillip's e-mail: ppharris@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

17th June 2018
Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B)

Today, many of our young people will be making their First Holy Communion. Receiving the Lord Jesus in Holy Communion is one of the greatest gifts we have been given in the Church, for we believe that when Jesus said, "This is my Body" over the bread and "This is my Blood" over the wine, he meant exactly what he said. The bread and the wine become Jesus himself, his Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. What a wonderful gift he has given us as his disciples! – nothing less than his presence with us, which we can receive every time we come to Mass.

In this week's Gospel, Jesus explains that the kingdom of God is like the seed that is sown on the land that sprouts, grows and matures until it is ready for the harvest. We can understand this parable at two different levels. Firstly, it describes how God's kingdom is growing and coming to fruition in our world. The seed that is sown is the Good News of Jesus Christ, proclaimed in every generation, gathering more and more people into the Church until that great harvest time when Christ will come again.

But the parable also describes how God's kingdom grows and comes to fruition in each one of us. We receive the Good News in our lives: like a little seed that finds a dark, warm place to grow, God's word begins to grow in our lives, to sprout and to take root, and eventually to bear fruit – if we are open to him. What better illustration can we have of this than so many of our young people receiving the Lord Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion?

Let us all today give thanks to God that he loves us so much that he chose to come among us in Jesus, who gave himself for us on the Cross as the Sacrifice to save us, and who continues to give himself in that same Sacrifice at every Mass so that we may know that he is always with us. Especially today, let us pray for our First Holy Communion children, that they may always trust in the Lord Jesus who feeds and nourishes them with his very self and that they may continue to grow in love of him and of his Church and bear much fruit.

Fr Phillip

In your prayers, please remember:

Jenny Evans, Amanda Gender, 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, Martin Connolly, Rosa Maria Santos, and all the sick and housebound of the parish.



ADVANCE NOTICE of CANCELLATION OF 11am MASS AT ST JOHN'S, Sunday 8th July. Please note that there will be no 11Mass on this day due to the closure of the town centre for the Festival of Cycling.

Appointment of Refugee Project Development Officer within the Diocese

In 2015 many of us with our Bishop were concerned about the unfolding tragedy of Syrian refugees who were compelled to leave their homeland seeking safety and a new life. Responding to this crisis our Bishop created the Diocesan Refugee Response Working Group (DRRWG), chaired by Fr John Lee and Fr Peter Hollins, with a variety of interested volunteer members, and asked them to explore how the Diocese can and should respond to this crisis. In addition to creating educational resources for parishes (available at www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/rrwg), this group wrote a detailed and robust proposal for a project, in which the Diocese would be the lead sponsor on Community Sponsorship for Syrian refugees. As part of this, they recommended the recruitment of a Refugee Project Development Officer and detailed the specifications for this role. This officer will assist interested parishes, pastoral areas or other community groups to put in applications to directly sponsor a Syrian family through the Community Sponsorship Scheme. We are delighted to announce the appointment of Rosemary Lennon to the newly-created post of Refugee Project Development Officer. We will be hearing from Rosemary in a future edition of Enews.

Would you like to be involved with the Children's Liturgy Group at 9am Mass at English Martyrs?

It would be helpful to have more people involved especially on a regular basis or even just when you are available. We often have a large group and need people to help with activities, reading the Gospel or prayers with the children. Please consider joining us, it will be a rewarding experience. (DBS check will be required) Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.

Also required.... Volunteers to help out with the Children's Liturgy Group at St John's 11am Mass. We are currently short of help at St John's and would welcome volunteers who could contribute towards the running of children's sessions. Contact the Parish office for details.

Thames Isis Pastoral Area Youth Events—The final TIPA youth event before this summer will be a **Spy Trail in Oxford on Saturday 21st July (not 7th July as previously advertised)**. We'll meet at 10am in the Oxford Ice Rink car park. Completing the Trail will take approximately 2.5 hours. We'll aim to have lunch at Nando's (£10 per child) around 1/1:30pm and return to the Oxford Ice Rink for collection by 3pm. To avoid disappointment, let Melanie Parris-Dollar know by **Monday 25th June** if your youngsters would like to come because places are limited. Email tipayouthadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

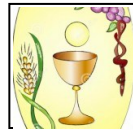
Carmelite Day at Boars Hill—'What Makes Carmel so Distinctive and Beautiful' on Wednesday 27th June, 10.30am- 4pm. Mass at 9.30am. Just turn up on the day. Lunch provided. Donations welcome.

Parish Safeguarding Rep

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

CWTA Prayer Cycle

Please pray for St Mary's Church, Crowmarsh



Congratulations to the children of both parishes who will be receiving their First Holy Communion on Sunday. Please pray for them as they continue their journey of faith.

Weigh the Cake Fund Raiser—this will take place at English Martyrs over the weekends of 9/10 June and 16/17 June, and the draw will be 23/24 June. All entries welcome!

24 Hours Adoration at English Martyrs—unfortunately due to lack of volunteers this has been postponed. A new date will be given soon.



The next Senior's Lunch will be held on 28th June at English Martyrs, 12 Noon. Please sign up on the list in the church porch if you would like to attend.

The SVP are holding a Cream Tea on Friday 29th June (Feast of SS Peter & Paul) from 2.30pm to 4.30pm. There will be no charge but donations would be appreciated as this is a fund raising event for the work of the SVP. Please put the date in your diary. It will be a wonderful way to celebrate this great feast day.



Joint Parish BBQ and Welcome Weekend, Revised date of

Sunday 9th September — We are looking for volunteers to help run this event. If you enjoy the BBQ and would like to see it take place this year, please consider helping out on the organising team. If we don't have enough people who can help to run it, it will not take place. Please contact the parish office for more details.

St John's First Communion Celebration Sunday 24th June 11 a.m. Mass

If you are able to help provide refreshments or help with catering on the day, it will be very welcome. There is a form at the back of St John's to fill in. Thank you so much for helping to make this a special day for the children.

RCIA course starting in mid-September—If you know of anyone who would like to become a Catholic, or if you are already a Catholic and would like to attend a refresher course, Fr Phillip will be running the next RCIA course after the summer. Please contact the Parish Office to sign up.

Final Reminder for the **Significant Wedding Anniversary Mass** to be held at St. Bede's Church, Basingstoke on Saturday 30th June at 11 am. Please contact Email: anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk, or telephone St. Bede's Parish Office: (01256 465214) if you would like to attend.

Telephone Number for SVP

If you know of anyone in need please call 07580539765.

Last week's Collection: £1362

Second Collection this weekend: Day for Life
Thank you for your donations