

Mass Text for the First Sunday of Lent

Entrance Antiphon:

When he calls on me, I will answer him;
I will deliver him and give him glory,
I will grant him length of days.

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-15

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 24:4-9

Response:

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading: I Peter 3:18-22

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes from the mouth of
God.

Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

Communion Antiphon

One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth
of God.

MASS TIMES for the coming week

SATURDAY 17th February

Vigil Masses for the First Sunday of Lent

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 4:30-4:50pm

St John's: 5:00pm Pro Populo

English Martyrs: 6.30pm Molly Lehey RIP

(B Kinsella)

(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at English

Martyrs 5:50-6:20pm)

SUNDAY 18th February

First Sunday of Lent

English Martyrs: 9:00am Pro Populo

St John's: 11:00am Tim O'Rourke RIP

(P O'Rourke)

Mass times for the coming week

**(English Martyrs is open mornings, Tuesday to
Friday 9.15am-1pm, for private prayer)**

MONDAY 19th February

Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

TUESDAY 20th February

No Mass at St John's this morning—

Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am

WEDNESDAY 21st February

**No Mass at English Martyrs this morning—Mass
at St Mary's, East Hendred, 12.15pm**

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form

Latin Mass—Meliton A de Guzman RIP (E Sanders)

THURSDAY 22nd February—The Chair of St Peter

St John's: 9:30am Mike Smith's Intentions

(A Watson)

English Martyrs: 7.30pm Extraordinary Form

**Latin Mass (sung—Schola Abelis) William and
Elizabeth King RIP**

FRIDAY 23rd February

English Martyrs: 9.30am Antonia Cruz RIP

(Perlita)

SATURDAY 24th February

English Martyrs: 9.30am

George Pennington Harris (Jnr) RIP

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

Weekend Mass times as usual



**PARISHES OF
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford**
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18th February 2018
First Sunday of Lent (Yr B)

Lent bids us to return to the innocence of Baptism. As Noah and his family were saved through the waters of the deluge, we were saved through the waters of Baptism. Peter reminds us in today's Epistle. God's covenant with Noah in today's First Reading marked the start of a new world. But it also prefigured a new and greater covenant between God and His creation (see [Hosea 2:20](#); [Isaiah 11:1-9](#)).

We see that new covenant and that new creation begin in today's Gospel.

Jesus is portrayed as the new Adam—the beloved son of God (see [Mark 1:11](#); [Luke 3:38](#)), living in harmony with the wild beasts (see [Genesis 2:19-20](#)), being served by angels (see [Ezekiel 28:12-14](#)).

Like Adam, He too is tempted by the devil. But while Adam fell, giving reign to sin and death (see [Romans 5:12-14](#), [17-20](#)), Jesus is victorious.

This is the good news, the “gospel of God” that He proclaims. Through His death, resurrection, and enthronement at the right hand of the Father, the world is once again made God's kingdom.

In the waters of Baptism, each of us entered the kingdom of His beloved Son (see [Colossians 1:13-14](#)). We were made children of God, new creations (see [2 Corinthians 5:7](#); [Galatians 4:3-7](#)).

But like Jesus, and Israel before Him, we have passed through the baptismal waters only to be driven into the wilderness—a world filled with afflictions and tests of our faithfulness (see [1 Corinthians 10:1-4](#), [9,13](#); [Deuteronomy 8:2,16](#)).

We are led on this journey by Jesus. He is the Savior—the way and the truth we sing of in today's Psalm (see [John 14:6](#)). He feeds us with the bread of angels (see [Psalm 78:25](#); [Wisdom 16:20](#)), and cleanses our consciences in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

As we begin this holy season, let us renew our baptismal vows—to repent and believe the Gospel.
Scott Hahn

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, Terry Appleyard, Val Claridge, Joan Russell, Audrey Edwards, Martin Connolly, Rosa Maria Santos, and all the sick and housebound of the parish.

The National Novena to St Joseph will take place 10-18 March at St Joseph’s Church in Maidenhead and at Herbert House, Freshfield, Liverpool. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God’s blessing on their society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer. Please write to Fr Liam Cummins MHM, St Joseph’s Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT or email novenamhm@gmail.com

Called and Gifted is coming to our area again! This process has been running for over 3 years around the diocese. It is about helping parishioners discover their calling, beyond that of being for example a parent, spouse or what you do at work. Your call is about using the particular gifts or charisms given to you when you were baptised. These charisms are the most fruitful way that we can love and serve others in our daily life. You can read much more on the diocese website www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/calledandgifted or ring Clare Simpson 01235 847804 to talk further or book a place. Clare can also connect you with parishioners who have already done it. It starts on Saturday 10th March 9am - 4pm in Abingdon.

CAFOD’s Family fast day is on Friday 23rd February. Please can you give up a meal or eat simple meal and then put what you saved in the CAFOD family fast day envelope to help those who go hungry every day. This Lent your donation will make the double the difference. For every pound you donate the UK Government will also donate a pound up to total of £5 million meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. So please give generously and help us raise £5 million. Please collect your Fast day envelope from your church (*fill in date of collection.*) Many thanks for your



Food Bank—Donations for the food bank are always welcomed—a list of items needed is on both church noticeboards. A box is at the back of church for donations. Items are collected and delivered to the Wallingford and Didcot food banks on a regular basis, and distributed from there to the needy of the area. Thank you in advance for your support

Prayer Requests

If you would ever like prayer for your own intention, for your parish or for any need, do go to the home page of the diocese website (www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk), scroll down to the “prayer request” button, where you can leave an anonymous request which will go to 40 intercessors throughout the diocese.

Parish Safeguarding Rep

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

CWTA Prayer Cycle

Please pray for The Free Church, Brightwell

Thank you to all those who helped with the preparations for the Bishop’s visit to bless our new stained glass windows and organ on Friday evening. Thanks especially to the musicians, those who helped make and serve refreshments and to those who worked so hard getting the church clean.

The Youth Group will be meeting on Friday 23rd February, 7pm-9pm in the hall at St Johns for a science evening. Any new members welcome aged 10+ to come along and join in. Refreshments will be provided. If any further information is required, please contact Andy Robins via the parish office

SVP SOUP LUNCHES

The dreadful famine in South Sudan continues To help alleviate the suffering of children the SVP are once more running the Lenten Soup Lunches with the proceeds going to the Baby Feeding Centres in the Sudan. These lunches start next Friday 23rd February from 12.00. at St John's. Please support if you are able to.

Women’s World Day of Prayer, 2nd March 2018

The service this year for the Wallingford area is being held at The Methodist Church, in St Leonard’s Square, Wallingford, on Friday 2nd March, at 6.30pm.

The service has been prepared by the Christian women of Suriname (situated in north east South America) and the theme is “All God’s Creation is Very Good”. On March 2nd the service will be celebrated in 170 countries and islands and in the British Isles where some 6,000 services will be taking place. Men, women and children are all welcome to attend so please do come and perhaps invite a friend or neighbour too.

Tea and cake will be provided after the service, which lasts about one hour.

Easter Raffle at English Martyrs—Tickets will be on sale for the Easter Raffle 3/4th, 10/11th and 17/18th March. It will be drawn on the 18th March.

A Lenten Recollection Day at Littlemore will be led by Fr. Paul King on Saturday 3rd of March 10:00 until 4:00pm. Numbers permitting we will have Mass in the Newman Chapel at 10 :00am. Tea and coffee provided but bring a packed lunch. Please put your name down on the form at the back of church if you would like to attend.

Telephone Number for SVP

If you know of anyone in need please call 07580539765.

Last week’s Collection:

£1469

Thank you for your donations