

**Mass Text for the Mass of the Nativity of John the Baptist (Vigil Mass)**

**Entrance Antiphon**

He will be great in the sight of the Lord and will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb; and many will rejoice at his birth.

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 1:4-10

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 70:1-6, 15, 17

**Response:**

From my mother's womb you have been my help.

**Second Reading:** I Peter 1:8-12

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

He came as a witness,

As a witness to speak for the light, preparing for the Lord a people fit for him.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 1:5-17

**Communion Antiphon:**

Blessed be the Lord, The God of Israel!  
He has visited his people and redeemed them.

**MASS TIMES for the coming week**

**SATURDAY 23rdth June**

**Vigil Masses for The Nativity of John the Baptist**

**St John's:** Sacrament of Reconciliation:

4:30-4:50pm

**St John's:** 5:00pm Pro Populo

(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 4.30pm)

**English Martyrs:** 6.30pm Eithne Naughton RIP (Naughton family)

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

**SUNDAY 24th June**

**The Nativity of John the Baptist**

**English Martyrs:** 9:00am Alan Dyball RIP (J Krokowska)

**St John's:** 11:00am Tom Jeffery's Intentions (C Jeffery)

**Mass times for the coming week**

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

**MONDAY 25th June**

**Mass at St Mary's East Hendred, 9.15am**

**Mass during the day (Sunday)**

**Entrance Antiphon**

A man was sent from God, whose name was John.

He came to testify to the light, to prepare a people fit for the Lord.

**First Reading:** Isaiah 49:1-6

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 138:1-3, 13-15

**Response:**

I thank you for the wonder of my being.

**Second Reading:** Acts 13:22-26

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, Alleluia!

As for you, little child, you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High.

You shall go ahead of the Lord

To prepare his ways before him.

Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 1:57-66, 80

**Communion Antiphon:**

Through the tender mercy of our God, the Dawn from on high will visit us.

**TUESDAY 26th June**

**St John's:** 9.30am Gilly Snoxall's Intentions

**WEDNESDAY 27th June**

**St John's:** 9.30am Eithne Naughton RIP

(D & M Healy)

**English Martyrs:** 7.30pm Extraordinary Form

Latin Mass

**THURSDAY 28th June—St Irenaeus**

**St John's:** 9.30am Peter Hogan's Intentions

(C Jeffery)

**FRIDAY 29th June—SS Peter and Paul**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Eithne Naughton RIP

(M O'Connor)

**St John's:** 12 Noon Elizabeth Jane King RIP

**English Martyrs:** 7.30pm Extraordinary Form

Latin Mass William Bertie King RIP

**SATURDAY 30th June—Our Lady on Saturday**

**English Martyrs:** 9.30am Mrs Picta (Perp)

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

**Mass times for the weekend as usual, plus**

**Extraordinary Form Latin Mass on Sunday 1st**

**July at 7.30am at English Martyrs**



Thames ISIS  
Catholic Pastoral Area

PARISHES OF  
THE ENGLISH MARTYRS, Didcot  
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Wallingford

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**24th June 2018**

**The Nativity of John the Baptist (Yr B)**

“What will this child turn out to be?” asked those who heard of John's birth. John was, of course, to be a herald - a herald who knew exactly his role: to prepare people for the one who was coming. The baptism of repentance that John proclaimed did precisely this, producing that change of heart and life that was going to be needed for someone to welcome Jesus.

John, however was humble too: he knew his role and he knew his position in relation to Jesus. He admitted that he was not even fit to undo his sandal. Why? Because as a herald, he was simply showing people the way. He was not the way himself.

John pointed and prepared the way for Jesus then, and today he continues to do the same, for the Church has enshrined his words of recognition at one of the most profound moments in our Mass: *Ecce Agnus Dei, ecce qui tollit peccata mundi* - Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world - we hear these words of John as we fall on our knees before Jesus, present before our eyes in the Blessed Sacrament just before receiving him in Holy Communion. John continues to point us to Jesus. He points us to who Jesus is and what he has done for us, for it is Jesus who is the Lamb of God who takes away our sins: it is Jesus who is his Saviour and our Saviour.

We are called to listen to John's message and recognise Our Lord; and we are called to imitate John. We imitate him in his recognition of who Jesus is; we imitate him in his humility, for we fall on our knees. But we also imitate him in pointing others to the Lord, for each one of us is sent out from here as a herald of the Lord to others. May we, like John the Baptist always be true heralds of the Lord Jesus.

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.

**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.

**The final Thames Isis Pastoral Area 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. To book or for more information email [tipayouthadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tipayouthadmin@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or [tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:tipayouth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Peace Actions for June 2018**

- Remember in your prayers all those who suffer in prison for their beliefs.
  - The UN Day for Victims of Torture is on 26th June. Consider joining a campaign group such as 'Action by Christians Against Torture.' [www.acatuk.org.uk](http://www.acatuk.org.uk)
- 18th -24th June is 'Refugee Week.' This year's theme is "20th Anniversary", '20 years of celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees.' Refugee Week aims to encourage a better understanding of Britain's proud history of giving sanctuary to people escaping persecution, and to highlight the many ways in which refugees have contributed to, and become part of, our rich history and heritage. Visit [www.refugeeweek.org.uk](http://www.refugeeweek.org.uk) to see how you could get involved.

*Please make sure your mobile phone is turned off during Mass.*

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**

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

**CWTA Prayer Cycle**

Please pray for St John's, Wallingford



Thank you to all those who helped out in every way with our First Holy Communion celebrations. A special huge 'thank you' to Mary Harrison and her team for all her hard work and commitment with the preparation of our young people. It was a wonderful occasion. Please continue to pray for our candidates, who will be receiving their certificates this weekend.

**The SVP are holding a Cream Tea** on Friday 29th June (Feast of SS Peter & Paul) from 2.30pm to 4.30pm at St John's. 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.

**Didcot Fayre, 4th August**—we have a table booked at this event and are looking for volunteers to help man the stall between midday and 5pm. We are also looking for donations of cakes and plants to sell. If you can help at all, please sign up on the list at the back of English Martyrs this weekend. Thank you.

**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.

**Men's Group**—On the fourth Wednesday of the month the Men's group meet to discuss their faith. We will be meeting after the latin mass on Wednesday 27 June at English Martyrs where the topic of spiritual battle will be considered, all Men welcome! Ps 21.15 I am poured out like water; and all my bones are scattered. My heart is become like wax melting in the midst of my bowels.'

**ADOREMUS YOUTH CONGRESS. Saturday 8th Sept 11.30am-5.30pm. Liverpool Echo Area-Auditorium. Cost £10.** Parishes and schools are invited to send young people to the Adoremus Youth Congress which has been developed to compliment the main event. The keynote speaker at the Youth Congress is Katie Prejean, from Louisiana. In the afternoon there will be youth streams for those 13-15, 16-17, 18-20 year of age. The aim of the day is to help young people to live the Eucharist through witness, proclamation, care for the broken in society and love for the planet. The day features CJM, Rise Theatre, Cardinal Nichols, CAFOD, Animate, Salesians, Joel's Bar-One Hope Project. There will be an opportunity to highlight the Synod on young people which will be happening in October of this year. Resources to help prepare for the event of available on the Adoremus Youth website. Young people whatever their church background will have a positive experience on the day. To book places go to [adoremusyouth.co.uk](http://adoremusyouth.co.uk)

**Day for Catechists - 20th October 2018** at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth. Further information: [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/catechists)

*Telephone Number for SVP*

If you know of anyone in need please call 07580539765.

*Last week's Collection:*

*£1469*

*Thank you for your donations*