

Lyford Grange Pilgrimage

John Lynn, Knights of St Columba Pilgrimage Coordinator, draws our attention to this year's St Edmund Campion Pilgrimage Mass. The first Pilgrimage Mass is at Stonor on Sunday 7th May with Lyford Grange on Sunday 25th June and Tyburn Convent Mass on Sunday 23rd July.



This year Fr Liam Cummins (MHM) of St Edmund Campion Parish, Maidenhead, Canon Peter Turbitt (retired) and, hopefully, Fr David O'Sullivan from St John Vianney, Wantage will be the celebrants for the St Edmund Campion Pilgrimage Mass to be held in the Tythe Barn at Lyford Grange, near Wantage on Sunday 25th June 2023 at 4.00pm. It was at the Grange that the Jesuit priest Edmund Campion was captured before being shackled to a cart and dragged through the Thames Valley to London and put on trial. Campion was subsequently hanged, drawn, and quartered with Alexander Briant and Ralph Sherwin on 1st December 1581. No Mass was held at the Grange in 2022 but the Tythe Barn has now been refurbished. The traditional Rosary procession from the St Mary the Virgin village church will not take place this year because of ongoing work in the Grange farmyard but if the weather is right then pilgrims should assemble at the barn at 3.30pm and a short local Rosary procession will be held before Mass at 4.00pm. For those pilgrims joining the Lyford pilgrimage by car, please park at Lyford Grange (OX12 0EQ).

The choir will be formed from parishioners of St John Vianney, Wantage and Fr Liam's Maidenhead parish and will welcome any new pilgrims to this annual Mass. There will be refreshments after the Mass. Further details from John Lynn by email johnlynn1@live.co.uk, or telephone: 07931-292934.

Background to St Edmund Campion Pilgrimage: In the late 1960's Mgr Hume, Fr Tiger SJ and Fr Woodard of Our Lady of Peace, Burnham decided to organise a pilgrimage with St Edmund Campion's Relic supporting the Canonisation of a group of representative English and Welsh Roman Catholics who were martyred between 1535 and 1679; they were selected from 200 already beatified by earlier Popes. On 25th October 1970, Pope Paul VI Canonised St Edmund Campion as one of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales.

After the canonisation of the Martyrs, it was decided to carry on this act of worship for Christian Unity and Peace. The Knights of St Columba were asked to organise the annual pilgrimage with the Relic resting at churches overnight following as near as possible the route Campion took on his way from Lyford Grange in Oxfordshire - where he was captured, to Tyburn in London where he was put to death. The route includes Stonor where there is a

Chaplaincy where Campion was a junior fellow at St John's College. This year's schedule includes Masses at 49 churches on the route and passes through Portsmouth, Birmingham, Northampton and Westminster Dioceses on its fifty-five-day journey (7th May – 23rd July). Details of this year's pilgrimage schedule may be found at

Knowing God

Jesus has been taken up into heaven as we begin today's First Reading. His disciples—including the Apostles and Mary—return to the upper room where He celebrated the Last Supper (see Luke 22:12).

There, they devote themselves with one accord to prayer, awaiting the Spirit that He promised would come upon them (see Acts 1:8).

The unity of the early Church at Jerusalem is a sign of the oneness that Christ prays for in today's Gospel. The Church is to be a communion on earth that mirrors the glorious union of Father, Son, and Spirit in the Trinity.

Jesus has proclaimed God's name to His brethren (see Hebrews 2:12; Psalm 22:23). The prophets had foretold this revelation: a new covenant by which all flesh would have knowledge of the Lord (see Jeremiah 31:33–34; Habakkuk 2:14).

By the new covenant made in His blood and remembered in every Eucharist we know God as our Father. This is the eternal life Jesus promises.

And this is the light and salvation we sing of in today's Psalm.

As God made light to shine out of darkness when the world began, He has enlightened us in Baptism, making us new creations (see 2 Corinthians 5:17), giving us knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ (see Hebrews 10:32; 2 Corinthians 4:6).

Our new life is a gift of "the Spirit of glory," we hear in today's Epistle (see John 7:38–39). Made one in His name, we are given a new name—"Christians"—a name used only here and in two other places in the Bible (see Acts 11:16; 26:28). We are to glorify God, though we will be insulted and suffer because of this name.

But as we share in His sufferings, we know we will overcome (see Revelation 3:12) and rejoice when His glory is once more revealed. And we will dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives.

By Scott Hahn



English Martyrs
Vale of The White
Horse Pastoral Area

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

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SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, YEAR A (Psalter Wk III)

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 26:7-9

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.

First Reading: Acts 1:12-14

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 26

I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:13-16

Gospel Acclamation: Cf. Jn 14:15–21

Alleluia, alleluia!!

I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy
Alleluia, alleluia!!

Gospel: John 17:1-11a

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Jn 17:22

Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

SATURDAY 20th May

9:30 Mass at English Martyrs, Didcot.....**NO MASS**

4:30pm Adoration & Confessions will take place prior to the Vigil Mass at St John's Wallingford

5.00pm Vigil Mass St John's - *Steven Paxford RIP (M. Healey)*

5.50pm Adoration before Vigil Mass at English Martyrs, Didcot...

6.30pm Vigil Mass English Martyrs, Didcot....Suni Perera...*Birthday*

Thanksgiving

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 21st May

9:00am Mass English Martyrs, Didcot -

11:00noon Mass St John's Wallingford

MONDAY 22nd May - (No Mass)

TUESDAY 23rd May.

12:00noon Mass St John's Wallingford....*Rosary for Peace*

WEDNESDAY 24th May -

9:00am Mass English Martyrs, Didcot

THURSDAY 26th May...St Bede the Venerable

9:30am —Mass St John's Wallingford

FRIDAY 27h May ...St Philip Neri

9.30.a.m Mass at the English Martyrs, Didcot

SATURDAY 28th May

9:30 Mass at English Martyrs, Didcot.....**St Augustine of Canterbury**

4:30pm Adoration & Confessions will take place prior to the Vigil Mass at St John's Wallingford

5.00pm Vigil Mass St John's

5.50pm Adoration before Vigil Mass at English Martyrs, Didcot...

6.30pm Vigil Mass English Martyrs, Didcot....Mary Guinan...*Good Estate (A. Talbot)*

PENTECOST SUNDAY... 29th May

9:00am Mass English Martyrs, Didcot -

11:00noon Mass St John's Wallingford



In your prayers, please remember: Jenny Evans, Mary Guinan, Maureen & John Logan Ann Tomline, Joan Walker, Terry Appleyard, Joan Russell, Joan Turner, Nina Oakes, Jacob Oakes, Jidechi Ejiofor, Pat McLoughlin, Margaret Healy, Barry Molloy, David Woodley, Annie Furlong, Fr Philip Harris, all the sick and housebound.



Everyone To Wear National Dress

Pentecost takes place on the 50th day after Easter Sunday. Are you ready for Pentecost? Our parish Liturgy Committee has come up with some suggested plans to celebrate this year. At each of the Vigil masses, the priest will invite us to pray to our Lady and the Lord's Prayer in our individual mother tongues or local dialects. This will be awesome.

On the morning of Sunday, at the 9.a.m and 11.am masses, we invite everyone to wear national dress, cheerful clothes, bring sports scarfs and maybe in Pentecost colors red, yellow, white.

Remember to bring a national dish to share after Mass.

Remember, this day is to commemorate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks, as described in the Acts of the Apostles. Let us share in this experience.



Plant/Veg Still On Sale

John Elsley has, as usual, potted and home-grown vegs, plants, flowers and they are ready to go. These plants have been available for sale after masses this last Sunday, here in English Martyrs, in the Church porch. There are more to come. Please help yourself and leave a donation in the box. Whatever is raised will be used to support the finance of the parish. Thank you!

Reading and meditation with Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face (Saint Thérèse of Lisieux)

The worldwide Carmelite Order continues to celebrate Saint Thérèse's 150th anniversary since her birth (2 January 1873) as well as the first centenary of her beatification (29 April 1923) and in 2025 the first centenary of her canonization (17 May 1925). For this occasion, a program of 8 readings and reflections for each year on the Autobiographical Manuscripts and other writings of Thérèse has been prepared. A small group met up at St John's in Wallingford to read and reflect on the 1st two of these and are meeting again for the 3rd study guide on Wednesday 21 June at 9:30 am in the hall (access from the back of the Church in Wood Street). If you would like to join them on this journey, please speak to Armelle after Mass or email her c.armelle@btinternet.com. Everyone is welcome.



Learning Skills

Do you know anyone in primary school with learning or skills disability, who is dyslexic and require extra time and attention to their learning strategies and support with sounds, words and reading? Young people with multiple learning disability need support to help them with some areas of their life, such as eating, washing or personal care. But most of all friendship and a supportive environment. Please contact Janice Hassett via email.... janicehassett@hotmail.co.uk or call her on 07759911595

Get Involved In Tackling The Root Causes Of Poverty

Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that "Love — caritas — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace." For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more about our seeds campaign and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns. Many thanks Best wishes.....Jo Lewry



Day of Prayer for Missing Children...25th May

There is nothing we all want to hear more, than a happy conclusion to a missing child case. But for many parents around the world the pain of uncertainty endures year in and year out. On this day we are all asked to pray for missing children and for their families. We pray for a happy conclusion, or where this is not possible, at least for closure and eventual peace.

Revelations of Julian of Norwich

Pope Francis has sent a message of blessing to all participating in the events marking the 650th anniversary of the Revelations of Mother Julian of Norwich, the medieval mystic and anchoress



The Bishop of East Anglia, the Rt Rev Peter Collins and Anglican Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Rev Graham Usher, were delighted to receive a message from Pope Francis last week. It was read to the congregation at a special anniversary service in Norwich Anglican Cathedral, Sunday 14th May.

In his message, Pope Francis speaks about Mother Julian's "profound significance" and how her words can bring consolation and strength to "all who face the pressing challenges of war, injustice, ecological disaster or spiritual poverty".

Echoing words used at the Coronation of King Charles III, the Pope expresses his hope that through a greater appreciation of her life Christians will "follow ever more faithfully and joyfully the example of Jesus, the one who came 'not to be served but to serve'".

Bishop Graham and Bishop Peter, in an ecumenical gesture of their friendship and partnership in the Gospel, said in a joint statement: "We are very grateful to Pope Francis for his blessing and his generous message about the significance of Mother Julian's writing, not only for this fine city of Norwich, but in its contemporary relevance for all people. As we mark the 650th anniversary of her Revelations, and enjoy a series of events and pilgrimages based around her Shrine in Norwich, we are delighted that Catholics, Anglicans and Christians of other denominations, will be coming together to pray and be inspired by Julian's life and witness to God in Jesus."

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby said: "I am delighted to send my greetings for the celebrations of the 650th anniversary of Mother Julian's revelations. I am sure she never foresaw the extraordinary influence and inspiration she would provide for generations of Christians, and especially for women. I'm glad that her shrine is honoured and maintained today, and pray that it will continue to flourish. I wish all of you well for the celebrations."

World Communications Day 2023

Speaking with the heart. "The truth in love" (Eph 4: 15)

Each year, the Vatican and many dioceses mark World Communications Day on the Sunday before Pentecost; this year May 21st. The Pope's theme for this year is: "Speak with the heart: Veritatem facientes in caritate" (Speaking the truth in love)

Pope Francis calls for words capable of doing good for others and of touching even the "most hardened of hearts." He exhorts communicators, even in our dramatic global climate, to convey the "gentle strength of love."

While the message is primarily geared toward those working in communications, Pope Francis highlight that everyone has the responsibility to communicate "with an open heart and arms."

The Second Collection this Sunday 21st May is for the Catholic Communications Network. Parishioners may give to this collection using their gift aid envelope or online at <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/world-communications-day-2023>.

Our Church, the English Martyrs Didcot will be open daily for private prayers between 8am and 5pm.



Carmelite Pilgrimage to the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady, Walsingham, on 24 June 2023

Anyone interested, please email Armelle:

c.armelle@btinternet.com

Parish Safeguarding Rep

Our Safety Officer for all adult and child safeguarding issues is Stefania Harford, please contact Stefania via the parish office on 01235 812338, if there is no response and in an emergency then dial 999.