

# ST ERCONWALD'S NEWSLETTER 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

St Erconwald's 22 Esher Avenue Walton-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 2TA  
Telephone 01932 221101 email; [mail@sterconwalds.org.uk](mailto:mail@sterconwalds.org.uk)  
Priest responsible for pastoral care at St Erconwald's: Fr Bill Muir CJ Tel: 07513594588

## Parish Primary School:

Cardinal Newman School  
Arch Road  
Hersham  
Walton-on-Thames  
KT12 4QT  
TEL: 01932 222536  
Email: [office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk](mailto:office@cardinalnewmanschool.co.uk)

## Parish Secondary School

Salesian School  
Guildford Road  
Chertsey  
Surrey  
KT16 9LU  
TEL 01932 582520  
[info@salesian.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@salesian.surrey.sch.uk)

## Mass Intentions and Mass Times: Week starting 9<sup>th</sup> May

Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am	Christine Casey (Birthday) <i>(Followed by Exposition &amp; Confessions)</i>
	6.00 pm	Mass in Italian
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	9.15 am	Dorothy Cartledge RIP (anniversary)
	11.15 am	Those Suffering in India from the Pandemic
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am	In Thanksgiving
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am	Paul Inglis RIP
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	11.00 am	Funeral of Antoinette Riggi
	7.00 pm	<i>Vigil Mass for the Ascension</i> Joseph Honren RIP
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am	<i>Mass for the Ascension</i> Arnaldo Fernandes RIP
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am	Libby Grace's intentions
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	9.30 am	Joseph Horen RIP
	6.00 pm	Mass in Italian
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	9.15 am	Parishioners
	11.15 am	Margaret Nash RIP

**The Church is open for public Masses and booking is required for Sunday Masses. Please book no later than Thursday evening for the following Sunday.**

**May is the month of Mary. Please join us for the Rosary on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays 9.00-9.15 am in the church, starting Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.**

## **Please pray for those in the Parish who have asked for our prayers:**

*Michael Snee, Margaret Hawkes, Bernadette Barnbrook, Anna Sartori, Maureen Lloyd, Sheila Day, Nicoletta Lanzisera, Patrick Duggan, Rose Collins, Carmen Galanty, Patrick Russell, Ann Griffin, Ann Lane, Dina Yates, Rose Collins, Manuel and Jackie Faraldo, Andres Gomez, Christian Misuraca, Christopher Clifford and Catherine Browle.*

**Fr Bill writes:** Please note the Mass times for Masses for the Ascension on Wednesday evening and Thursday morning. On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> May we welcomed Farragh Glennon into the Church through Baptism. This is another sign that some semblance of normality is returning. We hope that the limit of six persons will soon change. Note also the times of the Ascension Masses: there is a Vigil Mass on Wednesday and a Day Mass on Thursday.

**First Communion and First Reconciliation:** Starting on Wednesday and Saturday of the coming week I will be meeting groups of parents and children on the Sacramental Preparation Course face-to-face to introduce them to the Church and to what will happen during First Confession. These meetings will take start at 5.30 pm on Wednesdays and 3.30 pm on Saturdays and last no more than an hour.

**Rosary in May:** You are invited to gather and say the rosary on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays from 9.00 am to 9.15 am prior to the Morning Mass will commence at 9.30 am.

In the post Easter period there will be Exposition and Confessions after the 9.30 am Mass on Saturdays.

*Any notices for this newsletter to be sent to Fr Bill at [mail@sterconwalds.org.uk](mailto:mail@sterconwalds.org.uk)*

## **OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

Offertory	11 <sup>th</sup> April	£605.52	banked £630.52
	18 <sup>th</sup> April	£135.10	
	25 <sup>th</sup> April	£221.45	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	£207.50	Banked £573.50

For those who are able you can either put your donations through the presbytery letterbox at the side of the house or you can make a donation online.

The Diocese has a scheme at:

**<http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory>.**

In the message section you mention St Erconwald's Walton-on-Thames and the donation will come to the parish. If it is an Easter offering then mention Easter Offering in the message section.

**Alternatively make a bank transfer.**

Parish sort code 40 05 20

Account No 01126393

Payable to A&B Diocesan Trust St Erconwalds

### **Announcements**

**The Walton & Hersham Food Bank are now again receiving donations of dry foods and toiletries, following the recent suspension due to Covid 19.**

**All donations of dry foods and toiletries to assist local people in need, are gratefully received.**

**Red storage containers are placed in the Church Porch for your donations.**

**Thank you for your continued support**

Because of the Climate Change emergency Pope Francis has called on us all to take action. CAFOD and other development charities are also at the forefront of campaigning, because climate change is already hitting the some of the poorest countries hard.

Please will you click on the link below, and sign the petition to the UK government to take a strong lead on this issue. Why now? Because the UK is hosting two major conferences of world leaders this year- the G7 in June and the UN "COP26" climate talks in November.

The eyes of the world will be on Britain and with a massive campaign showing popular support, our government will be more likely to push for stronger measures to combat climate change.

Please sign at [cafod.org.uk/reclaim](https://cafod.org.uk/reclaim) and encourage friends and family to do the same.

Thank you!

**CAFOD Opportunities:** Step into the Gap with CAFOD's gap year programme. Applications are open until 31 May 2021. It's an opportunity for 18-30 year olds: learn more about yourself and global justice whilst gaining skills and work experience. Accommodation, travel expenses and stipend included. More info at: [www.cafod.org.uk/gapyear](https://www.cafod.org.uk/gapyear)

### **Fundraiser for Pax Christi.**

In the week from 15 to 21 May, Pax Christi, the Catholic Peace organisation, will be trying to raise funds to make up for lost income due to Covid19.

Fausta is having a dance-a-thon, Bruce is delivering a peace message to foreign embassies in London, Matt is cycling 50 miles visiting peace sites, Pat is going on a walk from Victoria to the Peace Pagoda in Battersea Park, Rachel will be cycling for 75 miles, to celebrate Pax Christi's 75th anniversary. More fundraisers are joining the fun.

Please go to their website [www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/](https://www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/) for details on how you can sponsor them.

Thank you very much,

Arn Dekker / Cambridge

## Forthcoming Feasts

### *11<sup>th</sup> May The Carthusian Martyrs*

*Saints John Houghton, Robert Lawrence, Augustine Webster and fifteen Blessed companions*

**John Houghton**, Prior of the London Charterhouse, was recognised as a man of sanctity even before his martyrdom. Under his rule the community was a model of observance and austerity. Henry VIII was well aware that if the Carthusians could be persuaded to accept first the Act of Succession (1533) and then the Act of Supremacy (1534) others would find it easy to follow their example.

Presented with the earlier Act, the Prior and his Procurator Humphrey Middlemore at first refused to swear, and were imprisoned for a month in the Tower. On advice from learned bishops, they agreed to take the oath “as far as the law of God allows”, and so were released.

The following year (1535) the King assumed his title of Supreme Head of the Church in England. The Treasons Act made it treason “maliciously” to deny this title. Prior Houghton began to prepare his community for the inevitable onslaught. He consulted other priors who were visiting London, **Robert Lawrence** of Beauvale, Nottinghamshire, and **Augustine Webster** of Axholme, Lincolnshire. They decided to approach the King’s Minister Thomas Cromwell directly, to ask for a form of the oath which they could accept in conscience. Cromwell’s response was immediately to commit them to the Tower. There they were joined by a Brigittine priest, Richard Reynolds, who was to suffer with them.

Their trial began on 27th April 1535. Cromwell became alarmed that they might be acquitted, threatened the jury with death if they did acquit, and finally went in person to persuade them to bring in the Guilty verdict. On 4th May they were dragged to Tyburn; the Prior was the first to suffer the barbarous execution by hanging, disembowelling and quartering of the body. Lawrence and Webster, undeterred by the dreadful scene, refused to recant and were similarly butchered. They were the first of a long line of martyrs for the Catholic faith in England.

### **14<sup>th</sup> May St Matthias**



He was not one of the Twelve; but after the treachery and death of Judas Iscariot, someone was needed to take his place. Two candidates were selected, and lots were drawn to see which of them should be made one of the Twelve: the choice fell on Matthias. Nothing is known for certain about his subsequent history.

Drawing lots to select a candidate for an office sounds strange to us, but it was a recognised Jewish custom: for example, the priest who was to enter the Temple sanctuary and burn

incense there was not chosen by some rota but by lot. Random events, independent of any obvious natural or human cause, were seen as a direct expression of God's will. Drawing lots was not a substitute for human decision – human beings had chosen Matthias as a candidate, human beings decided which priests were eligible on which days – but a way of putting the final choice into the hands of God.

When we attain some high or responsible position, we may be tempted to congratulate ourselves on being the best candidate for the job. We would do well to remember that we have got there because of the people we have met and the things we have found ourselves doing, and, more fundamentally, because of the gifts and talents that God has given us. These things are essentially random: like Matthias, we have been chosen by lot.

## **Smile Lines**

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

In one small rural village the local vet also led the local Neighbourhood Watch group. Late one night the phone rang, and his wife answered. An agitated voice inquired, "Is your husband there?"

"He is, but tell me, do you need him as the vet or the Neighbourhood Watch?" the wife asked.

"Both!" was the reply. "We can't get our dog's mouth open, and there's a burglar in it!"

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### **Jump**

A minister invited to preach at a local prison regretfully chose the text: 'With the help of my God, I will leap over the wall.'