

# New Life

Issue 30  
10th/11th December  
2011



*A Newsletter for the Parishes of English Martyrs, Tuffley & Saint Augustine's, Matson*

## Advent and Christmas Services

### Reconciliation Services

Wed. 14th Dec. 7:00pm Saint Augustine's  
Sat. 17th Dec. 4:00pm English Martyrs

### Prepare the Way for the Lord

Sun. 18th Dec. 3:00pm Saint Augustine's

### Christmas Masses

#### *Christmas Eve Family Masses (Saturday 24th December):*

5:30pm Saint Augustine's  
7:30pm English Martyrs  
*(carol service at 7:00pm including Carols and Drama by our children)*

#### *Christmas Day Masses (Sunday 25th December):*

12 midnight Saint Augustine's  
*(carol service from 11:30pm)*  
10:00am English Martyrs

#### *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Sunday 1st January):*

6:30pm (Sat.) Saint Augustine's  
9:00am English Martyrs  
11:00am Saint Augustine's

# Deanery RECONCILIATION SERVICES

<b>Monday 12th December</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Saint Margaret Mary's, Coleford</b>
<b>Wednesday 14th December</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>St. Augustine's, Matson St. Patrick's, Brockworth</b>
<b>Friday 16th December</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Our Lady of Lourdes, Newent</b>
<b>Saturday 17th December</b>	<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>English Martyrs, Tuffley</b>
<b>Tuesday 20th December</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Our Lady's, Churchdown</b>
<b>Wednesday 21st December</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>St. Peter's, Gloucester</b>

**First Sacrament of Reconciliation** : Congratulations to those children from Saint Augustine's First Holy Communion programme who celebrated the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time of Saturday. The celebration for English Martyrs is this Sunday 11th December. Children and parents should be in English Martyrs Church for 3:00pm. Anyone who wishes may attend these celebrations. Please continue to pray for our children preparing for the sacraments this year.

**Saint Augustine's Prisoner of Conscience Christmas Cards** : Many thanks to all those who supported the Prisoner of Conscience Christmas Card campaign. These messages of good will are a great source of help and encouragement to the recipients.

**Saint Augustine's 200 Club** : The money for this is due in January 2012. Please make cheque for £12.00 payable to 'St Augustine 200 Club Matson'. Cheques can be left in Saint Augustine's church porch for the attention of Claire Cooper. Please make sure you leave your name, address & phone number with the cheque. Thank you for all your support during 2011. Over £1000 given out in prizes. Are you a member of the draw? - if not please contact the parish for more information.

**English Martyrs Soft Toys** : If you have any unwanted clean, quiet, soft toys that you would like to donate to the children's corner at English Martyrs please give them to Sue Knight (one of the children's liturgy leaders and member of the choir).

**English Martyrs SVP** : Thank you to all those who donated to the recent collection. Over £130 was raised.

**Saint Augustine's Samaritan's Purse Shoe Box Appeal** : On behalf of the Samaritan's Purse children, a big thank you to everyone who contributed to the shoebox appeal. We have delivered 65 generously filled boxes to the depot and your monetary donations have covered the transport costs for all of the boxes to their destinations abroad. Well done – our parish effort will bring smiles to 65 children who would have otherwise had very little this Christmas.

**Congratulations** to Canon Liam Slattery, parish priest of Saint Peter's, Gloucester, and Canon Richard Dwyer, Judicial Vicar for the Diocese and parish priest of Saint Joseph's, Tewkesbury, who were installed as Canons of the Chapter last Thursday.

## Advent Celebrations

**Reconciliation Service at Saint Augustines** on Wednesday 14th December at 7:00pm.

**Exposition at English Martyrs** : There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Thursday 15th December from 1:00pm until 5:00pm at English Martyrs, Tuffley. Please consider spending some time with Our Lord during this time.

**Reconciliation Service at Saint Augustines** on Saturday 17th December at 4:00pm.

**Prepare the Way for the Lord** is a major Advent celebration for our two parishes. See below for more details.

**Advent prayer, readings, music and worship in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament** at English Martyrs on Thursday 22nd December from 7:30pm until 9:00pm followed by light refreshments in the parish room. This is being organised by members of the prayer group and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament group.

## Prepare the Way for the Lord

On Sunday 18th December at 3:00pm our "Prepare the Way for the Lord" service will be held at St. Augustine's. This is a service for both our parishes and is for the whole family with readings, carols and a nativity play performed by the children, followed by a celebration in Saint Augustine's Hall.

**Christmas Draw** Tickets for Saint Augustine's Christmas raffle will be on sale this weekend and next weekend. The draw will take place during the Prepare the Way for the Lord celebration on Sunday 18th December. Please be generous in your support for this event as the proceeds help us to continue our Christian mission.

**Nativity Play Rehearsals**: The play which takes place during the Prepare the Way for the Lord celebration. The final rehearsal will at Saint Augustine's next Saturday 17th December from 12:30pm until 1:30pm.