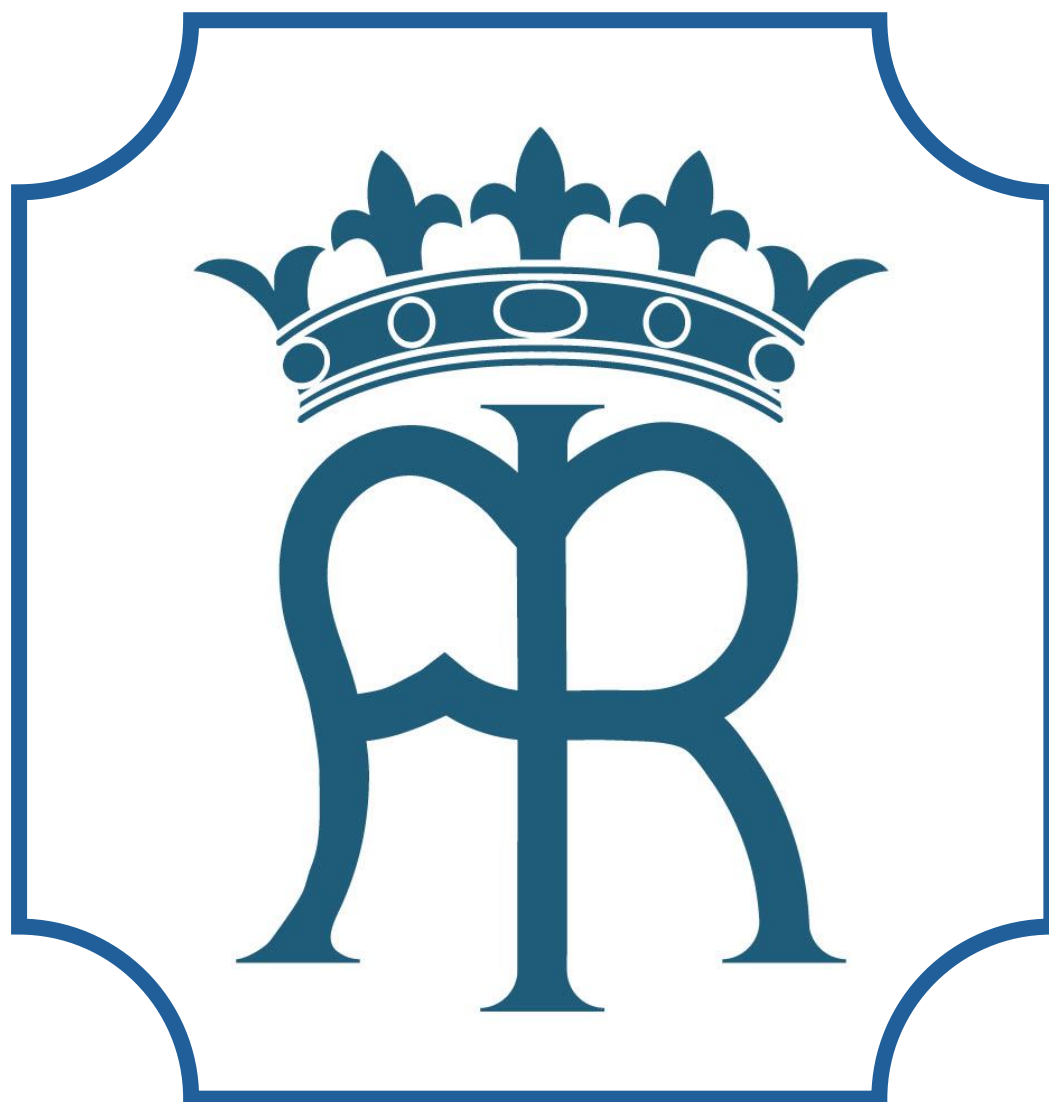


EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

ALMANAC



2025

S. MARY'S, EAST HENDRED | S. PATRICK'S, EAST ILSLEY

WHO'S WHO IN HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH?

Fr. Matthew Topham, Pastoral Administrator

Fr. Matthew arrived in the parish in 2023. Once upon a time he was an Anglican priest, and was received into the Catholic Church in 2019, and ordained a Catholic priest in 2023. He is a priest of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham, a body established up by Pope Benedict XVI for the reception of Anglicans coming into communion with the Catholic Church, retaining elements of worship and tradition with which the Holy See desired to enrich the whole Church. He is married with four children. He read English at Peterhouse, Cambridge, and Theology at St Stephen's House, Oxford.

He is ably assisted by the Parish Administrator,

Mrs. Maria Lluïsa Jarne

...by two stable bodies of the faithful:

THE MISSION COUNCIL

The Mission Council is an example of what Bishop Philip likes to call and Evangelisation Strategy Team, whose purpose is to assist the priest and the parish to bring the Gospel to those already within the Church, those who have fallen away from the faith, and those who aren't (yet!) Catholics.

Ollie Holt (Chair)
Heather Gilson
David Guest
Chris Harrison
Philip Wells

THE BUILDINGS & FINANCE COUNCIL

Keeping both Buildings and Finances in good repair is the work of this council, as the name suggests, by scrutinising budgets and keeping on top of repairs to the fabric.

Richard Stone (Chair)
Anne Dalton (Treasurer)
John Carpenter
Joe Clerkin
Edward Eyston
Chris Harrison
Peter Trafford

...and by the indispensable volunteers without which no parish can function: everyone from our green-fingered flower guild, the schola at the 9.30 Mass, the steward welcomers at all our masses, assistant catechists for Confirmation classes, garden volunteers, and more. 'The Church' is not a

building but a Body, and without the varied gifts and talents of that Body, it fails to function properly. Do look out for opportunities to offer your particular gifts to the Lord in service of your brothers and sisters.

S. AMAND'S SCHOOL

We're incredibly blessed to have, in East Hendred, our wonderful Catholic Primary School, ably led by **Mrs. Helen Ellery**. S. Amand's (named after the co-patron of the 13th century catholic chapel at Hendred House) teaches both Catholic and non-Catholic children, and all the children come to Mass in S. Mary's, usually fortnightly on alternate Thursdays.

The Catholic Schools Inspectorate had this to say in 2023:

“St Amand's has an outstanding Catholic identity. A strong Catholic witness permeates the entire school, resulting in an evangelical ethos which inspires the whole community.”

WHAT'S ON IN EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH IN 2025?

JANUARY

1st – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

5th – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD*
(transferred)

22nd – Men's Group, 7.30pm

FEBRUARY

2nd – CANDLEMAS* |

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

5th – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

6th – S. AMAND'S DAY

7th – S. Amand's Fete @ S. Amand's School, TBC

19th – Men's Group, 7.30pm

MARCH

5th – ASH WEDNESDAY

6th – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

12th – Quarterly Quodlibet I, 7.30pm

17th – S. PATRICK

19th – Men's Group, 7.30pm

25th – THE ANNUNCIATION

APRIL

3rd – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

13th – PALM SUNDAY*

17th – MAUNDY THURSDAY

18th – GOOD FRIDAY

19th – HOLY SATURDAY

20th – EASTER SUNDAY*

23rd – Men's Group, 7.30pm

28th – S. GEORGE

MAY

1st – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

21st – Men's Group, 7.30pm

29th – THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD*

JUNE

5th – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

8th – PENTECOST*

11th – Quarterly Quodlibet II, 7.30pm

15th – TRINITY SUNDAY*

18th – Men's Group, 7.30pm

19th – CORPUS CHRISTI

22nd – SUNDAY AFTER CORPUS CHRISTI | FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

24th – NATIVITY OF S. JOHN BAPTIST

29th – SS. PETER & PAUL*

JULY

3rd – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

6th July – S. Patrick's Barbecue

23rd – Men's Group, 7.30pm

AUGUST

6th – The Transfiguration

7th – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

15th – THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY*

17th – SUNDAY AFTER THE ASSUMPTION | Parish Anniversary of Consecration | Parish BBQ

20th – Men's Group, 7.30pm

SEPTEMBER

4th – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

8th – Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10th – Quarterly Quodlibet III, 7.30pm

14th – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Holy Cross Day/Roodmas)

17th – Men's Group, 7.30pm

28th – Michælmass Lunch @ S. Patrick's

29th – S. Michael & All Angels (Michælmass)

OCTOBER

2nd – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

22nd – Men's Group, 7.30pm

NOVEMBER

1st – ALL SAINTS

2nd – ALL SAINTS* (transferred)

3rd – ALL SOULS (transferred)

6th – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

16th – S. EDMUND OF ABINGDON*
(Patron of the Diocese)

19th – Men's Group, 7.30pm

23rd – CHRIST THE KING*

30th – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

DECEMBER

4th – Catholic Mothers, 9.45am, Parish Rooms

8th – THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

17th – Quarterly Quodlibet IV, 7.30pm

25th – CHRISTMAS DAY*

EAST HENDRED CATHOLIC PARISH

Catholic Mothers

Catholic Mothers meets on the first Wednesday of each month after the 9:00 Mass (c.9:45) for 'Pray & Play' – we pray, they play – and a chance to talk and relax with other Catholic mothers. Children of all ages and numbers heartily welcome!

1st Jan | 5th Feb. | 6th Mar. | 3rd April | 1st May | 5th June | 3rd July | 7th Aug. | 4th Sept. | 2nd Oct. | 6th Nov. | 4th Dec.

Men's Group

The Men's group meets on the penultimate Wednesday of each month (don't ask...) for fellowship, formation, and – usually – a pint or two. Meetings typically start at 7:30 in a local hostelry, often the Wheatsheaf pub, to discuss Faith and ask questions, and to grow in wisdom and virtue as Catholic men.

22nd Jan. | 19th Feb. | 19th Mar. | 23rd April | 21st May | 18th June | 23rd July | 20th Aug. | 17th Sept. | 22nd Oct. | 19th Nov.

Holy Days of Obligation

On Holy Days of Obligation, all Catholics are required to hear Mass (in person!): this is a grave obligation the Church imposes for our good.

Every Sunday is a Holy Day of Obligation, and this year, so are the following:

Thurs. 29th May – The Ascension

Fri. 15th August – The Assumption

Thurs. 25th December – Christmas Day

Liturgical Living

The Church's Liturgy, and her cycle of feasts and fasts, is the primary way for Catholics to engage with the mysteries of Our Lord's life, death, and resurrection, and with the Church's own history. Why not choose this year to live liturgically, perhaps making time to attend another Mass, or to celebrate the seasonal cycle at home with food, prayer, and acts of charity?

The calendar above gives just a few important dates: why not celebrate the feasts of your patron saint(s), or those which fall on particularly special days for you?

Quarterly Quodlibets

Four quarterly opportunities to ask (and perhaps have answered), debate, and explore questions of faith (and anything else) with our Anglican brothers & sisters (and other interested parties). Vaguely in the style of the medieval disputation of the same name, come and ask 'quodlibet' a lovely Latin word which means, more-or-less, 'whatever you like'.

Wednesdays, 7.30pm in the Wheatsheaf: 12th March | 11th June | 10th Sept. | 17th Dec.



S. MARY'S
ST. MARY'S RD.,
EAST HENDRED
OX12 8LF

S. PATRICK'S
OLD STANMORE RD.,
EAST ILSLEY,
RG20 7JZ