

## Book+Circle - Parish of the Nativity of the Lord

<b>Title of the book &amp; author</b>	Edmund Campion, Scholar, Priest, Hero and Martyr - by Evelyn Waugh
About the Book	A compelling narrative by Evelyn Waugh, himself a Catholic convert, about Edmund Campion S.J, one of the 40 martyrs of England and Wales. From his success as an Oxford scholar, through his travels around Europe, his doomed secret mission to Elizabethan England, his capture and dramatic trial – and ultimately his martyrdom at Tyburn.....Campion's voice sounds to us across the centuries.
How did the book make us feel?	Humbled and inadequate – and challenged - when faced with the details of the extraordinary courage of priests and lay people at that time. Some had not fully appreciated just how awful the conditions were during Elizabethan England. Admiration and gratitude for Campion's (and others') courage.
The Book's main strengths	<p>The historical details which were so much easier to read and follow than had been anticipated. Waugh comments on the way that so many succumbed under pressure, to conform which made the courage and resilience of those who did not, even more humbling (this resonated with contemporary challenges when persecution can be more subtle and conformity to secularism increasingly challenging faith communities).</p> <p>Waugh also reveals how the limitations of communication and travel at that time were overcome by commitment and passion.</p> <p>The book is beautifully written. It was easy to read and a real "page turner" whilst the awfulness of the story was dealt with without sensationalising it.</p> <p>It was inspiring (a link to the Invited talk on the Holy Spirit was made), energising and underlined the power of prayer.</p> <p>The book cover details reflect the story of Campion's martyrdom.</p>
The Book's main weaknesses	None!
Would we read another Book written by the same author?	Yes – and more biographies of the martyrs/saints from this period in English history.

Would we recommend this Book to someone else?	Yes – to those who appreciate literature and history as maybe Campion’s scholarship, being of that time, might not have universal appeal today.
Next Book & Next meeting	<p><b>Next book “God and you: Prayer as a personal relationship” Fr William Barry SJ</b></p> <p><b>Next meeting Wednesday 6 July 2022 @ 8.00 PM</b></p> <p>We will confirm the meeting place –  The Meeting Room at St Joseph’s may be booked for all our meetings ie for the evening ones as well as the daytime ones.  Discussion as to whether alternating with the centre at Holy Family once it is available was raised</p>