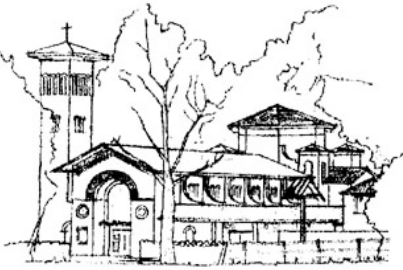
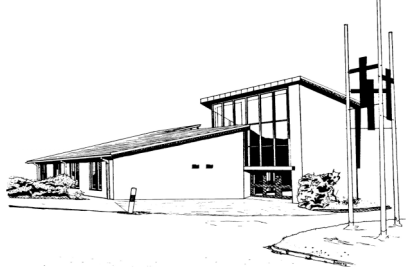


# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Parish Clergy:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Mgr John Nelson</b> (Parish Priest &amp; Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Fr Joseph Awoh</b> (Resident at St Joseph's)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Registered Charity Number: 246871</p>	
<p>64 Liebenrood Road Reading, Berkshire, RG30 2EB Tel: 0118 957 2149 englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk</p> <p><b>Secretary: Gwen Price</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RBH Chaplaincy -</b> (Tel. 0118 3227105) Fr Chris Whelan Fr Richard Maniak (0118 9586637)</p>	<p>The Presbytery, Berkshire Drive Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 5JJ Tel: 0118 942 8632 e-mail: office@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk website: www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk</p> <p><b>Secretary: Sheila Jones</b></p>

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

7/8 February 2009

A closer look at the people Jesus chose as his apostles shows that they were very different personalities, some the complete opposite of others. For instance, while Peter was rather impetuous, speaking his mind on anything at any time, his brother Andrew was a quiet and reserved person. Simon the zealot would qualify today as a terrorist. What this tells me is that, as a leader, Jesus did not seek out likeminded people to work with him; neither did he look for people who thought like him and did things like him. He saw beyond their differences, and even beyond their weaknesses, to what they could do if he inspired them with his vision.

Jesus was certainly an inspirational leader, able to draw people both by his words and the force of his example to commit their skills and talents to a common cause. The leaders of our Church - both lay and ordained - on the other hand, are not always inspirational and, even when they are, almost always have one handicap - their prejudices (founded or unfounded) against certain people with whom they can or cannot work. And sadly, we are not different from our leaders. How many times have we heard parishioners say they couldn't work with this or that other parishioner or priest?

The consequence of this kind of attitude is that many people who could make a valuable contribution to parish life never get the opportunity to do so because they do not think or behave like someone who is in charge. On the other hand, there are parishioners who will not make any contribution as long as the person or priest in charge does not seem to agree with their way of seeing or doing things. Donal Dorr, in his book, *Spirituality of Leadership*, states that "leadership is fully authentic only when it is exercised by those who are inspired and inspiring. But they must at the same time be willing to recognise the wisdom and inspiration of others. And they must be able to work with others towards a common vision which unites and inspires a whole community" (2006, p.10).

That does not let those of us who are not leaders in the community off the hook. The Christian thing for everyone to do is to look beyond people's differences and weaknesses to what we can achieve with them for the good of the Church and the glory of God.

**Fr Joseph**

<b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>				
<b>ENGLISH MARTYRS</b>	<b>TIMINGS</b>			<b>ST. JOSEPH'S</b>
Fintan Carvalho RIP	6.30 pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>		
Bridie McGlynn RIP	9.30 am	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am	Patrick Munnelly RIP
Thomas Waldron RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Joe D'Cruz RIP
People of the Parish	5.00 pm			
John & Margaret McGowan RIP	9.30 am	<b>Monday</b>	No Mass	
Sydney Burrett RIP	9.30 am	<b>Tuesday</b>	10.30 am	Funeral - Trevor Williams RIP
			7.00 pm	Mrs Toal RIP
Bridie McGlynn RIP	9.30 am	<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00 am	Emilia Schneider's Intentions
Funeral – Eugene Herbert RIP	9.30 am	<b>Thursday</b>	9.00 am	Patrick & Sarah Togher RIP & Edward & Ellen Gerrity RIP
Genevieve Hickey RIP	8.00 pm		11.30 am	Funeral: Antanas Kusta RIP
Vera Garrigan RIP	9.30 am	<b>Friday</b>	7.00 pm	Fr Colm Kelleher RIP
		<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 am	William O'Donnell RIP
<b>THE FEASTS FOR THIS WEEK ARE:</b>				
Tuesday-St Scholastica	Wednesday-Our Lady of Lourdes	Saturday-SS Cyril and Methodius		
Thursday 7-8 pm	<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</b>			Tuesday 7.30-8 pm
5.30-6.15 pm	<b>CONFESSIONS - SATURDAY</b>			10.30-11 am
<b>Responsorial Psalm: "Praise the Lord who heals the broken hearted."</b>				

## COLLECTIONS FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2009

Gift Aid:	£417.40
Planned Giving:	£45.50
Loose Plate:	£198.25
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
Repository	£50.00
Candle Money	£38.96
Hall Hire	£350.00
Youth Group	£115.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,215.11</b>
<b>Running Totals</b>	
Fr Zvonko	£199.32

### REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February are Pat Toner and Angela Barry.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Special Collection TODAY for the Catholic Education Service.

### FR KELLEHER RIP

Please note that there will be a Thanksgiving Mass for the life and Ministry of Fr Colm Kelleher on Friday, 13th February 2009 at 7 pm here at St Joseph's Church.

There will also be a retiring collection for CAFOD and there will be light refreshments in the Church hall afterwards. *All are welcome.*

If anyone wishes to send messages of sympathy/Mass cards, please send these to Nora Kelleher, 17 Claude Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9, Ireland – *Fr Joseph.*

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Please note that next Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> February there will be a special Mass at 10.30 am for the First Holy Communion children and it may run on longer than normal.

### YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> February will be a Valentine's Party from 7.30 – 9.30 pm. Members free. Non-members £2.50 on the door. 9 – 15 years All proceeds to St Joseph's Parish. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 941 5636.*

### CHRIST THE KING CHURCH, READING - STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

As part of the 50th Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Church the following events are to take place:

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February – 10.30 am - 4 pm. A day to come together, meet others and reflect on living simply and being stewards of creation.

Lenten Talks: A series of Talks during the Sunday afternoons of Lent have been organised. These will take place in the Parish Hall at 3.30 pm and will be followed by Evening Prayer and Benediction. First talk on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March. *Please see the notice board for further details.*

### THE MARIST PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Open Morning from 10 - 11.30 am on Wednesday, 25th February. Telephone 01344 626137 or email [open.day.prep@themaristschools.com](mailto:open.day.prep@themaristschools.com).

There are three vacancies to be filled, starting in September 2009.

### EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Due to poor attendance on Tuesday evenings, it has been decided to have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays from 10.30 am until 11 am after the 10 am Mass, on a trial basis. This will take effect from the first Saturday in Lent, 28<sup>th</sup> February.

## LENT GROUPS

Every year during Lent we are invited to renew ourselves in some way, perhaps by fasting and more time in prayer, perhaps by taking part in something beyond what we normally do. This year we are planning to offer Lent Groups in which we will reflect on our Celebration of the Mass. These small groups will meet at different times of the week (to enable as many as possible to participate) and usually be held in the homes of parishioners.

Please give some thought as to whether you would like to be involved in a Lent Group – which will meet each week between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week. Not only will they be an opportunity to deepen our understanding and love of the Mass but also a chance to get to know a few people you may not have met and got to know.

### JOINT PARISH PASSOVER MEAL WEDNESDAY, 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

Planning for the Joint Parish Passover meal begins this week. This year it will take place in English Martyrs' Community Centre on Wednesday in Holy Week. We need a small working group to organise publicity, ticket sales, music, liturgy and catering. If you would like to help with any of these activities please leave your name and contact details with your Parish Secretary. *All offers of help are very welcome.*

### HEADTEACHER VACANCY

St Martin's Catholic Primary School, North Reading and the Parish of St Michael's, Sonning Common are seeking a head teacher, for September 2009. Contact *Pat Beaumont on 901 5544* for more details or an informal visit [www.stmartinsreading.co.uk](http://www.stmartinsreading.co.uk).

### TREVOR WILLIAMS RIP

The Parish offers condolences to Trevor Williams' family. Please pray for the repose of his soul. Trevor's requiem Mass will be held here at St Joseph's at 10.30 am on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009, followed by burial at Henley Road Cemetery. *All are invited.*

### ANTANAS KUSTA RIP

The Parish offers condolences to Antanas Kusta's family. Please pray for the repose of his soul. Antanas' requiem Mass will be held here at St Joseph's at 11.30 am on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2009, followed by burial at Henley Road Cemetery. *All are invited.*

### SHEILA DOYLE RIP

Sheila Doyle, a member of St Joseph's parish for many years has recently died. Her funeral was at Portsmouth Cathedral last Tuesday. Please pray for the repose of her soul.

### UCM DIOCESAN STUDY DAY

The Union of Catholic Mothers Diocesan Study Day will be held in St Joseph's Church hall on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> February. The speaker will be Sister Ann Theresa from the Medaille Trust. The Medaille Trust is a charity founded by Catholic nuns, brothers and priests. Its aims are to help women, young men and children who have been freed from the empowerment of sex-trafficking and enable them to regain their sense of dignity of self-worth. The trust does this by providing safe housing and offering opportunities for physical and psychological healing and rehabilitation. It is something we all need to learn about and do all that we are able to do to bring it to the attention of those who have the power to curtail. The day will begin with Mass at 10 am and finish at 3.30 pm. All members of the parish are welcome to come along. The cost for the day is £5. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided.