
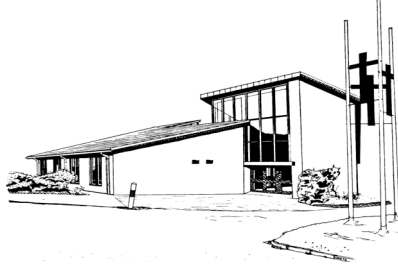


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p align="center">Parish Clergy:</p> <p align="center">Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest & Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p align="center">Fr Joseph Awoh (Resident at St Joseph's)</p> <p 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>Secretary: Gwen Price</p>	<p align="center">RBH Chaplaincy - (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>Secretary: Sheila Jones</p>

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR B

28/29 March 2009

A couple of weeks ago, Catholic Bishops around the world received a letter from Pope Benedict. None of them will ever have received quite such a letter before. In it the Pope explained his recent decision to try and bring back into the community of the Catholic Church those Bishops who had broken away a number of years ago. This action in itself had divided opinion because many said that those Bishops should be required to accept the teachings of the Second Vatican Council before this step was taken. Nevertheless, the intention behind the Pope's action was to restore unity.

Unfortunately, just as the announcement was made, it became clear that one of those Bishops, Richard Williamson, had given an interview months ago, in Sweden, in which he questioned the facts surrounding the holocaust. This led to widespread condemnation of him, but also disbelief that the Pope could be reaching out to someone who held such abhorrent views. Once again, it looked as though the Pope, the Church, was out of touch or ignoring important issues and this inflamed and upset many people.

The Pope's letter to his brother Bishops recognised that he had not handled things well, and that there were serious lessons to be learnt. The tone of the letter was sincere and humble and had obviously come directly from him. Trying to put things right, recognising mistakes and trying to restore unity is what lies at the heart of reconciliation. We try to build, or re-build, bridges with others and with God.

During the coming week we have opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for the events of Holy week. Please take the opportunity, rather than leaving this until the days immediately before Easter. On Thursday evening at St Joseph's, and next Saturday morning at English Martyrs, a number of priests will be available for Confession within a Penitential Service. Taking the time to pause and accept our need of forgiveness leads us to reconciliation, to re-building bridges with God and with each other.

As we move within reach of Holy Week itself, make the effort to set aside time to come and take part in the Easter Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter), because these days are at the very heart of our Christian year, they are at the heart of our faith.

Fr John

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Meredith Family Intentions	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Lucy Hope RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Fr Colm Kelleher RIP
Vincent Glynn RIP	5.00 pm		10.30 am	Julia Lynch RIP
Esther Corden RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	Vera Denton RIP
Bridie McGlynn RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	9.00 am	Ben McQuillen RIP
Stations of the Cross followed by a Syro Malabar Mass	6.00 pm			
Jim McGuinness RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Eugene Herbert RIP
Marita Marron RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Mrs Pauline Fennor RIP
Tom & Mary Keady RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Trevor Williams RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Ellie Callaghan RIP
THE FEASTS FOR THIS WEEK ARE:				
Thursday – St Francis of Paola		Saturday – St Isidore of Seville		
Thursday 7-8 pm	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT		Saturday 9.30-10 am	
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS - SATURDAY		10.30-11 am	
Responsorial Psalm: "A pure heart create for me, O God."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 22ND MARCH 2009

Gift Aid:	£382.50
Planned Giving:	£67.00
Loose Plate:	£252.23
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
Clergy Assistance Fund	£426.40
Candle Money	£37.07
Hall Hire	£52.60
Flowers	£9.50
Donations	£3.75
TOTAL	£1,231.05
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£209.32

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 5th April are Tom & Pat McKeown and Hugh Glover.

****PLEASE NOTE: MASS ON TUESDAY, 31ST MARCH HERE AT ST JOSEPH'S WILL BE AT 9 AM, INSTEAD OF 7.30 PM****

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be on Saturdays at the revised time of 9.30 am followed by Mass at 10 am, on a trial basis during Lent.

JOINT PARISH PASSOVER MEAL – WEDNESDAY, 8TH APRIL

There are a few tickets left for the Passover Meal. Adults: £5, school pupils: £2.50, younger children: free. *Offers of help with preparing food or setting up on the day would be very welcome.*

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesday, 22nd April and Wednesday, 29th April from 8 pm - 9.30 pm in the main church hall. We will be using a programme called: Baptism – helping your child get the most out of life. Godparents are also welcome to join us for discussion and to watch a DVD. If you are considering Baptism for your child before July when the next course will be held, please register for this course by contacting *Brigid Parkes on 942 7436* or alternatively email the Parish Office (details on the front of this newsletter).

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross this Tuesday, 31st March at 7 pm will be led by the Third Order of the Carmelites in our Parish. *Everyone is welcome.*

THE LINK

The Link Coffee Shop will have been open for 20 years this April and the occasion is going to be celebrated with a service in Tilehurst Methodist Church on Saturday, 2nd May 2009 at 3 pm followed by refreshments in the Church Hall. All volunteers, past and present, are warmly invited to the celebrations, so if you have worked for The Link in any capacity over the last 20 years (or know of anyone who has who might have moved away), could you please let me have the details so that invitations can be sent. Current volunteers will automatically receive an invitation - *Ann Epps: (941 1479 - ann.epps@ntlworld.com).*

LIFE

LIFE is offering an NFCE Level 3 Course in counselling skills and theory, starting after Easter. The course is ideal for nurses, social workers, etc, and for anyone wishing to acquire counselling skills for use in their professional or voluntary work. Please see the poster on the Church notice board for more details.

Due to several enquiries about this course from people seeking a shorter, more basic course, we are also able to offer a Level 2 Counselling Skills course starting on Monday, 20th April, to be held on consecutive Mondays (excluding Bank Holidays) until 6th July. Both courses will take place in the Small Hall here at St Joseph's. Please see details on the Noticeboard or contact *Nicki Richardson – Telephone No. 01993 881081 or email: nickirichardson@lifecharity.org.uk.*

EASTER LITURGIES

Details of the Easter Liturgies are now available in a yellow leaflet at the back of the Church. *Please take one.*

PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Tuesday, 31 st March - 7.30 pm	St. John Bosco, Woodley.
Wednesday, 1 st April - 7.30 pm	Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Dominic Barberi, Earley.
Thursday, 2 nd April - 7.30 pm	St Joseph's, Tilehurst.
Saturday, 4 th April – 11.00 am	English Martyrs, Tilehurst.
Wednesday, 8 th April – 7.30 pm	Our Lady & St Anne's, Caversham

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

On Tuesday, 21st July this year, Fr John marks the 25th Anniversary of his Ordination as a Priest. The plan is to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving that evening at 7.30 pm, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. *Everyone is welcome*, so please make a note in your diaries to keep the evening free.

YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 3rd April will be a Lent Mass at 7 pm, followed by a disco. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie on 9415636. All are welcome.*

ENGLISH MARTYRS		ST JOSEPH'S
Chrism Mass in Portsmouth Cathedral – 7th April at 11.00 am		
6.30 pm	Palm Sunday - Vigil Mass	
9.30 am	Palm Sunday Masses	8.30 am
11.30 am		10.30 am
5.00 pm	Maundy Thursday Mass 9 th April	
7.30 pm		8.00 pm
10.00 am – Children's Stations of the Cross	GOOD FRIDAY – 10th April	11.00 am – Stations of the Cross
3.00 pm – Solemn Liturgy		3.00 pm – Solemn Liturgy
9.00 pm	HOLY SATURDAY – Vigil Mass	8.00 pm
8.00 am	EASTER SUNDAY - Sunday, 12th April - Masses	8.30 am
9.30 am		10.30 am + Children's Liturgy
11.30 am		
10.00 am	Easter Monday Mass	10.00 am

CAMEROONIAN MASS – EASTER SUNDAY

Fr Joseph will be celebrating Mass with some of his Cameroonian/African friends at 3 pm on Easter Sunday. Parishioners who would like a 'lie-in' on Easter Sunday morning are invited to attend Mass and come in to the hall after Mass for some Cameroonian food and drink.

..... Continued on Meditation Sheet

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS TO ST JOSEPH'S NEWSLETTER

Due to pressure experienced on producing the newsletter on Thursday mornings, **all** items for inclusion must be submitted to the Office by *the Wednesday* before the relevant Sunday.

RUBBISH

Please help make our Church more welcoming by picking up any bits of rubbish you see around the grounds and putting them in the grey wheelie bin by the hall door. It's not all our fault – some is thrown over the fence, or discarded by people using the hall and car park. But it would be helpful if everyone could take care not to drop litter, or allow their children to do so.

UNIVERSITY STUDIES COVER

Parishioners will be aware that I will be away from the parish from Thursday, 16th April until Friday, 29th May. Arrangements have been made by Fr John for Fr Zvonko to supply at St Joseph's for the period from Saturday, 25th April until Monday, 11th May. I know that you will all warmly welcome Fr Zvonko during his visit – *Fr Joseph*.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Church cleaning for Easter will be after morning Mass on Wednesday, 8th April.

EASTER CARDS

Easter Cards are now available at the Repository. We also have a large selection of greetings cards for a variety of occasions, as well as Mass cards.

KNITWITS

The next Knitwits meeting will be at the home of Maureen English: 94 Blewbury Drive on Monday, 6th April at 8 pm.

ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL

St Joseph's Convent School in Reading is holding an Open Morning for prospective parents and pupils on Wednesday, 6th May from 9.15 am – 12.15 pm for the Preparatory, Senior and Sixth Form Departments (ages 3 to 18). No appointment is necessary – simply drop in. Further details about St Joseph's can be found on their web site: www.st-josephs.reading.sch.uk or by calling 0118 966 1000. Scholarships and bursaries are available.

CABRINI (CATHOLIC) CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Cabrini Children's Society have been in touch to let us know that on Sunday, 31st May 2009, they will be hosting a one-off event to celebrate 120 years of work as the Catholic Children's Society and to embrace their future as Cabrini Children's Society.

The occasion will be held in a marquee in the spectacular surroundings of Worth Abbey in West Sussex. The event will commence at 2 pm with a Mass, celebrated by Bishop Kieran of Arundel & Brighton Diocese. Ticket prices are £25 per person or £225 for a table of 10, which will include a drinks reception, a sumptuous afternoon tea and entertainment.

The Society will also be hosting an exhibition of archive materials and photographs, some of which date back as far as the 1880's. Some new artworks have been created by artist Ben Barbour which chart some of the history of the Society, its projects and iconic buildings. An auction of these artworks will take place at the event.

To book your tickets or find out more information you can contact them by email or telephone at info@cabrini.org.uk or 020 8668 2181 - Ann Hoggan, Supporter Care Co-ordinator.



St Paul's Catholic Primary School, City Road, Tilehurst, Reading. RG31 4SZ. Tel: 0118 942 2003. e-mail: office.stpauls@westberks.org. NOR 277

ICT TECHNICIAN

Required as soon as possible. 25 hours per week, term time only. Grade C pro-rata.

St. Paul's is a large primary school of 304 pupils and 11 classrooms including a Music and Drama Studio. We wish to appoint an ICT Technician to support with the rapid development of ICT throughout our school. We are looking for a person who is IT literate and capable of problem solving independently, as well as able to organise the day to day work required.

Application packs are available from the school office, or can be sent by email. Closing date: Monday, 20th April 2009. Interview date: Thursday, 23rd April 2009

FULL-TIME KS2 CLASS TEACHER

Required for September 2009: The Governors of this highly effective and successful school wish to appoint a permanent full-time KS2 class teacher. Applicants need to be fully conversant with the requirements of the KS2 curriculum, and may be an experienced teacher or an NQT.

This vacancy comes with a guarantee of professional development and training opportunities, and the full support of a dedicated, hardworking and fun loving team.

Visits to the school and informal chats are warmly welcomed and encouraged.

Further details and application forms from Ms. J.P. Feeney, Headteacher. Closing date: Wednesday, 22nd April 2009. Interview date: Thursday, 30th April 2009

St. Paul's whole school community (all staff, governors, parents and volunteers working in the school) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN READING

EASTER SUNDAY - OPEN-AIR SERVICE OF WITNESS at Forbury Gardens, Reading - 12th April at 8.00 am (the Bandstand). See in Easter Morning with other Christians from around the area. Service lead by The Salvation Army and supported by the Band.

PORTSMOUTH PEOPLE

We are getting far fewer copies of the new magazine-style Portsmouth People than we did of the old newspaper version. As a result, there are not enough to go round and they all go at the 8.30 am Mass. If you take one, please bring it back next week and leave it on the table at the back of the church, so others get a chance to read it – *Thank you*.

