



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>

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR B

16/17 MAY 2009

The most prominent headlines in Reading must be the resignation of Steve Coppel as Manager of Reading Football Club. He was referred to as an honest, straight-up guy and did not hide from the issues.... He had set standards for himself and felt the frustration of not attaining them, that is in recent days winning the play-offs and going to Wembley and then back to the premiership. And yet his records from the 5½ years in Reading saw us riding on the crest of a wave in success that was sometimes record-breaking. The question is now asked “what next?”

Five weeks ago we celebrated Easter – we could say of Jesus, in the language of the media, that He was an “honest, straight-up guy and did not hide from the issues...” He had set standards for himself and felt the frustration of not attaining them.

He, for us, is the “Good Shepherd”, who leads His people. The “True Vine” to whom His followers are attached as the branches and who are called and chosen to bear fruit, the fruit which is love. “As the Father has loved me so I have loved you, abide in my love. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you would be my disciples.” So if we ask “what next?”, it must be to explore this call to be disciples.

Now with some variation, the common thread for discipleship in spiritual growth consists of the following three aspects:

Firstly, achieving a basic human maturity using the gifts and talents that we have been endowed with and that we can develop; secondly, the struggle to move away from a self-centred life to a life that is given away in service, prayer and love; and thirdly, consisting in leaving this world in such a way that this too can be seen as a gift and blessing to those around us.

Fr Richard

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST JOSEPH'S
Timmie Foley RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Lillian Snow RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Trevor Williams RIP
Gregory Sakaria RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Patrick Connolly RIP
Mary Ann McPartlin RIP	5.00 pm			
Ina Flood RIP	9.30 am	Monday	No Mass	
Veronica Mary Surman RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Indira Thomas' Intentions
Canon Hetherington's Intentions	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Luiza Maria Fernandes RIP
John Kearnen RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Mary Gale RIP
K. McGlynn RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	For the Intentions of all the Ritas of the Parish
		Saturday	10.00 am	Kathleen Cooney RIP
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Tuesday–Dedication of the Cathedral of St John, Portsmouth Wednesday–St Bernadine of Siena Friday–St Rita of Cascia				
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: “The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.”				

COLLECTIONS FOR 24TH MAY 2009

Gift Aid	£396.40
Planned Giving	£59.00
Loose Plate	£295.72
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£40.00
TF3	£19.50
Repository	£160.00
Hall Hire	£442.50
Youth Group	£80.00
Candle Money	£52.09
Donations	£10.00
Clergy Training	£15.00
TOTAL	£1,570.21
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£269.32
TF3 (CAFOD)	£24.00
Clergy Training	£577.29

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 24th May are Harry & Liz McSoley.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection next Sunday, 24th May for World Communications.

YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 22nd May will be a Break-up Disco. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie* 9415636.

FR PETER CODD – 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

The parish will be sending Fr Peter a special anniversary card marking his 40 years as a priest and parishioners are invited to sign the special card after Masses this Sunday.

SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN & VULNERABLE ADULTS

The Diocese is arranging training sessions for all parish personnel involved with children and vulnerable adults over the coming months (May – September). They have also informed us that attendance at a relevant session will be mandatory. For those who were not able to attend the previous session at St Joseph's, I have information regarding venues and dates, and there is a list in the Church porch. (I need to know of those interested in order to book places) – *Jo Boase*.

REPOSITORY ROTAS

The new rotas are now available for collection in the Church porch – *Marian Telepneff*.

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 *previous Wednesday*.

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR YOUNG WOMEN

A vocations weekend for those considering Religious life. Where: Broadstairs, Kent. When: 22nd – 24th May 2009. See notice board in Church porch for further details or for more information, please contact: *Sr Lynne - lynnfcj@hotmail.com*.

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

CAFOD Portsmouth are currently seeking volunteers to visit Catholic schools to deliver lively presentations about CAFOD's work. Expenses covered, training provided, materials supplied and ongoing support given. The role does not require the full educational expertise of a teacher. What is essential is the ability to communicate with young people of all ages. For more information, please contact *CAFOD on 01252 329385 or portsmouth@cafod.org.uk*.

REMINDER

St Joseph's Office hours are on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9 am until 12.30 pm.

SPEAKING UP FOR CAFOD – 6TH JUNE 2009

CAFOD Portsmouth will be holding a special training day for anyone interested in speaking about CAFOD in their local community. The day will be held from 10.30 am until 4.30 pm in the parish hall, St Joseph's, Queen's Road, Aldershot. Numbers are limited, so please ring *CAFOD Portsmouth on 01252 329385 to book a place or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk*.

EARLY NOTICE

Will parishioners kindly note that there will be no 10 am Mass on Bank Holiday Monday, 25th May at St Joseph's. There will, however, be Mass at 9.30 am at English Martyrs and at 12.15 pm at St James' Church. The 10 am Mass intention at St Joseph's for Mark Phillips RIP will need to be transferred to another date. Will the parishioner who requested this intention kindly contact the Parish Office to arrange an alternative.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

FR JOHN'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ORDINATION

As previously announced on Tuesday, 21st July 2009, Fr John marks the 25th Anniversary of his ordination as a priest. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated that evening at 7.30 pm at English Martyrs, followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre. Bishop Crispian will be present. Please make a note in your diaries of this event. Further details will be set out in this newsletter in the near future.

LIFE

In national terms, LIFE's income is not sufficient to run all of its services (caring/counselling, housing, education and the Fertility Care programme) to full strength. While the Reading & District group has no financial worries because of the very generous donations of many regular supporters, we would like to contribute to the national coffers from some of our local fundraising. To this end, we will hold a sale of plants, home-made cakes, gift items and clean bric-a-brac (not jumble) on SUNDAY, 31ST MAY, in the main hall after both Masses here at St Joseph's. We will be in the hall on Saturday, 30th May between 5 pm & 6.30 pm to set up and receive any donated items, and would be extremely grateful for any help on the day. Further details from *Christine Wall – Telephone No. 941 1605*.

JUST LISTEN!

Listening skills are vital for those working with people in the many and varied ministries of today's Church. The diocese is hosting a day course in listening skills run by Acorn Christian listening on Saturday, 20th June, from 10 am – 4 pm, at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke, cost £20.

These are skills for our working and everyday life, but also for those who give communion to and visit the sick, support the bereaved, are catechists and pastoral council members. For an application form contact the Parish Office.

COULD YOU FOSTER?

Foster families are needed for: Single children aged over 7 years, sibling groups, children of black and mixed ethnicity, children with disabilities.

Cabrini Children's Society welcomes enquiries from people of all nationalities, race, cultural backgrounds and faiths who are able to parent children who have experienced loss and trauma in their lives. You will need commitment, flexibility, patience, understanding and good support networks.

Fostering is a very rewarding but challenging and demanding job. Therefore we offer information and advice, financial and practical support, including out of hours, and ongoing training to further your development.

Contact Cabrini Children's Society Foster Care Service, 7 Bridge Street, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 0HN, or call 01962 842024 or email: *fostering@cabrini.org.uk*.