



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 EASTER – YEAR B

9/10 MAY 2009

Last Wednesday I was able to participate in a Mass at the Cathedral in Birmingham to mark the 50th anniversary of priesthood for Bishop Philip Pargeter. Bishop Philip is a good friend of Bishop Crispian and so I had met him on many occasions during my time as Bishop's Secretary, and since. St Chad's Cathedral was packed and there must have been a couple of hundred clergy concelebrating. Although I know a few of the Birmingham priests, I don't know many because we work in our different dioceses and have little reason to come across each other. It struck me how easy it is to live inside a relatively small box, with the people we know, doing the things with which we are familiar. A chance to visit another diocese is just a reminder of the wider Church to which we belong.

Very soon, Archbishop Cornelius is coming to visit our Diocese for a fortnight. Who is he? He is the Archbishop of Bamenda in the Cameroon, the diocese we have been twinned with for more than thirty years. His predecessor was Archbishop Paul Verdzev who retired at the age of 75. Reading has always been a great supporter of the link we have with Bamenda and for this reason Archbishop Cornelius wished to include a visit to English Martyrs and to St James during his time in the UK.

On the weekend of 23rd/24th May, the Archbishop will be here with us. He will celebrate the 6.30pm Mass on Saturday 23rd at English Martyrs and the 11am the following day at St James. I hope that as many people as possible will make the effort to join us on the Saturday evening, and come to the Parish Hall afterwards for light refreshments and a chance to meet Archbishop Cornelius. Ah, you might say, I don't usually go to the 6.30 pm. Well, on this one weekend, why not have a change so that you can hear a Bishop preach whose life and work is based in a very different part of the Church to the one we are used to. I hope you will, because this is part of our opportunity to receive a very personal account of the Church's mission in Africa in 2009. As Catholics we have the great gift of belonging to a Universal Church so this is a time to celebrate that. Every year we have 'Bamenda Sunday' but it isn't often that the Archbishop of Bamenda comes to visit us.

Fr John

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST JOSEPH'S	
Lesley Anthony RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Jessie Tanner & Patricia Bottomley RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Trevor Williams RIP
People of the Parish	11.30 am		10.30 am	Isobel O'Reilly RIP
Florinda Menezes RIP	5.00 pm			
Sarah Toal RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	
Funeral - Jim Rafter RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Anne Leggett RIP
Sheila Lynch RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	William Rolsten RIP
Louie Fearn RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	William Rolsten RIP
Anna Begley RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Isobel O'Reilly RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Kathleen Cooney RIP
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Tuesday – SS Nereus, Achilleus Pancras		Wednesday – OUR LADY OF FATIMA		Thursday – ST MATTHIAS
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: "You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 3RD MAY 2009

Gift Aid	£391.36
Planned Giving	£59.50
Loose Plate	£271.91
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£20.00
TF3	£4.50
Easter Offering	£30.00
Hall Hire	£147.00
Donations	£2.48
Youth Group	£142.50
Clergy Training	£34.00
TOTAL	£1,103.25
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£329.32
Easter Offering	£2,873.01
Clergy Training	£562.29

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 17th May are Maurice O'Brien & Ryan Hawkins.

YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 15th May will be an ice skating trip. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie* 9415636.

CHRISTIAN AID – WALK THE COUNTRY

Details and application forms for Walk The Country on 16th May 2009 are available in the Church porch. By taking part you will be making a difference to some of the world's poorest countries.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

During the last couple of weeks, Gift Aid envelopes within the English Martyrs Gift Aid system have been placed in the collection plate at St Joseph's. Parishioners are reminded that at present the English Martyrs parish and St Joseph's have separate bank accounts, and envelopes therefore need to be placed in the appropriate parish. To ensure that Gift Aid envelopes do not go astray, will you kindly place the weekly offering in the appropriate parish collection plate. Parishioners co-operation in this matter will be much appreciated.

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.

KNITWITS

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 11th May at 8 pm at the home of Veronica Williams: 9 Orkney Close, Calcot.

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 – *Jo Boase*.

REPOSITORY ROTAS

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

CAFOD – FOCUS AFRICA

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the above during April. The total was £522.50. This included a very generous donation of £500 from a fellow parishioner. Thank you so much – *Margaret Chaplin*.

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: 22 – 24 May 2009. See notice board in Church porch for further details or for more information, please contact: Sr Lynne lynnefcj@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.

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 at 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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS:

Saoirse Antill	Molly McMichael
James Carrick	Ewan Millar
Jade Chaplin	Kenneth Ntamarik
Jade Crofts	Connor Nunes
Vincenty Czwordon	Paula Oben
Caitlin Delaney	Declan O'Sullivan
Luke Donovan	Danny Owens
Kane Drake	Mathilde Pluck
David Eddy	Christian Santos
Ronica Elad	Justine Sarmiento
Ben Farmer	Dominic Scott
Michael Goon	Jennifer Snape
Kate Greenawalt	Daisy Stretton
Kaye Higgs	Maeve Ward
William Holloway	Samantha White
Janine Icawalo	Luc Williams
Hannah Jehan	Louis Willis-Falkiner
Daisy-Mae Jones	Neave Winterbourne
	Cormac Wooller

Please support them with your prayers.

A big **THANK YOU** to the children, to the parents and the team of catechists who prepared the children and to all who prepared the Church and the Liturgy so beautifully.

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.

DIOCESAN YOUTH DAY

Diocesan Youth Day to be held on Sunday, 17th May at Oaklands School, Waterlooville. YEBO – Saying "YES" to God is being held to celebrate the visit of Archbishop Cornelius of Bamenda to the Diocese. The day will run from 10.30 am to 5 pm and costs £5. The age range is 11 - 18. Workshops will include, art, music, drama, climate change, relationships, initiative games, drumming, prayer stations. The day will culminate with an open air Mass and will be followed by a barbecue.

For further details and to register go to <http://forms.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/yebo/yebo.html> - (Consent forms can be downloaded from here).