



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>	
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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

11/12 JULY 2009

If you went to Mass in Cameroon on a Sunday, Mass would be in French, English, a local language or a mixture of languages, depending on which part of the country the Mass is celebrated. In my part of the country, the Mass would generally be said in English but the readings and the homily would be in Pidgin English, with hymns chosen from any of the languages spoken in the area. Once in a while, we have the sung parts of the Mass in Latin – especially when we celebrate Mass for people from diverse linguistic backgrounds. Some of the parishes in the big towns would have a Mass each for the major linguistic groups. This, I think, is meant to encourage us to a full and active participation in the Mass.

A friend of mine who is a parish priest once told me about a prayer which a housebound parishioner said before receiving Holy Communion. She said: *“Lord, I am not worried to deceive you, but only save the world and I shall believe.”* You probably know the prayer she wanted to say, and you may be wondering whether she should have been given Communion at all. But she was a believing Catholic, her only problem being that she did not know the language in which the prayer was composed. Because she could speak Pidgin English she picked up the sounds, but confused the words so much so that the whole meaning of the prayer was lost. In fact, she ended up saying something that was completely against her beliefs as a Christian!

Even though my knowledge of Latin is very anaemic, I love listening to Gregorian chant and don't quite mind parts of the Mass sung or said in Latin. On the other hand, I understand that the use of Latin in the Mass has been a sensitive issue in our community. While some would have nothing to do with Latin hymns and prayers, others would love to have the whole Mass or at least parts of it in Latin as often as possible. Vatican II, while acknowledging that there are advantages to using the vernacular in the Mass, encouraged the faithful to know how to say or sing in Latin those parts of the Ordinary of the Mass which pertain to them. Life in community is always give and take, and it is important, when we consider these issues, to ask ourselves whether our attitude is determined just by the way we feel or by what having Mass in English or Latin does to us, to our faith and to the community.

Fr Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST JOSEPH'S	
Sidney Carvalho RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Tillie Ryce RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Ellie Herbert RIP
Eugene Herbert RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Gus Vickers RIP
Patrick Heffernan RIP	5.00 pm			
Willem Ryan RIP	9.30 am	Monday	No Mass	
Neil McKenzie RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Fr Peter Codd's Intentions
Eugene Herbert RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Fr Peter Codd's Intentions
Carmelite Sisters Intentions	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Fr Paul Leonard's Intentions
Willie Roulston RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Special Intention
		Saturday	10.00 am	Michael Conroy RIP
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Monday – St Henry		Tuesday – St Camillus of Lellis		Wednesday – St Swithun
Thursday – Our Lady of Mount Carmel			Friday – St Bonaventure	
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: “Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.”				

COLLECTIONS FOR 5TH JULY 2009

Gift Aid	£451.50
Planned Giving	£59.50
Loose Plate	£262.99
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£50.00
TF3	£9.50
TF4 (Fr John)	£50.00
Candle Money	£40.75
Repository	£110.02
Peter's Pence	£16.20
TOTAL	£1,050.46
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£557.32
TF4 (Fr John)	£379.39
Peter's Pence	£394.84

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 19th July are Harry & Liz McSoley.

SEA SUNDAY - THE APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

Today is Sea Sunday, when the Church remembers all those who live and work at sea. Many people have never stopped to consider how important seafarers are to our standard of living. Without them, we would not have most of the items we use in our everyday lives. Many of these seafarers do not have the quality of life on board that every human has the right to.

The Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. The Apostleship of the Sea reaches out to seafarers that visit our ports each year, offering pastoral and practical support and care. AOS is wholly dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work; it takes the love of Christ to seafarers in the name of the Church, recognising them as our brothers and sisters in need.

Sea Sunday is the principal fundraising and awareness-raising event of the year for AOS. Today's second collection will be taken at Masses throughout the country, this annual event is absolutely vital for AOS to continue their work. Please give generously, and remember seafarers in your prayers. *Thank you.*

FREE

Girl's 5 gear bicycle for age approximately 12 – 15 years. For further details, please telephone 961 5237 – *Maria Forestiero.*

CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP

Our last session before the summer break will be **TODAY**. We wish you all a happy and restful holiday and look forward to seeing everyone again when we resume on Sunday, 6th September - *Margaret, Ann, Maria, Sue & Virginia.*

APF-MILL HILL MISSION MASS

The annual APF-Mill Hill Mission Mass will be celebrated on 13th July at Our Lady of Peace Church on Wokingham Road, Earley, starting at 7.30 pm. Many people support this work through donations and the Red Boxes all year round. Everyone is welcome to this Mass when we give praise and thanks to God for all he does through the APF and Mill Hill.

HOLY COMMUNION AT HOME

If any parishioner is unable to attend Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, or if anyone knows of such a person, please inform the Parish Office or *Jo Boase* on 9672605, so that visits can be arranged.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH BARBECUE

On Saturday, 18th July at 5 pm – Bring yourselves and a bottle! Everything else will be provided. There are extra tear off slips available for catering purposes. Please post completed slips in to the box provided – *Thank you.*

ST JOSEPH'S PARENT/CARER TODDLER GROUP

The last session before the summer holidays will be held on Thursday, 16th July, 9.30 am – 11.30 am and will resume again on Thursday, 10th September.

If you haven't attend before, please do join us in the Church Hall where your children can play and socialize in a safe and stimulating environment and you can enjoy a coffee and a chat.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME: 2009/2010

St Joseph's Parish Programme will begin next term in preparation for reception of the sacrament next May. If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September, you are invited to register for the programme as soon as possible. If your child attends St Paul's school, please collect an application form from the **SCHOOL OFFICE** and hand it in to the **PARISH OFFICE** (open Tuesdays and Thursdays 9 am - 12.30 pm). Parents of children at other primary schools should collect the form from the Parish Office. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept applications received after **Friday, 18th September**, so please do not forget to register in plenty of time.

CONFIRMATION JUNE 2010

If you will be in Year 8 or above in September and are interested in joining the Confirmation program, please leave your name, phone number, home address and email address with the parish office. There is a strict cut-off date: **Monday, 19th October**, to allow us to plan the resources required. (Late applicants will be asked to re-apply the following year). The program will begin with a Come and See evening in November.

TEA AND COFFEE

There will be no tea/coffee served after 10.30 am Mass from Sunday, 19th July – Sunday, 30th August inclusive. A big thank you to all those who support this venture throughout the year and especially to the Youth Group who now organise things on the first Sundays of the month. This year we have raised around £80 for CAFOD (proceeds on 1st Sunday) and around £250 for Fr Zvonko's training fund (proceeds on all other Sundays). The final sums will be known once we have finished for the summer - *Ann Epps.*

A NEW PASTORAL COUNCIL

We asked for names of those willing to be part of the new Pastoral Council and so far only a few names have been received. It is still not too late to put yourselves forward, or nominate someone else (with their agreement). Names can be given in to any of the three Parish Offices.

The Pastoral Council we are now forming is absolutely key in the thinking which must be done as we continue to build up our Catholic community, and identify new ways of bringing the Good News to the world of today.

PARISH OFFICE

Please note that St Joseph's Parish Office will be **closed** on Thursday, 16th July, but will be open on Friday, 17th July instead.

DAY FOR LIFE – SUNDAY, 26TH JULY 2009

The day in the Church's year dedicated to celebrating the dignity of life from conception to natural death – will this year focus on the theme of suicide. The main emphasis of Day for Life 2009 will be on the pastoral dimensions of this difficult and sensitive subject. It will highlight why the Church believes that every life is worth living and look at the reasons why people contemplate suicide, including acute mental illness and the possible spiritual factors involved. It will also point towards the support that the professional services can bring and hopefully help to reduce the stigma too often associated with mental illness and depression.

Building upon last year's focus on mental health; the bishops hope that this year's day with its particular focus on suicide will help raise awareness of the vital role played by families and a supportive parish community in supporting and sustaining those who may be struggling to cope. Further information available from: www.dayforlife.org.

REMINDER! FR JOHN'S SILVER JUBILEE

All parishioners are warmly invited to a Celebration Mass at 7.30 pm at English Martyrs Church on Tuesday, 21st July when Fr John will be celebrating the Silver Jubilee of his Ordination. Bishop Crispian will join us for the Mass, Presentation and Refreshments. Gift envelopes can still be handed over to your Parish Secretary. If you would like to help set up the hall or serve refreshments, just let the Parish Office have your name and telephone number.

If you would like to sign the card for Fr John's Silver Jubilee, it will be in the porch from today until Sunday, 19th July.

PARISH COUNTRY WALKS

Do you like going for walks in the country? An informal group is being set up for parishioners who want to go on occasional walks in the countryside around Reading. The first walk (of roughly 5 miles) will take place in the Pang Valley and is planned for Sunday, 19th July, after 9.30 am Mass at English Martyrs Church. Details are available from the notice boards in the colonnade at English Martyrs. If you have any questions please contact *Steve Petrie*, or *Alice Holmes* 0118 958 2988.

CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY and CLIMATE JUSTICE

MASS Saturday, 12th September, 10.30 am – 3 pm - Mass at 3.30pm. St Bede's, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX. All CAFOD supporters are welcome to come along to hear about CAFOD's work in Bangladesh and Ethiopia and about upcoming plans for Harvest Fast Day 2009. We will be joined by Maurice McPartland, Head of Africa. The day will end with a special Vigil Mass for Climate Justice. Please note that everybody is welcome to attend the Mass - even if they do not come for the whole day). To book a place please email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or ring 01252 329 385.

RENEW THE FACE of THE EARTH!

A day for Confirmation Catechists – Saturday, 19th September, 9.30 am – 1 pm - St Peter's School, Olivers Battery Road North, Winchester, SO22 4JB. The Diocesan Pastoral Formation Team and CAFOD are holding a half-day for Confirmation catechists to look at the NEW free resources for Confirmation produced by CAFOD. Refreshments provided. To book a place, please contact Eileen Stephenson (Pastoral Formation Department): estephenson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Tel: 01329 835583.

BROTHER CHARLES MALAMBA

Brother Charles Malamba from Zambia visited St Joseph's parish during Fr Peter's time as Parish Priest and assisted him in some of our pastoral activities. The parish has received a message recently to say that Charles Malamba will be ordained a priest on 25th July 2009 in Zambia. To mark this occasion, Fr Joseph will be offering the 10.30 am Mass on Sunday, 2nd August for Fr Malamba's intentions.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK

If you know of anyone who is unwell and would like to be prayed for at Mass, please let St Joseph's Parish Office know. Their names will then be included in the bidding prayers. Please make sure the person is happy for their name to be mentioned beforehand.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

Are you interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith? Whether you are considering becoming a Catholic or would simply like to ask a few questions you are welcome to join the Journey in Faith group. Please phone *Brigid Parkes* - 9427436 for more details.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SUPPLIER

First Holy Communion supplier run by former catholic school governor. Dresses, veils, tiaras and accessories. Telephone *Clare* on 01442 258607 or go to www.fhc-online.com.