



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: sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk</p> <p>Secretary: Sheila Jones</p>

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

25/26 JULY 2009

A day in the life of a priest.....

and 25 Years on



I can honestly say that it is hard for me to find adequate words to thank everyone at English Martyrs and St Joseph's for the celebrations linked to my 25th Anniversary of Ordination as a priest. The Mass on Tuesday evening was a great occasion in which so many were able to join with me in thanking God for all he has done, and continues to do, through me as a priest. I was delighted to be able to welcome representatives of the diocese with whom I work, other priests from the Reading area and beyond, and people from the various communities in which I've served, here, in Abingdon and in Wash Common. My family and other friends gathered with us. At the heart of that gathered community was Bishop Crispian who represents the communion we share in Christ's Church on earth.

The celebration afterwards was full of joy and went way beyond anything I'd expected or hoped for. To all those who helped to organise the evening, in the church, in the hall and beforehand – thank you. To the many people who gave me cards and gifts – your words and thoughts are profoundly moving. To each and every person who contributed to the cheque I was given from English Martyrs and St Joseph's – thank you. With part of it I plan to buy a watercolour painting that I can enjoy for many years to come. One of the visitors from a previous parish said to me on Tuesday evening: "you have a great community here in Reading – enjoy it." Thank you above all for supporting me day-by-day and week-by-week as I try to live out my vocation as a priest in your midst. **Fr John**

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST JOSEPH'S	
Dorothy Bennett RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Gus O'Brien RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Paddy Deacey RIP
Eugene Herbert RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Babs O'Sullivan's Intentions
People of the Parish	5.00 pm			
Funeral – Brenda O'Brien RIP	9.30 am	Monday	No Mass	
Eugene Herbert RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Stephen McKenna RIP
Granny Geraghty RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Tony Brien RIP
Danny Moore RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Noelle Elizabeth Neary RIP
John & Suzanne's Intentions	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Mr O.J. Cherian RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	For many favours received - Margaret
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Tuesday – St Sampson		Wednesday – St Martha		Thursday – St Peter Chrysologus
Friday – St Ignatius of Loyola		Saturday – St Alphonsus Liguori		
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 open wide your hand, O Lord, and grant our desires."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 19TH JULY 2009

Gift Aid	£351.50
Planned Giving	£46.50
Loose Plate	£294.03
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
TF3	£14.39
Candle Money	£31.82
Apostleship of the Sea	£50.29
Hall Hire	£1,866.00
Youth Group	£620.00
TOTAL	£3,390.93
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£832.32
TF4 (Fr John) Final Figure	£1,000.00
Peter's Pence	£396.34
Apostleship of the Sea	£313.34

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 2nd August 2009 are Pat Toner and Angela Barry.

NO PARKING IN YELLOW CROSSED BOX

Please refrain from parking in the yellow crossed box immediately in front of the double garage on Sundays, as Fr Joseph has been blocked in and unable to drive to 9.30 am Mass at the English Martyrs.

NEW PARISH OFFICE EMAIL ADDRESS: ST JOSEPH'S

Please note the new St Joseph's Parish Office email address: sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk in keeping with the format outlined by the Portsmouth Diocese. The old email address will be monitored until the autumn, when we will cease to use it.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

The Bishop's Conference for England & Wales have authorised a special collection to take place in parishes **TODAY** in support of the Day for Life.

The Day for Life 2009 will be dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition, and this year will focus on suicide. The proceeds from the Day for Life collection will assist the work of the Linacre Centre for Healthcare Ethics and other life related activities supported by the Church.

Special envelopes are available at the back of the Church and may be placed in the collection baskets during the Mass. Please be as generous as you can.

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.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Shaun and Kayleigh Harris who are being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

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.

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.

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.

ST JOHN BOSCO

CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION GROUP – WOODLEY

A national climate change rally is to be held in London on 5th December 2009. The St John Bosco Action Group at Woodley is anxious to organise a coach to take people from the Reading area to the rally. If anybody is interested in this subject and would like to participate in the rally, would you please contact Kevin Boyle at Kevin.boyle1@btinternet.com or leave a message at St John Bosco, Woodley, on telephone no. 969 3423.

YOUTH GROUP

The Youth Group sessions will re-commence on Friday, 4th September with an Equipment Night. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie* 9415636 or check the web site for forthcoming events or to print off application forms: <http://www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk>, then follow link for the Youth Group.

CAFOD SUPPORTERS DAY and CLIMATE JUSTICE MASS

On Saturday, 12th September from 10.30 am - 3pm (Mass at 3.30 pm at 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 telephone 01252 329 385.

CABRINI CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Cabrini Children's Society is holding two family charity days in conjunction with Surrey Gliding School at Kenley Airfield, Surrey.

The first will be in September (date TBA) and the second on Bank Holiday Monday, 3rd May 2010. A 15 minute flight will cost £45 and a barbecue including drinks will be held later in the day. Due to the popularity of this event, we would be grateful if you could let the Society know as soon as possible if you are interested by contacting *Ann Hoggan* on 020 8668 2181 or email ann.hoggan@cabrini.org.uk.

TRIP TO WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL

Fr Dominic at St James is planning a trip to Winchester Cathedral on Wednesday, 23rd September. The coach will leave St James at 10 am arriving in Winchester for the lunch time Mass at St Peter's Church, the local Catholic Church. After time for lunch, there will a private guided tour of Winchester Cathedral which will take approximately one hour. The coach will leave for the return journey to St James at 4.30 pm. The cost is £10 per person and we would like payment when you book your seat. If you find, nearer the time, that you can't come, the payment will be refunded. If you would like to come, please contact the Parish Office at St James on 957 4171 or email parish@jameswilliam-reading.org.uk.

THE CHURCHES IN READING WOMEN'S CENTRE

Dear Friends and Supporters,
We thank you for your interest in us in the past and we are now asking if you will think of us when you ask for Harvest gifts from your congregation. Anything you donate to us will be used to provide a hot meal for some of Reading's very needy women. Some of our women really struggle financially and many live alone so meals are a very important part of their day and we give them the best we can afford. This year we have provided free meals to three homeless women. If you are able to give us some of your harvest produce and if it is convenient for you to use, we have provided a list of goods that are most useful to us. The list is displayed in the Church porch.

Thank you for anything you are able to give us.
Mabel Boyd, Centres Manager.

PROSPECTS

Prospects is a Reading based, national Christian charity supporting people with learning disabilities. It has launched a series of sponsored walks all around the UK. Covering a total of 1,000 miles, our aim is to highlight the needs of 1.5 million people with learning disabilities in our churches and our society.

Tony Phelps-Jones, Prospects' Director of Mission and Ministry, is walking the whole of the 1,000 miles. He is being joined on parts of the walk by people supporting the project and by people with learning disabilities walking according to their own ability.

The 1,000 miles have been divided in 10 different weeks. There are 5 days of walk, with celebrations included at the end of some of the days. You can find out more at www.prospects.org.uk/walkwithme.

Walk number 10 is coming near you! This will be the final walk and we invite you to be part of this wonderful project. The walk will start in Canterbury on October 4th, pass through Southend, Bedford, Oxford and Reading (on October 7th), and finish in St Albans on the 8th.

Since this is the final walk, we would particularly like to celebrate God's goodness through the whole of the project. We are therefore encouraging as many people as possible to join in part of this last leg. You can walk with Tony maybe for a whole day (20 miles), or just the last mile or two. You could come to a celebration at the end of a day's walk. Or if you wish you can simply sponsor the project.

We hope that you will be able to join us so that together we can make a stand to bring about real change for adults with learning disabilities who are often marginalised and forgotten.
Christine Mackie, Co-ordinator WWM Walk 10 – Reading leg
0118 951 6979 - cwadmin@prospects.org.uk.

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.

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.

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.

REMINDER

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

KNITWITS

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 3rd August at 8 pm at the home of Ruth Lewis: 30 Calder Close.

**CONGRATULATIONS AND GOD'S BLESSINGS
FATHER JOHN ON THE CELEBRATION OF YOUR
SILVER JUBILEE OF ORDINATION TO THE
PRIESTHOOD.**

**MAY YOU BE BLESSED IN ALL THAT YOU DO AND
FOREVER BE REWARDED UNTIL THE NEXT
MILESTONE!!!**

**THE PARISHIONERS OF ST JOSEPH'S AND
ENGLISH MARTYRS ARE PRIVILEGED TO HAVE
YOU AS THEIR PASTORAL CO-ORDINATOR AND
LEADER, FOR WHICH WE TRULY THANK GOD
AND YOU.**

THANK YOU

Thank you for accepting me this time here. Thanks for your prayers and support. I am keeping you in my prayers. My studies are going well according to my plan. Please God, I will see you in 2010 – Fr Zvonko.

AUGUST HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS

St Joseph's Parish Office will be closed for two weeks from the week commencing Monday, 3rd August. Sheila Jones will be back in the Parish Office on Tuesday, 18th August.

It is anticipated that a newsletter will continue to be published during this period.

For urgent matters, i.e. sick calls and funerals, please continue to ring St Joseph's Church on 942 8632.

