



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>

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

1/2 AUGUST 2009

After I had celebrated the morning Masses last Sunday at St James, I caught a plane to Rome where I was going for a meeting. During the flight I was thinking about the changes Bishop Crispian has asked us to make in the present flu pandemic. When I was first ordained and still in Rome, the Bishops in Italy decided not to introduce Communion in the hand or from the chalice. So it was a little strange for me when I came home a couple of years later to get used to Communion being received in the hand and from the chalice.

I had a similar experience last Sunday being the only person to receive from the chalice. At the same time I really admired the way in which everyone participated with the sign of peace by bowing and greeting each other, and the way that people who would normally receive Communion on their tongue, accepted the Bishop's decision.

The altar servers were talking about the changes before Mass and a common view was that they didn't quite understand why we were doing this, because surely God would not let us be infected by going to Communion? There are to my mind two answers to that. One is very practical – the provisions are there to reduce to an absolute minimum the physical contact between us, not to suggest that infection is carried by Holy Communion. That way we can do our bit to protect the young, the elderly and those who have underlying health problems.

The second is just a thought about how God relates to us. Along with everything else God gives us in this life, he has also given us freedom and free will. If you think about it, we all know what it is to be faced with choices. If everything was pre-planned we would never have to make any decisions or choices, we could just go through life on a kind of auto-pilot. I suppose one benefit to that would be that we would not know what temptation was!

So nothing is pre-programmed for us. Surely that is why we pray, so that God will indeed become more part of our lives and be with us as we face so many alternatives or situations that are not of our making or choosing. I hope the readings today will help us to appreciate more that God does hear our prayers and that God nourishes and sustains us as he chooses.

Fr Andrew

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST JOSEPH'S	
Ridley Family RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Michael Ryan RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Lilly Kerns' Intentions
John McTighe RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Fr Charles Malamba's Intentions
Kathleen Gaughan's Intents.	5.00 pm			
Syro-Malabar Mass	6.30 pm			
Francis McCloskey RIP	9.30 am	Monday	No Mass	
Joe Sweeney RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Nicholas Fletcher RIP
Peter Hatcher RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Mike Scholes RIP
Martin Ryan RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Daniel Grant RIP
Eugene Herbert RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Mary Vittle RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Helena & Charles McLaughlin RIP
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Monday–St Ethelwold		Tuesday–St John Vianney		Wednesday–Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major, Rome
Thursday – THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD			Friday–SS Sixtus II & Companions, St Cajetan	
Saturday–St Dominic				
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 gave them bread from heaven."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 26TH JULY 2009

Gift Aid	£311.00
Planned Giving	£52.50
Loose Plate	£165.06
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
TF3	£44.50
Candle Money	£29.01
Lorry Parking	£50.00
Hall Hire	£0.00
TF6 (Linacre Centre)	£307.84
TOTAL	£959.91
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£832.32

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 9th August 2009 are John O'Shea and Clare McSoley.

YOUTH GROUP

For 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.

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.

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.

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.

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD

Bishop Crispian invites us to an introduction to Stewardship in Portsmouth Diocese. What is it and why is it important? This day will take place on: 7th November – at St Joseph's Convent School, Upper Redlands Road, Reading. Cost £5 (will be covered by the parish) + bring your own packed lunch. For details and booking: Dept. for Pastoral Formation, Park Place Pastoral Centre, Winchester Road, Wickham, Hants PO17 5HA. Tel. 01329 835583 or email estephenson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

FR ZVONKO

During his recent brief visit to St Joseph's, Fr Zvonko once again expressed his sincere thanks to the parish for the financial support given to him to help with his university studies.

Fr Zvonko receives no financial assistance from his home diocese of Banja Luka and relies on donations from family and friends.

With Fr John's approval, St Joseph's Parish will be having a special voluntary collection for Fr Zvonko during the next few weeks and envelopes are available at the rear of the Church.

With the help of all Fr Zvonko's friends here at St Joseph's, we hope to be able to send him some further financial assistance in time for the new academic year in October. Please be as generous as you can.

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.

MIKE SCHOLES RIP

Thank you to everyone who supported us recently in any way after Mike's death - *Anne, Bernadette and Angela*.

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.

KNITWITS

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

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.

SPECIAL BREAKFAST

Arranged by Reading Churches Men's Group - 8.15 am for 8.30 am on Saturday, 5th September in the Cedar Room, Park House Reading University (Pepper Lane entrance). "Hong Kong Before and After" - 40 years of amazing Christian work in Hong Kong. Guest speaker - Jackie Pullinger, author of "Chasing the Dragon". Bring a friend/relative/neighbour/colleague to hear this remarkable woman. To book £10/head - send cheque 'RCMG' and SAE to John Ledger, 27 Radstock Lane, Earley, Reading, RG6 5RX. Tel: 9861917 (or *John Broady* 9543879). Please book by 1st September latest.

PORTSMOUTH PEOPLE

The August/September 2009 edition of the Portsmouth People is now available in the Church porch – *Please help yourself to a copy.*