
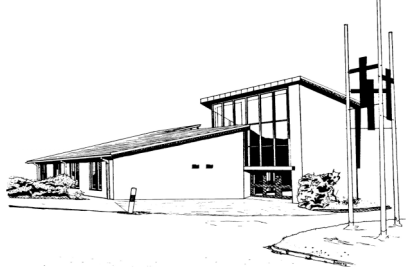


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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>

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

19th/20th SEPTEMBER 2009

We welcome back Fr John from his two week exercise in Scotland with the TA. Back to the quiet of Parish life!!

I think that we must all be well trained and fit as soldiers called to the front line, for we live in the throws of a constant war waged through suffering and death. Our training must be in the spiritual life that finds us united to Christ in an intimate relationship.

Recently, when I visited the local hospice, I found myself with a patient who had his bible with him as a constant companion and it became evident that this was a living out of a personal relationship with God. Many passages were highlighted and must spoken to him in the past for him to recall or reflect on.

Not everyone will understand or want to enter into discussion with a person steeped in the words of the bible. Sometimes we realise our own poverty in our lack of biblical knowledge or use of scripture in our everyday life. And yet, it is always there regardless of our intellectual ability. Words that will touch, strengthen and heal because they are the living word of the God who is present to us.

This patient always referred to me as "Reverend" and I hear his voice as I write. He told me how, in January, the Doctor told him that he had cancer. When I spoke to someone recently about how they felt when they were told they had cancer, they said, "I felt physically sick and weak in the knees". A natural reaction I think because cancer instils fear and anxiety. But this patient said that when the doctor told him he had cancer he followed this up by saying, "the cancer will kill you". To this the patient replied, "No, it ain't doctor! It will kill my body but it will not kill me." A very interesting response, but I think it could only come from a life filled with and united to the word of God.

When I saw him having been transferred to a nursing home, he was tired and visibly the signs of cancer spreading. His head bowed, he said, with word of scripture now imprinted on his soul, "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me, your rod and your staff, they comfort me." Ps 23. As I left he said, "Reverend, come again!"

Fr Richard

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST JOSEPH'S	
George Bennett RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Elsie Goldrick RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Rosita Artuz Ganzon & Benjamin Ganzon RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Tony Williams RIP
Deceased members of the Doyle Family RIP	5.00 pm			
Funeral – Rosina Lusby RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	Mary Teresa Lee RIP
			10.00 am	Funeral - Frances Zakary RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Martha Munnely RIP
Manuel Brandariz RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Tony Williams RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Tony Williams RIP
Ned Finneran RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Bernard Stanfield RIP
Thanksgiving - Paul Barras	7.30 pm			
		Saturday	10.00 am	Babs O'Sullivan's Intentions
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Monday – ST MATTHEW	Wednesday – ST Pio of Pietrelcina	Thursday – OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM		
	Saturday Ss Cosmos & Damian			
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 upholds my life."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 13TH SEPTEMBER 2009

Gift Aid	£581.35
Planned Giving	£48.00
Loose Plate	£204.49
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£264.00
TF3	£1.75
Repository	£42.50
Candle Money	£25.78
Youth Group	£492.50
Racial Justice	£281.04
TOTAL	£1,941.41
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£2,325.17

THANKS

Many thanks to Jenny Pearson for organising the sale of greetings cards which raised the sum of £200 towards Fr Zvonko's training fund – *Fr Joseph*.

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 27th September will be Pat Toner and Angela Barry.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a collection **TODAY** for CASE (Catholic Agency to Support Evangelisation). Additional, special envelopes are available at the back of the Church.

There will be a special collection next Sunday, 27th September for the Cathedral.

YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 25th September will be a swimming night. For details, please contact *Nicola Ritchie 941 5636* 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.

CONFIRMATION JUNE 2010

If you will be in Year 8 or above in September and are interested in joining the Confirmation programme, 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 programme will begin with a Come and See evening in November.

CHRISTIAN AID – QUIZAID

At Tilehurst Methodist Church on Saturday, 3rd October at 7.30 pm. For further information, please contact *John Dimmock – Telephone No. 962 4651*.

JOURNEY IN FAITH

Are you interested in finding out more about the Catholic faith? You may be considering becoming a Catholic or simply want to ask a few questions. Perhaps you are a Catholic who has been out of touch and would like to reconnect. The Journey in Faith group meets on Thursday evenings. For more details please contact the parish office or phone *Brigid Parkes on 942 7436*.

PARENT/CARER AND TODDLER GROUP

Held in the Church hall each Thursday between 9.30 am – 11 am during term-time. Here, your children can play and socialise in a safe environment and you can enjoy a coffee and a chat. *Please do come and join us.*

ST JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL

From September 2010, the Governors have taken the decision that St Joseph's will become a co-educational school. On October 7th, there will be an Open Afternoon for the Preparatory School from 2.30 – 4.30 pm and an Open Evening for the Senior School from 6.30 – 9 pm. *Prospective parents, boys and girls are very welcome to attend.*

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesday, 14th October and Wednesday, 21st October 8 pm - 9.30 pm in the main Church hall. We will be using a programme called: Baptism – helping your child get the most out of life. Godparents are also welcome to join us for discussion and to watch a DVD.

The courses only run every few months, so if you are new or expectant parents, it might be better to attend this course if you wish your child to be baptised fairly soon. If you are considering Baptism for your child, whatever their age, please register for the course by contacting *Brigid Parkes on 9427436* or alternatively email the Parish Office (details on the front of this newsletter).

FRANCIS ZAKARY RIP

The Parish offers condolences to Frances Zakary's family. Please pray for the repose of his soul. Frances' requiem Mass will be held here at St Joseph's at 10 am on Monday, 21st September, followed by burial at St Michael's Churchyard. *All are invited.*

PARISH RETREAT – 7TH NOVEMBER

The parish liturgy group, in consultation with Fr Joseph, are in the process of making arrangements for a parish retreat to take place on 7th November 2009. The retreat will commence with Mass at 10 am in the Church and in the hall from 10.30 am until 3 pm. (Bring your own lunch). Primarily, the retreat is for persons with ministry responsibilities within the parish, i.e. Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Welcomers, Cleaners, etc, but all parishioners are welcome to attend. Parishioners from the other two parishes in the pastoral area are also welcome to attend.

CAFOD – HARVEST FAST DAY – FRIDAY, 2ND OCTOBER

The usual CAFOD collection for Harvest Fast Day will be held on Friday, 2nd October. Special envelopes will be available in due course for collection on Sunday, 4th October.

LIFE

The AGM of Reading & District LIFE will be held on Tuesday, 29th September in the LIFE Care Centre, English Martyrs Church, Liebenrod Road, Reading at 11 am. *All supporters welcome.*

MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Bishop Crispian will celebrate a Mass on Friday, 25th September, at 7.30 pm, here at English Martyrs. This Mass is in thanksgiving for the work of Mr Paul Barras who for many years was Head Teacher at Blessed Hugh Faringdon School. Mr Barras retired at the beginning of this year. *All are welcome to join in this Mass in thanksgiving.*

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

The next UCM meeting will be on Wednesday, 23rd September when we will welcome back Alec Simmonds, this time to reminisce about radio programmes from the past in a talk entitled 'Down Memory Lane'. *All ladies are welcome to join us in the small hall at 7.30 pm.*

ALTAR SERVERS

Would your child like to train as an altar server? Any child who has made his/her First Holy Communion is eligible to serve, but it must be the child's decision to serve, not the parents. Practices are usually held on a weekday after school (whichever day is most suitable to the group) and last about ¾ of an hour. After approximately one year's service, servers are enrolled in the Guild of St Stephen (the patron saint of altar servers) and are formally presented with the Guild Medal. Please contact me for further details – *Mike Tomas: 941 2786.*

APF

It will soon be time to empty the boxes again. Could I have your contributions no later than 25th October please? Any money received after this date cannot be included in the 2009 accounts. If, by this date, it will be more than six months since your box was last opened, please contact me. The APF autumn magazines are available at the back of the Church - *Mike Tomas, APF Secretary: 941 2786.*