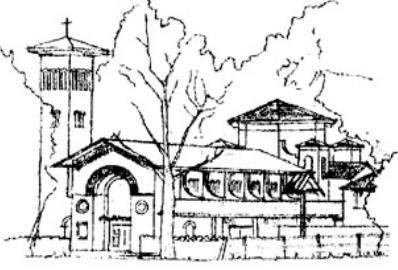
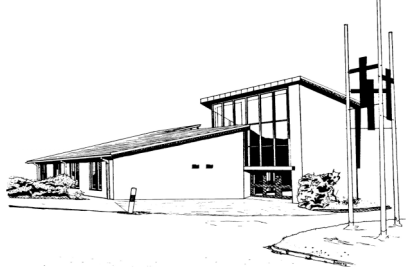


# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p align="center"><b>Parish Clergy:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Mgr John Nelson</b> (Parish Priest &amp; Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p align="center"><b>Fr Joseph Awoh</b> (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><b>Secretary: Gwen Price</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>RBH Chaplaincy -</b> (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><b>Secretary: Sheila Jones</b></p>

## TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009

A few weeks ago, I was talking with a parishioner who had a minor operation booked for the next day. I told her that I was going to pray the rosary for her, but she answered that the rosary was not one of her favourite prayers. I then told her that just because the rosary was not one of her favourite prayers did not make it any less effective. I am a fan (maybe because my parents brought me up on it) and I have always found it very effective.

I had almost the same reaction when we announced the visit of the relics of St Thérèse of Lisieux to the Cathedral at Portsmouth. While some parishioners did not think that relics were their cup of tea, others openly expressed the view that relics were one of the worst things that ever happened to the Catholic Church, bordering almost on superstition.

Maybe I am a fan of the rosary because I was brought up on it. Maybe I don't have any problems with relics because, being Cameroonian, I come from a superstitious culture. However, as a Catholic (priest) I realise that many people (some of them non-Catholic) have derived a lot of comfort, consolation, strength and direction from praying the rosary while others have had life changing experiences after visiting Marian shrines and places where Our Lady is believed to have appeared.

It is remarkable to notice that before the relics of St Thérèse came to England and Wales, they have been to many other countries around the world where St Thérèse has continued to "spend her heaven doing good on earth" as she promised before her death. In our cathedral, close to 5,000 people found time to touch the casket that bore the bones of this young girl whose ministry, like that of the prophet Elisha did not cease, even in death (2 Kings 13:20-21 and Ecclesiasticus 48:13-14). I learnt that Liverpool Cathedral received about 10,000 people when the relics of St Thérèse went there!

All of this teaches us, I think, that while some aspects of our Catholic faith and practice may resonate with us, they may not necessarily resonate with others who share our faith, and vice versa. Maybe this could help us think again when we are tempted to force our pet devotions down the throats of whole communities or when we are tempted to outrightly condemn practices with which we are not comfortable.

*Fr Joseph*

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST JOSEPH'S	
Rhona Clifton RIP	6.30 pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>		
Thanksgiving-P.J. Shannon	9.30 am	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am	Patricia Rush RIP
Fr Paul Leonard's Intention	11.30 am		10.30 am	Charles Tinsley RIP
Ettie O'Reilly RIP	5.00 pm			
Sophia Maria Belcher RIP	9.30 am	<b>Monday</b>	8.30 am	Adeline Acho's Intentions
Funeral - Panumad Edwards (Art) RIP	9.30 am	<b>Tuesday</b>	7.00 pm	Paul Goodwin RIP
Michael Martin RIP	9.30 am	<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00 am	Winifred Mary Gale RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	8.00 pm	<b>Thursday</b>	9.00 am	Frank Zakary RIP
Rhona Clifton RIP	9.30 am	<b>Friday</b>	7.00 pm	Henry & Ethel Wiggins RIP
		<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 am	Mary Larney's Intentions
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Monday–St Wilfrid		Tuesday–St Edward the Confessor		Wednesday–St Callistus I
Thursday–St Teresa of Avila		Friday–Ss Hedwig & Margaret Mary Alacoque		Saturday–St Ignatius of Antioch
Thursday 7-8 pm		<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</b>		Saturday 9.30-10 am
5.30–6.15 pm		<b>CONFESSIONS - SATURDAY</b>		10.30-11 am
<b>Responsorial Psalm: "Fill us with your love that we may rejoice".</b>				

## COLLECTIONS FOR 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2009

Gift Aid	£412.10
Planned Giving	£77.50
Loose Plate	£259.76
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£670.00
TF3	£2.20
Candle Money	£33.01
Lorry	£50.00
Racial Justice	£5.00
CAFOD Family Fast	£713.64
Cathedral Fund	£14.00
CASE	£5.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,242.21</b>
<b>Running Totals</b>	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£3,043.69

### REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October are Tony & Jill Flint and Pat Knowles.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection next Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October for Mission Sunday. This year's theme is **Reach Out with Love**. Our prayers and donations on World Mission Sunday help to support mission projects and Catholic communities across the world to grow towards self-sufficiency.

Through Missio, the Holy Father invites every Catholic in the world to contribute to a special collection; your help will bring hope and new life to people thirsting to hear of God's love for them. You will be able to Gift Aid all donations by using the envelopes provided at the back of the Church.

### YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> October will be a break-up disco. 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, 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

### 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.*

### UCM

The UCM will be holding a Cake, Preserve and Produce Sale on Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> October and need goods to sell. If you can donate anything (e.g. cake, jam, chutney, plants) - please bring your contributions along to the small hall next Sunday morning before Mass. The proceeds of the sale will go to Fr Zvonko's Training Fund.

## CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Following the success of last year's Christmas Hamper project, the Parish Working Group has decided to hold another hamper draw this year. Parishioners were very generous in donating items suitable for the draw and it would be appreciated if everyone could make similar contributions from now on. A basket will be available in the Church porch for all donations. Proceeds from the draw will go to parish funds and the date of the draw will be Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2009 following the 10.30 am Mass in the large hall.

### NEW TO THE PARISH?

Please fill in a New Parishioner Registration Form which can be found in the Church porch and drop it into the Parish Office – *Thank you.*

### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS

Parish Christmas cards will be on sale after each Mass. All profits will go to parish funds.

### BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> October and Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> 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 942 7436* or alternatively email the Parish Office (details on the front of this newsletter).

### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH RETREAT – 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

Due to the clash of dates with the Diocesan Stewardship Day to be held at St William of York, the parish retreat has been cancelled. Arrangements will be made for the parish retreat to take place during Lent 2010.

### APF

It will soon be time to empty the boxes again. Could I have your contributions no later than 25<sup>th</sup> 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.*

### WELCOME

A warm welcome to Oliver Henry Brookings and Thomas George Brookings who are being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

### CALLING ALL RUNNERS!

If you get a place in the ballot for the London Marathon (or any other event) why not run on behalf of your local children's charity, **Cabrini Children's Society**? Cabrini provides services for children, families and adults with learning disabilities and has been doing so since 1887. If you are interested please contact *Ann Hoggan on 0208 668 2181* or email [ann.hoggan@cabrini.org.uk](mailto:ann.hoggan@cabrini.org.uk).

### SAFEGUARDING ADULTS & CHILDREN

Are you a doctor, social worker or police officer with current or recent experience of safeguarding adults or children? Would you like to offer your skills and experience to the Diocesan Safeguarding Commission? If interested, please contact Angela McGrory, Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator for an informal chat on 02392 816396 or 07554427064. This is a voluntary role that is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced CRB Disclosure.

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..... Continued from Newsletter .....

### **CENTRAL & WEST READING PASTORAL AREA**

A bereavement service will be held at St Joseph's Church at 3 pm on Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> November. All parishioners in the Pastoral Area are invited to attend and pray for deceased members of their families and friends. Light refreshments will be available in the large hall after the service.

### **LIFE**

"Protecting and Enhancing Fertility in Today's World" – A talk by Ira Winter, Co-ordinator of the LIFE FertilityCare Programme, Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> October, at the Environment Centre, Holywell Mead, High Wycombe, 10 am – 12 noon. LIFE's FertilityCare service is the ethical alternative to IVF, cheaper and equally effective, supportive married couples from infertility to natural conception and parenthood. Contact Gill Duval – Telephone No. 01494 537283.

### **ADVISOR FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE - READVERTISEMENT**

We are looking for a committed Catholic, passionate about all aspects of Marriage and Family Life, who will continue the work of promoting and supporting the 'Celebrating Family' initiative in the diocese. The Advisor will also have the opportunity to contribute collaboratively to all aspects of the department's work. The post is for two years, and the successful applicant will be a committed Catholic with a degree in Theology or a closely related subject. The Department is based at Park Place Pastoral Centre, Wickham, Hants. Salary: £18,000 for a 21 hour week. For an application pack, please contact Eileen Stephenson (estephenson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) - 01329 835583. Closing date for applications: Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> October. Interviews for shortlisted candidates: Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> November.

### **ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Open Day on Tuesday, 20th October 2009:

9.30 am – 10.30 am - Presentation and tour of school by Year 6 children, followed by Headteacher's talk and opportunity for questions at 10.15 am.

11.00 am – 12.00 noon - Presentation and tour of school by Year 6 children, followed by Headteacher's talk and opportunity for questions at 11.45 am.

7.00 pm – 8.00 pm - Presentation and tour of school by Year 6 children, followed by Headteacher's talk and opportunity for questions at 7.45 pm.

Please book a time to visit by contacting the office on:

0118 901 5466 or email [admin.englishmartyrs@reading.gov.uk](mailto:admin.englishmartyrs@reading.gov.uk)  
- [www.englishmartyrs.reading.sch.uk](http://www.englishmartyrs.reading.sch.uk)

### **THE WAVE**

Saturday, 5th December, Central London: the Stop Climate Change coalition, of which CAFOD and Christian Aid are also part, is organising an Ecumenical service and a rally for climate justice ahead of the meeting of world leaders in Copenhagen to discuss the post-Kyoto treaty. It promises to be the biggest climate rally ever organized and a great day out for all the family. Ecumenical service at 11 am (with Archbishops Vincent Nichols and Rowan Williams) at Westminster Central Hall, followed by march starting at 1pm from Grosvenor Square. A coach to get to the event will be leaving from Reading central station 8.30 am - stopping in Woodley (Woodford Park) 8.45 am and Maidenhead (Sports Centre - Braywick Rd) 9.15 am. Tickets £10. To book a place please contact Rita Belletty, CAFOD volunteer ([rita.belletty@talktalk.net](mailto:rita.belletty@talktalk.net), 01189696219) or the CAFOD Portsmouth office, [porstmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:porstmouth@cafod.org.uk), 01252 329385. All details of the events are available at <http://www.cafod.org.uk/take-action/climate/the-wave> and <http://www.cafod.org.uk/take-action/climate/the-wave>.

### **TRANSPORT TO MASS**

One of our parishioners who lives in Pegasus Court on the Bath Road would like a lift to Mass occasionally, about once a month. Ideally, we would like a group of people who could help out from time to time. The more the merrier that way we can spread the load. If you are able to help can you please contact either Eileen Kerrigan on 941 2757 or Sheila Jones, the Parish Secretary on telephone number 942 8632.

### **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.

### **FR ZVONKO**

Due to the very generous support given by many parishioners in St Joseph's Parish, we were able this week to send Fr Zvonko a money order to the value of £3,000. This will be of significant help to him in paying for his continuing university studies in Rome and Vienna. Many thanks to all – Fr Joseph.

### **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.

### **PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN CHRISTIAN UNITY COMMITTEE**

This year's forum is to be held on 17<sup>th</sup> October at St Bede's, Basingstoke, and all those involved with ecumenical work are encouraged to attend. The day will be led by Mgr Andrew Faley, and the theme which he will be addressing is "The Search for Christian Unity - an Audit for Today". It is essential to register for this day by contacting Mairead Boyce (on behalf of the Executive Committee). Telephone No. 01367 242494 email [boycemairead@aol.com](mailto:boycemairead@aol.com).

### **PORTSMOUTH PEOPLE**

The new edition of our monthly free diocesan magazine is available from the back of Church. This month's featured Church is English Martyrs, Reading.

### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

There is an event in Caversham on Friday, 16th October which is definitely of interest to those concerned about Climate Change and its effects. It is at 7.30 pm in Caversham Heights Methodist Church. CAFOD's Head of Policy Jane Green will be speaking as part of One World Week.

### **WELCOME**

If you are a visitor to the parish, we want you to know how welcome you are – whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another local parish.

