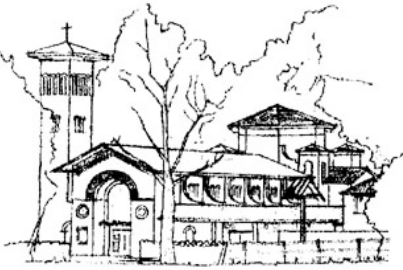
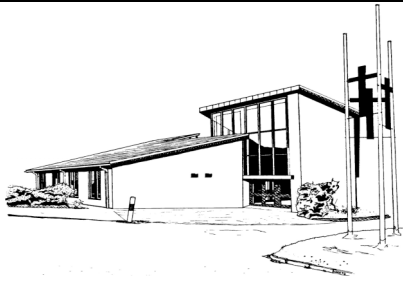


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Clergy:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest & Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fr Joseph Awoh (Resident at St Joseph's)</p> <p style="text-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 style="text-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-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

17th/18th OCTOBER 2009

I was pleased to be invited last week to the celebration of Marion Thorp's 100th year. We gathered in a very appropriately named "The Great House" for the "great occasion".

As you might imagine, celebrating 100th year would bring together many family members and relations. No less on this occasion. Marion's three sons and their families came from as far afield as Vancouver in Canada to Maidenhead, Macclesfield and Cambridge. There was reminiscing about life at English Martyrs in the late forties for which I had a keen ear. Hearing of how things were in the 40's and 50's was very interesting.

Life in Canada was a lot different to life here. You become aware of your diminishing "personal space" when you travel in London and realise how densely populated we are here. Some relations lived in Cambridge and remarked how life in a small village was changing. There was no longer the milk, bread or groceries delivered to the door. Many people were now elderly and depended on the kindly nature of those around them. The village churches were experiencing diminishing numbers in their congregation, as those moving into villages would not be church goers.

It is interesting to be with people when they celebrate such an occasion, but a thought was at the back of my mind, "what about me?", and I am not alone in this. Did not the disciples in last week's gospel say something similar, "what about us? Peter asked him. " We have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "I tell you solemnly, there is no one who has left house, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and land for my sake and for the sake of the gospel who will not be repaid a hundred times over, houses, brothers..... - not without persecutions - now in this present time and, in the world to come eternal life." Mk10:25-30.

When I was in a parish in Portsmouth, I went to a shop and bought five bags of sweets. The lady at the till said to me, "You must have a lot of children!" I said I had two hundred and fifty. Her jaw dropped as I paid for the sweets, smiled and left. Some weeks later I was gardening near the church, she recognised me, came up to me and said, "with all those children you still have time for the garden!! "

Yes, we are blessed with people all around us with whom we share our faith, our hopes, our sorrows and our joys. All brothers and sisters in Christ!

Fr Richard

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST JOSEPH'S
Anne MacNamara RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Bridget O'Neill RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Cyril Williams RIP
Louie Fearn RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Peter Welsh RIP
Liz's Intentions	5.00 pm			
Nellie Gormand RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	Kathleen Gaughan RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Margaret Diffley RIP
Fr Pennicot's Intentions	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Mrs Molly Thompson RIP
English Martyrs School Harvest Mass	9.30 am	Thursday	9.00 am	Francis Zakary RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	8.00 pm			
Ina Flood RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Maurice O'Brien RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Roy Hodges RIP
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Monday–Ss John de Brébeuf, Isaac Jogues & Companions & Paul of the Cross				
Friday–St John of Capistrano & Ethelthaeda				
Saturday–Ss Anthony Claret & Magloire				
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: "May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.				

COLLECTIONS FOR 11TH OCTOBER 2009

Gift Aid	£354.50
Planned Giving	£50.50
Loose Plate	£263.59
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£10.00
TF3	£7.50
Candle Money	£31.36
Hall Hire	£383.00
Christmas Cards	£116.60
TOTAL	£1,217.05
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£53.67

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 25th October are Tony Chaplin and John Macbeth.



REMINDER: BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS
NEXT SUNDAY, 25TH OCTOBER

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection **TODAY** for World Mission Sunday. We have the opportunity to actively support the mission outreach of the Church. We share in the work of missionaries and the young Churches as they **Reach Out with Love**, often in difficult and dangerous circumstances. The Church across the world, especially where it is young and poor, depends on our spiritual and material offerings for its survival and growth. The money collected today will go in its entirety to support mission projects worldwide. Please give what you can, every gift makes a difference and if possible please use the Gift Aid envelopes provided at the back of the Church.

YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 6th November will be an Equipment Night. For details, please contact *Nicola Ritchie on 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

This Monday, 19th October is the last date for signing up for this year's Confirmation programme. If you are in Year 8 or above and are interested in joining the Confirmation programme, please leave your name, phone number, home address and email address with the Parish Office by Monday. Candidates who have already registered should have received an email or phone call regarding the date for Come and See evening.

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.*

MARY TOMAS RIP

Please pray for the soul of Mary Tomas RIP who died on Wednesday, 14th October. *Funeral details will follow.*

UCM

The UCM will be holding a Cake, Preserve and Produce Sale **TODAY**. 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. Draw tickets will be available from the end of October and proceeds from the draw will go to parish funds. However, the parish has decided to donate £250 from the profits to the SVP Society for distribution to the less fortunate within the parish. The date of the draw will be Sunday, 13th December 2009 following the 10.30 am Mass in the large hall.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS

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

CENTRAL & WEST READING PASTORAL AREA

A bereavement service will be held at St Joseph's Church at 3 pm on Sunday, 1st 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, 21st 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, supporting married couples from infertility to natural conception and parenthood. Contact Gill Duval – Telephone No. 01494 537283.

Thank you to all who helped in any way at our jumble sale last weekend. We made £218 – Christine Wall.

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*.

FR ZVONKO – TRAINING FUND

As mentioned last week, the parish sent to Fr Zvonko a money order to the value of £3,000. His training fund will remain open and special envelopes will still be available at the back of the Church. We have received from Fr Zvonko a letter of thanks and this is displayed on the notice board in the porch – *Fr Joseph*.

KNITWITS

An advance notice for your diaries: We would like to invite you to our "social get together" to celebrate our 20th anniversary on Saturday, 14th November at 2.30 pm in the large hall. More details nearer the time. Do hope you can come – *Margaret Chaplin*.

ALTAR SERVERS' STOOLS

As a result of a generous donation, the parish has been able to purchase six new altar servers' stools for the Sanctuary. The parishioner concerned wishes to remain anonymous. Many thanks – *Fr Joseph*.

