
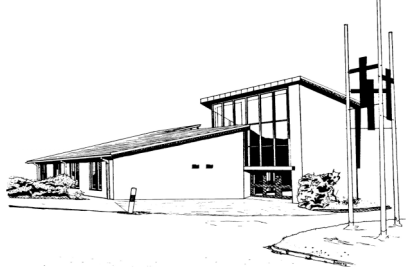


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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>

ALL SAINTS DAY – YEAR B

31ST OCTOBER/1ST NOVEMBER 2009

This weekend we are celebrating our link with the people, religious and priests of the Diocese of Bamenda in the Cameroons. During the month of October representatives of the Bishops of Africa were in Rome for a Synod with the Pope to reflect on the Church in Africa. Archbishop Cornelius from Bamenda, who was with us in Reading earlier in the year, was there and in his speech to the Synod he said: "Reconciliation, justice and peace are the work of God's grace which comes to us through the Word of God and the Sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Penance and the Eucharist. Two things are therefore necessary: (1) A more regular celebration of the Sacrament of Penance and the Eucharist, which are the Sacraments of healing, communion and service; (2) A more prophetic proclamation of the Word of God, in and out of season."

This weekend we are returning to the way in which we usually receive the Eucharist, as Bishop Crispian has lifted the restrictions he brought in earlier in the year. Once again we can all receive Holy Communion under both kinds. It will be good to be back to the way things were and I do hope it brings a deeper awareness of the grace we receive in the sacraments.

Perhaps this weekend is also saying something which, as Archbishop Cornelius suggests, is quite prophetic. By putting together All Saints and All Souls the Church is being prophetic. Firstly in the lives of the saints there are great inspirations especially when we are faced with the challenges or choices some of them faced. Then, the celebration of All Souls reminds us that death is part of our existence, and is not something from which we can hide. The thought that we will not be forgotten and that others will remember us in their prayers is a real witness to the rest of the world and a sure sign of our belief in eternal life with God.

Fr Andrew

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST JOSEPH'S
Mary O'Neill RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
D'ced Members of the Parish	9.30 am	Sunday – ALL SAINTS	8.30 am	Margaret O'Kane RIP
Canon Hetherington's Ints	11.30 am		10.30 am	Deceased Members of the Kelly Family
John Keeton RIP	5.00 pm		3.00 pm	Bereavement Service
Syro Malabar Mass	6.30 pm	Monday – ALL SOULS	10.00 am	All the faithful departed RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	9.30 am			
All the faithful departed RIP	7.30 pm	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Thomas Hayes RIP
Tom Kerrigan & Martin Commins RIP	9.30 am			
First Communion Group	7.30 pm	Wednesday	9.00 am	Francis Zakary RIP
Deceased Legion of Mary Members RIP	9.30 am			
English Martyrs School	10.00 am	Thursday	9.00 am	Kathleen Gaughan RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	8.00 pm			
Cliff Nutley RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Leonilda Figueira RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Mr O.J. Cherian RIP
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Monday – ALL SOULS	Tuesday – St Martin de Porres	Wednesday – St Charles Borromeo		
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: "Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 25TH OCTOBER 2009

Gift Aid	£415.40
Planned Giving	£69.50
Loose Plate	£243.12
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£107.90
TF3	£17.60
Candle Money	£35.08
Christmas Cards	£76.50
Repository	£70.00
Donations	£5.00
TOTAL	£1,040.10
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£169.44

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 8th November are Harry & Liz McSoley.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection **TODAY** for Bamenda. Every year we have a **special collection** to support the priests, religious and people of Cameroon in our twinned Diocese of Bamenda. This week, please take a copy of '**Bamenda Briefing**' from the back of the Church and see how much your help is needed.

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.

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 **TODAY** 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 **TODAY**. 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.

If anybody knows of an elderly/disabled person who would like to attend the service, but is without transport, it would be much appreciated if parishioners could offer them transport facilities.

TRANSPORT TO MASS

One of our parishioners, who lives in Pegasus court on the Bath Road, would like a lift to 10:30 am 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 01189 412 757* or *Sheila Jones the Parish Secretary on telephone number 0118 942 8632.*

NOVEMBER – HOLY SOULS

It is the custom at St Joseph's to offer petitions in remembrance of the holy souls. This year, during the month of November, there will be a basket in front of the Sanctuary to receive the petitions. Please do not place any offerings in the basket. Any such offerings should be referred to Fr Joseph or to Sheila Jones in the Parish Office.

Fr Joseph will be offering four designated Masses in November for the departed members of families, parishioners and friends. It is not possible to celebrate individual Masses for each family in the Parish. In addition to our general intention to include them in every Mass, the following four Masses will be offered specifically for those named:

Monday, 2nd November at 10 am
Monday, 9th November at 8.30 am
Monday, 23rd November at 8.30 am
Monday, 30th November at 8.30 am

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES

The annual blessing of the graves at Henley Road Cemetery will take place at 2 pm on Sunday, 15th November. The blessing of the graves at St Michael's Churchyard will be held on Sunday, 8th November at 2 pm. *All are welcome.*

KNITWITS

The next meeting will be at the home of Ruth Lewis: 30 Calder Close on Monday, 2nd November at 8 pm.

WE WAIT IN JOYFUL HOPE – SATURDAY, 14TH NOVEMBER 2009

Come and enjoy a day exploring how we celebrate Advent, and some of the music both old and new that can enhance the season. The day will be led by Diocesan Director of Music and Liturgy, Paul Inwood. All singers and instrumentalists are most welcome, together with anyone who wants to know more about celebrating Advent in the parish. If you are bringing an instrument, please advise what it is when booking, and bring your own music stand.

This event will be held at English Martyrs Church from 10.30 am until 4.00pm. Tea and coffee will be provided but please bring your own lunch. To book your place, please contact *Sarah Finch on 0118 945 6545* or email sarah-finch@btconnect.com.

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD FOR HE IS GOOD

Bishop Crispian invites you to 'Give Thanks to the Lord for He is Good', an opportunity to find out what stewardship is and why it is so important in the life of our diocese.

Saturday, 7th November at 10 am for 10.30 am – 4 pm, St Joseph's Convent School, Upper Redlands Road, Reading, RG1 5JT, or Saturday, 14th November, 10 am for 10.30 am – 4 pm, St George School, Leaside Way, Southampton, SO16 3DQ.

The cost of the day is £5. Tea and coffee are provided, and participants are asked to bring a packed lunch.

To book, contact *Eileen Stephenson on 01329 835583* or estephenson@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

LIFE – A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES!

Charity Christmas Fayre on Saturday, 21st November in the English Martyrs Parish Centre. Charities will include Feed the Children, Traidcraft, Life, Talking News for the Blind, and more.

KNITWITS

An advance notice for your diaries: Knitwits would like to invite all of 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.*

SWINE FLU RESTRICTIONS LIFTED

On 23rd July 2009, Bishop Crispian introduced certain restrictions on the giving and receiving of Holy Communion and the exchange of greetings of peace. Having received advice, Bishop Crispian, mindful of the onset of the vaccination programme, has lifted the restrictions with effect from this weekend. He has given further advice to Parish Priests that should an area suffer a severe outbreak of the virus, then the local Parish Priest will be able to make whatever arrangements he may feel appropriate.

A detailed copy of Bishop Crispian's advice is attached to this newsletter.

CELEBRATING ADVENT IN OUR PASTORAL AREA

The annual Pastoral Area Advent Service will be held this year at St Joseph's Church in Tilehurst at 3.30 pm on Sunday, 29th November, the first Sunday in Advent. The 45 minute service of prayers, Advent scripture readings and music is based around the Advent Wreath and closes with a blessing of advent wreaths which can then be taken home to be the focus of our preparation for Christmas. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the parish hall.

This year, there will also be an opportunity to take part in an afternoon of reflection: "Making Space for God", from 1 – 3 pm led by Sabine Schwartz, the Catholic Chaplain at Reading University. A variety of activities will be available for adults and children, including guided scriptural meditation, private prayer and preparation of Advent wreaths and Advent calendars. It is hoped that this time will offer all ages an oasis of peace in our busy lives to reflect more deeply on the meaning of this beautiful season. All are warmly welcomed to come to either or both events. A bread and soup lunch will be available in the hall from 12 – 1 pm.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Carmen will be celebrating her 25th Anniversary of entering the Servite Secular Institute on Saturday, 5th December. A Thanksgiving Mass will be celebrated at 3 pm and she invites everyone to refreshments in the hall afterwards. Further details will be announced nearer the date.

PART-TIME EDUCATION OFFICER

This part-time post will be based in the Schools Department, Park Place Pastoral Centre, Wickham, Hampshire. The closing date for this position is Friday, 20th November.

For more information about this post and salary details please contact: Urszula Topp, Deputy Director, Department for Schools: Tel: 01329 839341 or email: utopp@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

For an application form and job description please contact: Soraya Ciccarone, Department for Finance and Property, St Edmund House, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth PO1 3QA.

ARE YOU AN UNATTACHED CATHOLIC?

Are you seeking new friends or perhaps looking for someone special? Why not join the Catholic Unattached Directory? All new members are given an unconditional 30-day money back guarantee if not completely satisfied. For free information pack ring 01322 222213 or write to: The Catholic Unattached Directory, FREEPOST (DT 1153), DARTFORD, DA1 2BR, or visit their web pages at: www.cathud.com.

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.*

GET CREATIVE! FOR CAFOD PORTSMOUTH

The CAFOD Portsmouth office has recently launched a competition to produce a CD of songs and poems from people across the Diocese. Entries are welcome from individuals and/or schools and groups. The topic of the song or poem could be anything from environmental justice to livesimply, from worship to social action. Deadline for submissions: 7th June 2010. Full rules and entry forms can be downloaded from www.cafod.org.uk/portsmouth or contact the office at portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or 01252 329285 for more information.

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? 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.

REMINDER

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

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN ADMINISTRATOR

To work in the Diocesan Department for Finance & Property which is located at St Edmund House, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth. Salary: £25,000 per annum.

For an application form & job description please contact:-

Soraya Ciccarone, PA to Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator and Diocesan Financial Secretary, Department for Finance & Property, St Edmund House, Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO1 3QA. Telephone: 023 92 825430 – email: soraya@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Closing date for applications: Friday, 13th November 2009.
Interview date: Late November 2009.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

The UCM will meet on Wednesday, 4th November at 7.30 pm in the small hall for a 'November' meeting. All ladies are welcome to attend.

ASSISTING SUICIDE

The Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) has published guidelines governing the prosecution of cases of assisting suicide. It is very important that Catholics should know what these guidelines says and make their views known to the DPP. A short briefing note 'HAVING YOUR SAY ON ASSISTING SUICIDE' can be found on the noticeboard in the Church porch, explaining what this is all about and what you can do about it. There are also details online at www.catholicchurch.org.uk.

