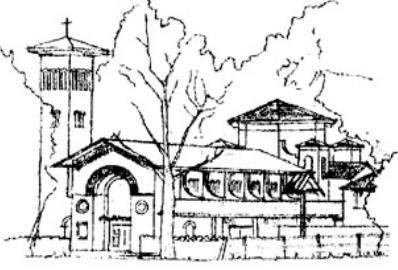
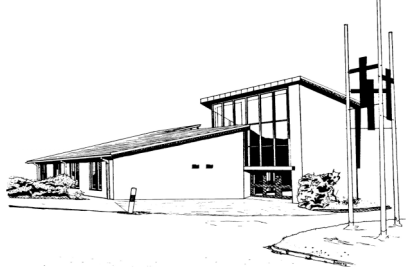


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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>

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

7TH/8TH NOVEMBER 2009

'REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY'

It is the time of year again when parents run around frantically looking for places for their children in schools. I have had to sign admission forms for some parents in the last few weeks and I am sure Fr John has been doing the same. Some of the people whose children's forms I have signed are strangers to me and, because I am aware that I do not know all our parishioners, I sometimes have to turn to people who have been around longer than me for confirmation that the people asking me to sign their children's forms live in the parish.

Sometimes parents have presented the baptism certificates of their children either to prove that they are Catholic or that their children were baptised in the parish. I cannot remember ever refusing to sign any person's admission form, even though it is common knowledge that some parents are under so much pressure to get their children a place in a good school that they lie and cheat. I remember telling some people that I was impressed to see them doing all in their power to get their child a place in a good Catholic school. I do not underestimate the ability of the Catholic school to inspire a child in the ways of God and to teach them what is good and true and noble. However, I do not think that it is right for parents to completely handover the Catholic upbringing of their children to the school, no matter how good the school may be.

For parents who had their children baptised in the Catholic Church, part of the 'deal' was that they would raise these children as Catholics. Maybe it is time we reminded ourselves that the Catholic upbringing of our children is first and foremost our duty, not that of the school. Further, for the Christian, baptism (the rite of admission into membership of the People of God) is more important than admission into a good school, even if that school is a Catholic school. Baptism should never be used simply as a 'passport' to gain admission to a good Catholic school.

I am aware that I am probably preaching to the converted, but maybe God wants you to spread the word among your families and friends.

Fr Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST JOSEPH'S
Deceased Members of the Carvalho & Bennett Families	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Mary Worley's Intentions	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Roy Hodges RIP
Liam Conroy Exams	11.30 am		10.30 am	Stephen Welsh RIP
Josephine Quilty RIP	5.00 pm		2.00 pm	Blessing of graves at St Michael's Churchyard
Josephine May RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	All deceased members of the parish RIP
Manuel & Consuelo Brandariz RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Irene & Herbert Pollard RIP
Norman Cullity RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Annie Kate Walshe RIP
Jim Rafter RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Thomas Walshe RIP
Pat, Tom, Stephen & Paul Leonard's Intentions	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Francis Zakary RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Fr Michael Hore's Intentions
FEASTS OF THE WEEK:				
Monday – The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica Tuesday – St Leo the Great Wednesday – St Martin of Tours				
Thursday – St Josaphat Saturday – Blessed Hugh Cook Faringdon, John Eynon & John Ruggie				
	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT			Saturday 9.30-10 am
5.30-6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS - SATURDAY			10.30-11 am
Responsorial Psalm: "My soul, give praise to the Lord."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 1ST NOVEMBER 2009

Gift Aid	£731.87
Planned Giving	£44.50
Loose Plate	£210.98
TF3	£2.70
Candle Money	£39.22
Christmas Cards	£10.00
Bamenda	£474.03
Hall Hire	£308.00
TOTAL	£1,821.30
Running Totals	
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£169.44

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 15th November are Tom & Pat McKeown and Hugh Glover.

YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 13th November will be a Cinema 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.*

NOVEMBER – HOLY SOULS

Fr Joseph will be offering a number of 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 Masses will be offered specifically for those named:

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.*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN READING PRAYER MEETING – MONDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER

St Joseph's will be hosting the next Prayer Meeting at 7 pm on 16th November. The meeting will be held in the small hall next to St Joseph's Church, and is an occasion for parishioners from churches in the West Reading area to meet socially for prayer and discussion. Light refreshments will be available during the meeting. *All are welcome – Fr Joseph.*

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.*

LIFE – A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES!

Charity Christmas Fayre on Saturday, 21st November from 1 – 4 pm in the English Martyrs Parish Centre. Charities will include Feed the Children, Traidcraft, Life, Talking News for the Blind, and more. Admission 20 pence.

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. Carmen has indicated that she really does not want any gifts, but would encourage donations to the drop-in-centre, if people wish. There will be a basket at the back of the Church after the Celebration Mass for any such donations.

CAFOD FOCUS AFRICA

Many thanks to those of you who contributed during October - £34.80. Are you trying to find a Christmas gift for "someone who has everything?" The answer may be in the CAFOD World Gifts Catalogue (copies in the Church porch) at the same time helping "someone who has nothing". Last year, thanks to supporters like you, World Gifts raised over £1 million.

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.

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.

KNITWITS

The Knitwits would like to invite any of you who are interested to come and help us celebrate our 20th Anniversary. Also, the fact that we have now made over 12,000 blankets and garments! So, there are now 12,000 children all over the world who have some warmth and comfort in their often sad little lives – thanks to your help and support also. We are having a social get-together in the large hall on Saturday, 14th November at 2.30 pm where we will have a display of some of our recent work. Bring & Buy Table, Raffle, Cards for sale – and a free cuppa!

All monies raised will go to the local charity Feed The Children to help with cost of transporting our knitting to where it is needed most. Please come, we would love to see you – *Margaret Chaplin*.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND REPOSITORY

A selection of cards, cribs, calendars, candles and other seasonal items for Advent and Christmas will be on sale after Masses in the small hall during November.

AN ADVENT CELEBRATION

Ever wondered how to make an Advent Wreath or heard of the 'Empty Crib'? Ever worried that in Advent, Jesus so often gets squeezed into the space left over from the demands of family and food? Then join us at St Joseph's, Tilehurst on Sunday 29th November, the first Sunday of Advent. From 12 noon, home-made soup and fresh bread will be available and at 1 pm, a short time of communal prayer and reflection. Then children of school age will enjoy separate, supervised creative activities, leaving adults free to make their own Advent wreaths and/or to experience different ways of guided or private prayer.

There is no charge and booking is not essential. However, an indication of numbers would be helpful, so if you plan to come please inform English Martyrs Parish Office. Tel. 957 2149. englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

At 3.30 pm, we will move from the hall to St Joseph's Church, where we hope others will join us in our annual Pastoral Area Advent Service. This is a 45 minute service of scripture, prayer and music based around the Advent Wreaths, which are then blessed before being taken home. Refreshments will be available after the service.

ADVENT REFLECTIONS

CAFOD will be producing weekly e-mail reflections during Advent. Sign up at any time at: <http://www.cafod.org.uk/worship>.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

The new, biggest ever range of gifts that capture the true spirit of Christmas is now available. Every gift you buy will help transform the lives of people fighting poverty in the the developing world. The catalogue is available online at www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or call 0808 14 000 14 to order a free printed copy.

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 22213 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.

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.

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.

