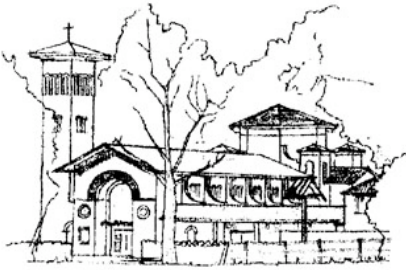
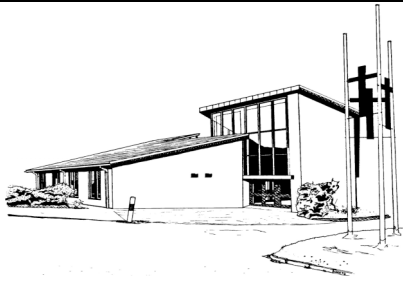


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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 e-mail: admin@englishmartyrs.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk Secretary: Gwen Price</p>	<p align="center">RBH Chaplaincy - (Tel. 0118 3227105)</p> <p align="center">Fr Chris Whelan Fr Richard Maniak</p>	<p>The Presbytery, Berkshire Drive Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 5JJ Tel: 0118 942 8632 e-mail: office@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk website: www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones</p>

Third Sunday of Easter – Year A

5/6 April 2008

After nearly seven months at St. Joseph's there are still lots of parishioners whose names I don't know and some whom I won't even recognise if I met them on the street. This may be partly due to the fact that I don't meet them often enough but also due to the fact that some people just like to keep a low profile. Besides, most people look the same to me!

It will probably take me some time to get to know many parishioners and maybe to know where they live and work. In the meantime I can count on the Eucharistic Ministers and the members of the SVP to take care of the sick, the housebound and those with other needs on behalf of the parish and to feed back to me how these people are doing.

One of the reasons why the Catholic Church has lost many members in many countries around the world is that the bigger it grows the more impersonal it can become. Parishes get so big and we get so caught up in administrative work that we cease to think about the people who make up the parish. People come to Church and join in the worship, sometimes even contributing financially to the upkeep of the parish but never feeling that they really belong. Nobody really cares to know who they are or what they are doing, or how they are doing in life.

The time after Easter could be a good time to think about relationship in our parish community. St Luke presents us with a post-resurrection Christian community in the Acts of the Apostles that is particularly devoted to worship (breaking of bread and prayer), but also particularly attentive to the needs of each member of the community. There is a distribution of ministries according to each one's gifts, but only so that the various needs of the members of the community are attended to. This leads to respect from the non-Christians but also to an increase in the number of those seeking to join the new community.

Our parishes are definitely worshipping communities but are they sensitive to the needs of each member? Can we use the many gifts with which God has gifted members of the parish community to minister to the needs of those who live on the margins of our parish life, those who worship with us but do not quite feel they belong? Can we explore ways of making our parish communities less impersonal and more loving and caring places where people want to belong? That, I think, is what Christ invites us to do in the time after Easter.

Fr Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Noel Denning RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Michael Conneely RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Tom O'Brien RIP
Kevin Commins RIP	11.30 am			
Rhona Clifton's Intentions	5.00 pm		10.30 am	Martin Tomas RIP
Phillip Stubbins RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	Private Intention
Peter Gavaghan RIP.	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Eileen Melia RIP
Eileen Herbert RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Fr Zvonko's Intentions
Angela Palmer RIP	8.30 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Bernard Kewon RIP
Margaret Crotty RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Helen Vaughan RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Martin Tomas RIP
THE FEASTS OF THE WEEK ARE:				
Monday – St John Baptist de la Salle		Friday – St Stanislaus		
Thursday: 7 - 8.30 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT		Tuesday: 7.30 – 8 pm	
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY			10.30-11 am
Responsorial Psalm: "Show us, Lord, the path of life."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 30TH MARCH 2008

Gift Aid:	£334.10
Planned Giving:	£26.50
Loose Plate:	£297.72
Tf5 (Fr Zvonko)	£20.00
Easter Offering	£55.00
Holy Places	£5.00
TOTAL	£738.32
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£1,071.03
Easter Offering	£1,979.66
Holy Places	£604.59

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 13th April are Tony Chaplin and John Macbeth.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Special Collection next Sunday, 13th April for the Clergy Training Fund.

YOUTH GROUP

The next St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 25th April will be a Welcome Back Equipment Night. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 9415636*.

TUESDAYS

Adoration of Our Lord is held on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 pm here at St Joseph's. All are welcome.

BAPTISM

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesday, 23rd April and Wednesday, 30th April from 8 pm - 9.30 pm in the main church hall. 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).

THE CHAPLAINCY DEPARTMENT - RBH

The Chaplaincy Department for the Royal Berkshire Hospital are seeking volunteers to train as chaplaincy visitors. You are invited to contact them for more details.

Closing Date: 21st April 2008. Tel. 0118 3227105 or email office@royalberkshire.nhs.uk or write to: The Chaplaincy Office, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust, Craven Road, Reading RG1 5AN. Also, if you have any spare rosaries could you please hand them into the Office as these are required by the Chaplain at the Royal Berks Hospital.

CAR BOOT SALE

There will be a car boot sale on Saturday, 26th April here in St Joseph's car park. 11 am: Sellers. 12 noon – 3 pm: Buyers. Car: £5. Van: £8. Tea and refreshments in the small hall. For more information please ring *Theresa Bricker on 9426788*.

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE LIVING GOD

Exploring the Relationship at the Heart of Our Faith. Encouraged by the success of last autumn's seminars, Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi will be running another "Life in the Spirit" programme leading up to Pentecost this year. For further information please see Notice Board. Registration Forms at the back of the Church.

KNITWITS

The next meeting will be on Monday, 7th April at 8 pm at Veronica Williams' home – 9 *Orkney Close*.

GIFT AID/PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Will parishioners who use the Gift Aid/Planned Giving envelopes kindly note that the new envelopes for the year 2008/2009 are now available, in numerical order, in the Church porch.

ST JOSEPH'S CAR PARK

Please drive carefully in the car park, particularly at times when children may be in the area – *Thank you*.

WANTED

Roman Catholic qualified Library Assistant for the Catholic National Library in Farnborough, one day a week, on a voluntary basis. IT skills and a practical knowledge of cataloguing an advantage. Must be a team player. For more information please contact the *Librarian on 01252 543818 or email library@catholic-library.org.uk*.

THE 45TH WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS – SUNDAY, 13TH APRIL

Pope Benedict XVI has proclaimed that Sunday, 13th April will be celebrated for "Vocations to the service of the Church-mission". Pope Benedict asks that as a community we endeavour to commit to work with faith and generosity in the service of vocations and he sends his Apostolic Blessing to educators, catechists and to all, especially to the young people on their vocational journey.

<u>Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School</u> <u>50th Anniversary</u>	
25/4/08	Mass to celebrate the founding of the school in English Martyrs Church at 7 pm followed by a Drinks Reception at the School.
26/4/08	Grand Reunion of Students 1958 – 1973 is being organised by Gabriele Scicluna. For information and tickets please ring <i>Mr Scicluna on 07527 931803 or email scicluna@hotmail.co.uk</i> . Tickets £7/pp.

THE LINK

Are you, or have you ever been, a volunteer at The Link? If so then you are warmly invited to a Volunteers Tea Party, here in the church hall, on Saturday, 12th April from 3 – 5 pm to celebrate the 20th year of The Link. Further details can be found on the notice board in the porch, or contact *Ann Epps 9411479*.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

To celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Lourdes, Bishop Declan Lang, Bishop of Clifton, will be leading the 2008 Portsmouth Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes under the umbrella of the Catholic Association. The dates are 22nd - 29th August 2008. For application forms and further details there are a few brochures in the colonnade, or please contact either *Tina Foreman or Fr Vincent Harvey on 01252 621295 or email den.peter@ourladyfleet.org.uk*. If there are any young people, 17 years or older, who wish to volunteer their services by pushing wheelchairs, pulling voitures or assisting at the Accueil Notre Dame, and generally lending their support to the Youth Group, this would be greatly appreciated.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN READING

Reading Interfaith Group are looking to increase their representation of Christians on its committee. We meet about every six weeks at All Saints Church mainly to plan events that will encourage understanding of the different faith communities in Reading. It is quite informal and everyone has something different to contribute. We are looking in particular for individuals who can make good bridges. This means they will be in regular contact with and accountable to their own faith group, attend regularly and be able to encourage those from it to take part in Reading Interfaith Group events. More information about Reading Interfaith Group can be found on readinginterfaith.co.uk or contact me (sarahmgriffin@googlemail.com).

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI

Information and Booking Forms are now available for this trip to Italy from 14 – 23 February 2009, under the leadership of Fathers John and Andrew. If you would like to take part please collect and complete the necessary form as, with limited space, we will take bookings on a first-come-first-served basis. If you have any questions please contact *Fr John by phone or at nelsonjohnf@aol.com*.