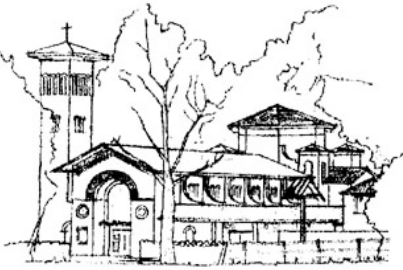
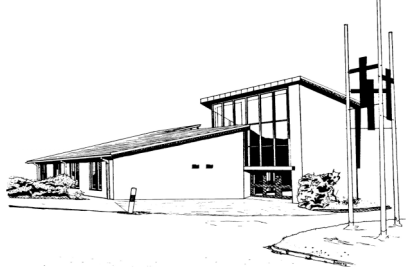


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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 englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk</p> <p>Secretary: Gwen Price</p>	<p 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: office@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk website: www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk</p> <p>Secretary: Sheila Jones</p>

Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

30/31 August 2008

It is hard to believe that the school summer break is all but over. This week children and staff return for another year – we hope refreshed and rested. Within schools pupils move up a year, some begin courses for GCSEs, some move from one Key Stage to the next, the youngest are starting school for the first time with all the excitement and tears that can bring. But what it all represents is movement, development, progression, and change. After all, it would be a very strange education system if children stayed in the same year, repeating what they had already covered and learnt.

So it is for each of us individually – and for the life of our faith community. We may well wonder how the months and years pass so quickly and how it is that September and autumn are with us again. But this is a *new* autumn, in 2008, and we've never had that before. In other words, this year must open up for us new opportunities and ways in which we can develop and deepen our faith. If we don't, then we risk simply repeating what we have done before whereas what we should be doing is building upon it.

A few weeks ago, in Sydney, 250,000 young people celebrated their faith with Pope Benedict. It was an amazing experience for those of us who were there and marked a growth-point for many who had made the journey all the way to Australia. It is not possible to re-create in every church the kind of atmosphere and experience of taking part in World Youth Day. But then that's not the idea. The aim is to stir up and invigorate the faith lives of the people who were there so that they can return to their parishes and communities with a renewed enthusiasm for their faith.

The young people who gathered in Sydney were not travellers, hitchhikers or backpackers. No, they were pilgrims on a journey – a journey with a goal and purpose. Pope Benedict joined them as a fellow pilgrim. We are pilgrims on a journey which moves us in one direction, closer towards Jesus Christ. Whatever we do in the year ahead, from this September to next summer, let us aim to deepen our faith, to move onwards. Let us decide that we are not satisfied with simply repeating last year but that we want to change and to grow.

Fr John

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Hugh Faringdon Burrett RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Norman Snow RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Erol Rodrigues RIP
Thanksgiving – Berni & Mary Rael	11.30 am		10.30 am	Miss Molly Thompson RIP
Lillian Campbell's intentions	5.00 pm			
Funeral: Annie Rockall RIP	9.30 am	Monday	NO MASS	
Tony Doherty RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Harry Gaffney RIP
Vincent McGrath RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	
Vincent O'Brien RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Teresa Lee RIP
Rebecca Day RIP	9.30 am	Friday	9.00 am	Ellen McCormack RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	
THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:				
Wednesday - St Gregory the Great			Thursday - St Cuthbert	
Thursday 7 - 8pm	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION		Tuesday 7.30 – 8pm	
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY		10.30-11.00 am	
Responsorial Psalm: "For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 24TH AUGUST 2008

Gift Aid:	£274.50
Planned Giving:	£37.50
Loose Plate:	£179.10
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£110.00
TOTAL	£601.10
<u>Running Totals</u>	
Fr Zvonko	£2,863.99

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 7th September are John O'Shea and Clare McSoley.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2008 – 2009

St Joseph's Parish Programme will begin next term in preparation for reception of the sacrament next May. If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September, you are invited to contact the parish office to register for the programme as soon as possible. Please see the front of the newsletter for contact details. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept applications received after **Friday 19th September**, so please do not forget to register in plenty of time.

CONFIRMATION 2009

The next Confirmation programme will start in November with a 'Come and See evening' and is open to anyone in Year 8 and above. To help us with planning, please register your interest by leaving your name, phone number and email address with the office. More details will follow in November.

OBERRAMMERSGAU 2010 – PASSION PLAY

It has been suggested that arrangements might be made for a parish group from St Joseph's/English Martyrs to attend the Oberammergau Passion Play in 2010. Fr John has agreed that arrangements could be made to "test the water" amongst parishioners to ascertain support for the proposal. If any parishioner is interested, please contact *Theresa Bricker* on 9426788.

CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION – THEME OF 'THE CROSS'

The Catholic Children's Society has been in touch to ask us to remind you that if you are heading off on holiday this summer to keep in mind their Photography Competition. The Society is on the look out for interesting photographs depicting the theme of 'the cross' which they can print as greetings cards. It may be that you already have a possible photo tucked away in a box in the loft but perhaps there will be new opportunities when you are away on holiday this summer? The six winning entries will be printed in a series of limited edition cards which will be made available to purchase online to raise money for the Society. Entries close on 15th September 2008 so there is still plenty of time. Full details of how to apply are online at www.cathchild.org or you can email or call *Ann Hoggan* from the Supporter Care team: ann.hoggan@cathchild.org 020 8668 2181 she will be pleased to post you an application form. Good luck, and happy snapping!

FR ZVONKO – TRAINING FUND

Fr Zvonko will be commencing his third year of study in September and although he hopes to receive some financial assistance from the Church in Need he still has to financially support himself with the help of family and friends. In consultation with Fr John, it has been agreed that St Joseph's parishioners will continue, on a voluntary basis, to be invited to make a contribution to the Training Fund during the month of August 2008. Special envelopes are available for this purpose on the table at the rear of the Church. The envelopes may be placed in the Sunday Collection plates.

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? Whether you are considering becoming a Catholic or would simply like to ask a few questions you are welcome to join the Journey in Faith group. Please phone *Brigid Parkes* - 9427436 for more details.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Due to the holidays, the new rota (starting on 7th September) will not be available for collection until after 1st September. Apologies for any inconvenience.

THANK YOU

Fr Wojciech would like to thank all parishioners for the warm welcome and hospitality he has received during his holiday. He will keep you all in his prayers.

LIFE

The AGM of Reading & District LIFE will be held on Tuesday, 9th September at the LIFE Care Centre, English Martyrs Church, Reading at 10.30 am. All LIFE supporters are welcome.

KNITWITS

The next meeting will be on Monday, 1st September at 8 pm at the home of Maureen English: 94 Blewbury Drive.

CAFOD FOCUS AFRICA

Thank you for the generous contributions during July - £211.49 in total. This included £85.30 from the tax refund for the financial year 2007/8 and also £60.17 donated from the first Sunday of the month coffee mornings.

A warm thank you to all who have contributed and also the team who organise the coffee mornings – Margaret Chaplin.

SINGLE/UNATTACHED/BEREAVED CATHOLICS

We're a friendly group and meet regularly for meals and social activities. For more information about the group, or to join, please contact us on 0118 9475782, or email readingcatholicfriends@yahoo.co.uk. Hope to see you!

MALTA DAY – UK

On Saturday, 13th September, starting at 10 am with the following:

Maltese Fair at Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, London SW1. Concelebrated Mass at Westminster Cathedral at 2.30 pm. Gala Dinner and Dance and Variety Show at The Chartwell Suite, Churchill Hotel, Portman Square London W1 from 7 pm.