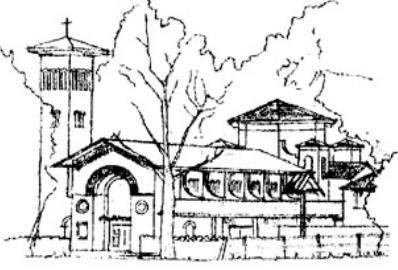
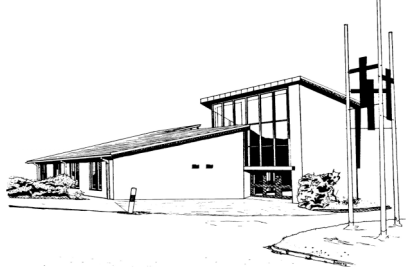


# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p align="center"><b>Parish Clergy:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Mgr John Nelson</b> (Parish Priest &amp; Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p align="center"><b>Fr Joseph Awoh</b> (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 <b>New e-mail:</b> englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk <b>Secretary: Gwen Price</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>RBH Chaplaincy -</b> (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 <b>Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones</b></p>

## Nineteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

**9/10 August 2008**

Since I came here some days ago, I have tried to live my faith and at the same time have endeavoured to support and increase the faith of the English Martyrs parish community. Over the last few Sundays we have been progressing through our spiritual journey by the Gospels about the one seed, and that seed is the Father's Son, Jesus Christ. Through prayer and faith we should nurture this seed and allow it to grow within us.

I recently read a newspaper and two of its headlines attracted my attention: the first was "Lord, preserve us from niceness and cleverness" – a criticism of the homily of Bishop Crispian, and the second was, "What Pope Benedict really said at World Youth Day" – a resumé of the preaching by the Pope during his visit in Australia. The first author attempts to be more intellectual than the bishop. The second author says nothing new in his article except for the word "really", which only emphasises the Pope's message. The point is that His Holiness and the Bishop, in their own way, were providing a fertile ground in which the seed can grow in our daily lives.

I would like to invite each of you to reflect. I think that the mission of Pope Benedict, as well as the bishop, is to irrigate our soil for which God has already provided us with the seed to raise a healthy crop. It is not a matter of cleverness. It is more than that. Would you like your seed to be strangled by thorns? Nowadays, such criticisms do not enhance our spiritual growth. Do not allow such words to invade your soul.

The real problem is trying to recognise the thorns and suppress or even eliminate them each day.

*Fr Robert*

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST. JOSEPH'S
Rita Carvalho RIP	6.30 pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>		
Helen Gaughan RIP	9.30 am	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am	Eileen Mitchell RIP
Gilbert Houston RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Derek Cook RIP
People of the Parish	5.00 pm			
Charles Cheeseman RIP	9.30 am	<b>Monday</b>		
Tony Doherty RIP	9.30 am	<b>Tuesday</b>	7.00 pm	Laura Griffiths RIP
Hugh Faringdon Burrett RIP	9.30 am	<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00 am	Mary McGuire RIP
Rhona Clifton RIP	8.00 pm	<b>Thursday</b>	9.00 am	Mgr John Nelson's Intentions
Rhona Clifton RIP	9.30 am	<b>Friday – Holy Day of Obligation</b>	9.00 am	
Alec Pich & family Intentions	7.30 pm		7.30 pm	Michael Madden RIP
		<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 am	Maria Raleigh's Intentions
<b>THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:</b>				
Monday–St Clare    Tuesday–St Jane Frances de Chantal    Wednesday–Ss Pontian & Hippolytus Thursday–St Maximilian Maria Kolbe    Friday– <b>THE ASSUMPTION OF OUR LADY</b> Saturday–St Stephen				
Thursday 7-8 pm	<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION</b>			No Exposition during August
5.30–6.15 pm	<b>CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY</b>			10.30-11.00 am
<b>Responsorial Psalm: "Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help ."</b>				

## COLLECTIONS FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2008

Gift Aid:	£391.20
Planned Giving:	£49.00
Loose Plate:	£180.91
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£11.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£632.11</b>
<b>Running Totals</b>	
Fr Zvonko	£2,627.69

### REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> August are Harry & Liz McSoley.

### 1<sup>ST</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

### TUESDAY EVENING EXPOSITION – REMINDER

Please note that there will be no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during August. Exposition will start again on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September.



### ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Governors are seeking to employ a Teaching Assistant to support the needs of a child with a statement of special needs who is moving to our school. 17.5 hours a week in the first instance. If interested please hand into the school office a letter of application listing any relevant qualifications and experience. Closing date for applications is Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August with interviews taking place on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September. For further details please contact *Ms J P Feeney on 9422003*.

### A REMINDER FOR AUGUST

Please note that once again you are reminded that emergency calls, i.e. sick calls and funerals to St Joseph's, need to be referred to the *English Martyrs Church - Tel. 9572149*, during the August holiday period.

### OBERAMMERGAU 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*.

### 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.

## 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 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008 so there is still plenty of time. Full details of how to apply are online at [www.cathchild.org](http://www.cathchild.org) or you can email or call *Ann Hoggan from the Supporter Care team: ann.hoggan@cathchild.org – Tel. 020 8668 2181* - She will be pleased to post you an application form. Good luck, and happy snapping!

### HUMAN FERTILISATION AND EMBRYOLOGY BILL

The government has now postponed until autumn the final stages of the Bill, which will include debate on pro-abortion amendments. Amendments already tabled include:

- Making abortion available on the signature of only one doctor rather than two as at present.
- Allowing nurses and midwives to carry out abortions.
- Abolishing the need for any reason to be given for abortions.
- Extending locations where abortion drugs can be given out to include GP's surgeries, local health centres and school sick rooms.

We should use the next few weeks to write to our MP and the Prime Minister expressing opposition to these moves. Urge them to support any pro-life amendments instead, e.g. the entitlement of women to be given information on the possible physical and psychological effects of abortion.

During the summer recess Martin Salter, MP for Reading West, can be contacted at his constituency office, *413 Oxford Road, Reading, RG30 1HA. Email: salterm@parliament.uk*.

### 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.

### WELCOME

A warm welcome to Josie Mary O'Malley, Sophie Grace Latch and Abigail Kate Latch who are being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

### PARISH SOCIAL EVENING & PRESENTATION ON CAFOD

Maurice McPartlan, Head of International Programmes, Africa, will give a presentation on CAFOD on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30 pm at St William of York Church, Upper Redlands Road, Reading. Maurice has recently been to Ethiopia and has first hand knowledge of how funds raised in parishes like ours is spent on projects. Come and hear how this works in practice. It's your chance to put questions to someone who is familiar with the sharp end! Fairtrade wine, coffee and nibbles will be served. Entrance is free but donations to cover costs will be gratefully received. All welcome.