
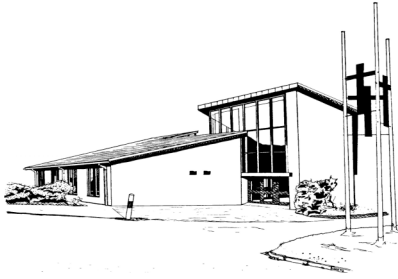


# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p><b>Parish Clergy:</b></p> <p><b>Mgr John Nelson</b> (Parish Priest &amp; Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p><b>Fr Joseph Awoh</b> (Resident at St Joseph's)</p> <p>Registered Charity Number: 246871</p>	
<p>64 Liebenrood Road Reading, Berkshire, RG30 2EB Tel: 0118 957 2149 e-mail: admin@englishmartyrs.org.uk <b>Secretary: Gwen Price</b></p>	<p><b>Hospital Chaplain for the RBH - Fr John Creagh</b> (Tel. 0118 3227105)</p>	<p>The Presbytery, Berkshire Drive Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 5JJ Tel: 0118 942 8632 e-mail: office@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk <b>Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones</b></p>

## Second Sunday of Ordinary Time – Year A

19/20 January 2008

Before we get to the end of the year and say “where has it gone?”, let us look at what can affect the quality of our year!

When we carry the guilt of the past this can have a stranglehold on us. Often past memories bare this guilt and so any manifestations of these memories bring out guilt feelings. This is an imprisonment. Let us remember that God gives us a fresh start whatever it is we feel guilty about.

Holding onto anger and resentment are also great obstacles in life. If these are not released through forgiveness they can be rehearsed in the mind until they become material for a horror movie. When we have been offended recognise offence, feel the hurt feeling but do not try to destroy the offender, recognise the difference.

Fear is another factor that can cast a shadow on your life. There are many reasons why we carry fear with us. It may result from some bad experience or overbearing parents, or unrealistic expectations. If fear is prominent in our lives it means we play it safe and avoid taking risks. It can so easily mean we are too scared to use our God-given gifts and talents and live in our own prison. Again, is that what 2008 holds for us? The remedy for this is faith and love.

The acquisition of material things can also become another goal. Will this be so in 2008? When we think materialism gives us happiness, shows off our success, makes us secure, we will soon come down with a bang and realise they give only temporary satisfaction. Someone will always have something newer or better! In 2008 we must look for security that will never come to an end and that is our relationship with God the Creator.

2008 is an opportunity to bring our life to God. In Him we may find purpose, meaning, direction and reason.

*Fr Richard*

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Aidan Murphy RIP	6.30 pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>		
Eugene Herbert's Intentions	9.30 am	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am	Helena McLaughlin RIP
People of the Parish	11.30 am		10.30 am	Nellie Kelly RIP
Mark McGrath RIP	5.00 pm			
Teresa Collins RIP	9.30 am	<b>Monday</b>	8.30 am	Paul Booker RIP
Michael Chandler RIP	9.30 am	<b>Tuesday</b>	7.00 pm	Michael Knowles RIP
Peg Merrton RIP	9.30 am	<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00 am	Bernard McCormack RIP
Martin Masterson RIP	8.30 pm	<b>Thursday</b>	9.00 am	Kitty Reekers RIP
Ina Flood RIP	9.30 am	<b>Friday</b>	7.00 pm	Stephen & Elizabeth Coleman's Intentions
		<b>Saturday</b>	10.00 am	Ivy & Charles Coleman RIP Bronislawa & Stanislaw Radzuin RIP and all deceased relatives
<b>THE FEASTS FOR THIS WEEK ARE:</b>				
Monday - St Agnes		Tuesday - St Vincent		Thursday - St Francis de Sales
Friday – <b>The Conversion of St Paul</b>			Saturday – Ss Timothy & Titus	
Thursday 7-8.30 pm	<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</b>			Tuesday - 7.30 – 8 pm
5.30–6.15 pm	<b>CONFESSIONS - SATURDAY</b>			10.30-11.00 am

## COLLECTIONS FOR 13TH JANUARY 2008

<b>Gift Aid:</b>	<b>£414.50</b>
<b>Planned Giving:</b>	<b>£76.00</b>
<b>Loose Plate:</b>	<b>£224.87</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£715.37</b>
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<b>Running Totals</b>	
<b>TF5 (Fr Zvonko's Training Fund)</b>	<b>£1,026.03</b>

### REMINDER

The counters for 27<sup>th</sup> January are John O'Shea & Clare McSoley.

### SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection TODAY for the Catholic Education Service.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Please note that next Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> January there will be a special Mass at 10.30 am for the First Holy Communion children and it may run on longer than normal.

### YOUTH GROUP

The next Youth Group session on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> January will include Interactive Games and a LIFE Speaker. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 9415636*.

### LITURGY GROUP

The Diocesan Pastoral Plan encourages all parishes to establish a Liturgy Group. The existing Liturgy Group at St Joseph's is very small and has been largely only responsible for the Penitential Services and the Corpus Christi Procession. We now need to expand this to include all aspects of our Liturgy and the group needs to comprise representatives of all Liturgical Ministries within the Parish. A meeting has been therefore arranged for Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2008 after 7 pm Mass in the Presbytery. The following groups need to be represented: Readers, Choir, Eucharistic Ministers, Welcomers, Collectors, Catechists, Childrens' Liturgy, Servers, Youth Group. This is an important aspect of Parish life and I do hope that you will make every effort to ensure that your group is represented at the meeting – **Father Joseph**.

### 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 will be made very welcome. We meet on Thursdays in term time between 8 pm and 9.30 pm in the small hall here at St Joseph's. Please phone *Brigid Parkes – 9427436* for more details.

### HUMAN FERTILISATION AND EMBRYOLOGY BILL

This Bill is currently going through Parliament and cannot be ignored. The Bishops have sent us information which we will act on in the next two weeks. The Bill, if passed, would

- allow the creation of half human, half animal embryos for research purposes,
- allow infertility clinics to ignore a child's need for a father,
- possibly make changes to the Abortion Act by allowing the signature of only one doctor instead of two as at present,
- possibly permit abortion up to 12/14 weeks to be carried out by nurses or midwives in doctors' surgeries or in patients' own homes.

These are just some of the proposals. We'll soon be hearing about them in more detail and will be asked to write to our MP before the Bill reaches the House of Commons. Meanwhile, pro-life MP, and patron of LIFE, Ann Widdecombe, is addressing a series of rallies nationwide to educate and inform on life issues and the proposed Bill. Details are on the notice board. Anyone wanting to hear her at Central Hall, Westminster, on 6<sup>th</sup> February, please speak to Christine Wall on 9411605, after 19<sup>th</sup> January.

## SPEAKING UP FOR CAFOD

If you would like to make a real difference to people living in the developing world, why not volunteer to speak on behalf of CAFOD in your parish or neighbouring parishes? CAFOD Portsmouth is running a special workshop to train volunteers to speak confidently and effectively about the work of CAFOD on Saturday, 26th January 2008 from 10.30 am - 4.30 pm at St Joseph's Parish Hall, 105 London Road, Newbury. There is plenty of parking space and the venue is 0.6 miles from the station. Come along and see if speaking up for CAFOD is for you! Lunch will be provided and all reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed. Please book your place by 20th January at the absolute latest with *Laura or Lynda at CAFOD Portsmouth on 01252 329385 or portsmouth@cafod.org.uk*.

### MISSION – BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON SCHOOL

The Cross Purposes Mission Team will be presenting a special evening event on the Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> March of the Mission week. A dynamic team of young people from **Sion Community** will be presenting the Gospel and creating space for people to reflect and respond, whether it be for the first time or the hundredth time! A great chance to be refreshed in your faith and also to invite others to come and hear the Good News in a relaxed atmosphere. For further information, please contact the school on *957 4730* or email: *admin.hughfaringdon@reading.gov.uk*.

### DOUAI ABBEY PASTORAL PROGRAMME

Ministry of Healing Workshops on Saturdays, 26th January & 26th April (10 am – 5 pm). A practical workshop which will explore the issues involved in Christian healing with emphasis on the importance of mutual forgiving, prayer for healing and for deliverance, and blessing of oil for use by the laity. There will be two follow-up workshops later in the year. Cost for the waged £15 per workshop. Please bring food to share at lunch-time. Beverages will be provided. Please refer to the notice board in the porch for further details.

### JUSTICE & PEACE DAY – 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

The Department for Pastoral Formation is organising a Justice & Peace Day on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2008 at St Anne's Catholic School in Southampton from 10 am. Full details of this event together with booking forms are available at the back of the Church.

### CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

On Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February the Annual Collection for the Catholic Children's Society will take place. The Society provides care for some of the most vulnerable children and young people in our community. Their work includes providing subsidised Breakfast & Homework Clubs and Pre-school Care; Counselling for school age children experiencing stress and exclusion; Adoption, Post-Adoption and Fostering placement and support; Residential Care for young people with special needs and Catechetical Programmes for children and young people with disabilities. The Society relies on the generosity and good will of the Catholic community to continue its works in our diocese. Please give what you can to help give the next generation the chance they deserve.

### CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, LULWORTH ROAD, READING, RG2 8LX.

**TEL. 9015434**

#### **Clerk to the Governing Body**

A paid, P/T post for an efficient, capable person with good secretarial skills. The Clerk to the Governors takes minutes at all meetings of the Governing Body and its sub-committees. He/she sends out agendas and other mailing to the Governors. The Governors meet for a total of 20 hours a term, between 5 & 7 pm. Any extra hours can be worked at the clerk's convenience. Training given. If you are interested – please come for a chat with Mr Cosgrove, Mrs Major or Mrs Mills.

