
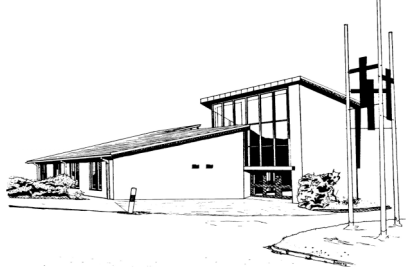


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p>Parish Clergy:</p> <p>Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest & Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p>Fr Joseph Awoh (Resident at St Joseph's)</p> <p>Registered Charity Number: 246871</p>	
<p>64 Liebenrood Road Reading, Berkshire, RG30 2EB Tel: 0118 957 2149 New e-mail: englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk Secretary: Gwen Price</p>	<p>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 Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones</p>

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

26/27 July 2008

This week I am going away on holiday. I have had a great time in this community but I think I need a little rest. Whether I deserve it or not, I don't know.

I think this is an appropriate time to say 'Thank You' to all of you for making the last ten months a thoroughly enjoyable time for me. I have made many friends and now feel part and parcel of a new family. I am proud to belong to this new family because it is full of members who are caring, loving, compassionate; members who are making an honest effort to live as Christ taught.

Some members of St Joseph's and the English Martyrs joined me on Wednesday to thank God for my successful completion of my course. Fathers Richard and Robert joined us too. And so did Father Anthony from Our Lady of Peace and two priest friends who are currently visiting him. On this occasion, I reminded everyone at Mass that God has blessed us all in many and varied ways. The blessings we receive from God sometimes come to us through the agency of other people.

I would like to thank everyone who sacrificed so much to make this little celebration so beautiful. I would like to thank all of you for being, each in their own way, a channel of God's blessings to me. Let us continue to be channels of God's love and compassion to our brothers and sisters.

I go away to Cameroon with a song in my heart, and I remember the words of the psalmist:
"How very good and pleasant it is when brothers and sisters live together in unity! It is like precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes." (Psalm 133:1-2).

Fr Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Dorothy Bennett RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Corry Ceniza RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Bobby Alston RIP
People of the Parish	11.30 am		10.30 am	Mary Byrne's Intentions
Tony Doherty RIP	5.00 pm			
Julia Feeney's intentions	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	Stephen McKenna's Intentions
Tony Doherty RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Maureen Burke RIP
Pat Burke RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Maureen Burke RIP
Pauline Guilfoyle RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Hannah Mai Sheehan RIP
J.H. King RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Thomas Clancy RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Bobby Alston RIP
THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:				
Monday – St Sampson Tuesday - St Martha Wednesday - St Peter Chrysologus Thursday - St Ignatius of Loyola Friday - St Alphonsus Liguori Saturday - SS Eusebius of Vercelli, Peter Julian Eymard				
Thursday 7 - 8 pm	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION		Tuesday – 7.30 – 8 pm	
5.30 – 6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY		10.30 - 11.00 am	
Responsorial Psalm: "Lord, how I love your law."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 20TH JULY 2008

Gift Aid:	£441.30
Planned Giving:	£45.00
Loose Plate:	£192.06
TOTAL	£678.36
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£2,381.26

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 3rd August are Tony Chaplin and John Macbeth.

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.

TUESDAY EVENING EXPOSITION – REMINDER

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

FIRST AIDERS – TRAINING ARRANGEMENTS

At its meeting on 7th July 2008, the St Joseph's and English Martyrs Pastoral Council received a report that arrangements had been made, together with the parish of St James & St William of York, for a First Aid training course to be held on Saturday, 13th September from 9 am – 5 pm at the English Martyrs parish centre.

The aim is to have a qualified First Aider available at each Mass throughout the Central & West Reading Pastoral Area and is in conformity with good Health & Safety practice.

Ideally, parishioners who are qualified nurses would be very suitable candidates for this training course. There is no charge for the training course.

There are 12 places available and it is hoped that 3 or 4 from each of our communities will be able to attend.

If anyone is willing to undertake the day's training, please contact *Sheila Jones in the Parish Office*.

BLOOD DONATION SESSIONS

If you are able to give blood to the NHS, a blood donation session will take place at the Calcot Community Centre on Friday, 8th August. Full details are available in the porch.



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 27th August with interviews taking place on Wednesday, 3rd September. For further details please contact *Ms J P Feeney on 9422003*.

KNITWITS

The next Knitwits meeting will be at Daphne Boughtwood's home: 22 Drayton Road on Monday, 4th August at 8 pm.

PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES

Bishop Crispian has recently received a letter from Monsignor John Dale, National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies to thank the diocese for our generosity to the APF. The total amount collected throughout the diocese was £153,875.00. Please thank your parishioners for their generosity.

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 (*Telephone No. 9572149*) during the August holiday period.

FR JOSEPH'S GRADUATION

A big **thank you** to all those concerned for sharing with me my graduation from Southampton University – *Father Joseph*.

OBERRAMMERGAU 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 15 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!

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*.