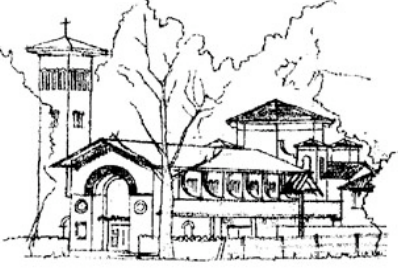
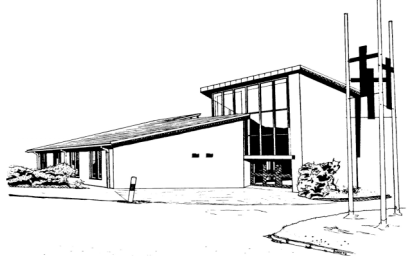


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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) 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>

Fourteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

5/6 July 2008

Clergy Whereabouts during the Summer

Father Robert Balan, who was at English Martyrs last summer, is arriving on Thursday 10 July and will be in residence until the beginning of September. Robert belongs to a diocese in Romania but is currently studying for a Doctorate at the Lateran University in Rome. We welcome him.

Father John leaves with Bishop Crispian for the World Youth Day in Sydney on Thursday 10 July. Following the events in Sydney he will be visiting his sister in Brisbane and brother in Auckland, New Zealand. He is due back in Reading on Friday 15 August.

Father Joseph is here during July and then travels to Cameroon for the month of August, returning at the start of September. In his absence, pastoral cover for St Joseph's will be provided from English Martyrs.

Father Richard plans to take his holiday during September.

DAY FOR LIFE

"The Lord is close to the broken-hearted, he rescues those who are crushed in spirit" is the theme for this year's Day for Life – dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. Day for Life 2008 focuses on mental health. The aim of the Day is to help raise awareness of the needs of those affected by mental ill-health, their friends, their family and their carers. One in four people will be directly affected by mental health difficulties at some stage in their lives. Please take a leaflet from the back of the church (green in colour) which contains more information to reflect upon. *Fr John*

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST. JOSEPH'S
Mary Hegarty RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
People of the Parish	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Bridget Curtin RIP
Joe Hickey RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Mary Gale RIP
Eileen Herbert RIP	5.00 pm			
Percy & Leslie Pereira RIP	9.30 am	Monday	8.30 am	Fr Zvonko's intentions
Guilfoyle Family intentions	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Margaret Burke RIP
Funeral- Susan Sweeney RIP	12.00 noon	Wednesday	9.00 am	Paddy Gaynard RIP
Tony Docherty RIP	9.30 am			
Funeral - John Pugsley RIP	11.00 am			
Funeral- Hannah Sheehan RIP	6.30 pm			
Eileen Herbert RIP	8.30 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Mrs Mary Hogg RIP
Funeral - Paul Kiely RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Special intention
		Saturday	10.00 am	Gerard & Tess Heenan's Ints.
THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:				
Wednesday-St Augustine Zhao Rong & Companions			Friday-St Benedict	
Thursday 7-8.30 pm	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION			Tuesday – 7.30-8pm
5.30-6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY			10.30-11.00 am
Responsorial Psalm: "I will bless your name for ever, O God my King."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 29TH JUNE 2008

Gift Aid:	£438.25
Planned Giving:	£53.00
Loose Plate:	£238.67
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£5.00
Peter's Pence	£376.51
TOTAL	£1,111.43
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£1,323.48

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 13th July June are John O'Shea and Clare McSoley.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a special collection next Sunday, 13th July for The Apostleship of the Sea.

YOUTH GROUP

The next St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 11th July will be a laser quest and bowling trip to Wokingham. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 9415636*.

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*.

WOODLEY JUMBULANCE GROUP

We have vacancies for one unable and three helpers for our trip to Lourdes, in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the apparitions, next September. Anyone who would like to volunteer or who would like more information please contact *John Gill on 9694769, Marie O'Gorman on 9691927 or Anne McDonald on 9585841*.

ASSISTANCE NEEDED

We have a parishioner who lives in the "Knowsley Road" area who would like a lift to 10:30 am Mass, on Sundays, at St Joseph's Church. If you can help please contact *Eileen Kerrigan on 9412757, or the Parish Office on 9428632*.

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.

READING COMMUNITY CHURCH – PRAYER NIGHT

Empowering Intercessors in Reading and all those with a heart for prayer on 18th July from 6 pm – 12 midnight at Greyfriars Church, Reading. *Further details are available in the porch.*

THURSDAY EVENING MASS AT ENGLISH MARTYRS

For a number of years, Mass on Thursday has been at 8.30 pm, following Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 7 – 8.30 pm. Following requests from people who attend, the Mass will be moved to 8 pm beginning on Thursday, 17th July. Exposition will still begin at 7 pm, for one hour before Mass.

WALKING ALONGSIDE

A Day of Reflection for RCIA Co-ordinators and Teams – and anyone interested in accompanying people preparing to be received into the Church on Saturday, 12th July. *Further details on the notice board.*

EXPLORE

Explore is a local charity looking for married couples to assist in its work with young people in schools and young offenders institutions. The commitment is only for a few hours once or twice a year. For further details please contact *Tonia Elliott 0787 1047490 or email Antonia_Elliott@btinternet.com*.

ST BIRINUS CHURCH

This year's pilgrimage will take place next Sunday. Full information is available from www.stbirinuspilgrimage.org.uk. *Philip Clayden, St Birinus Church.*

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

On Wednesday, 23rd July, Fr Joseph will be receiving his M.A. Degree at the graduation ceremony at Southampton University. He is anxious to celebrate this occasion with the parishioners of St Joseph's and arrangements have therefore been made to have a Celebration Mass at 7 pm on 23rd July. This will be followed by a social gathering in the Church Hall at which drinks and light refreshments will be provided by the parish. All are welcome to attend both events. In order to assist with catering arrangements, you are asked to complete and return the attached sheet.

In order to offset parish expenses, a raffle will be held at the gathering. Items for the raffle will be gratefully received – please leave these in the box at the back of the Church.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

Next week is Sea Sunday, when the Church remembers all those who live and work at sea.

Seafarers are commonly recruited from poorer countries where wages are lower. Seafarers work in difficult and often dangerous conditions, suffering from loneliness, spiritual deprivation and even exploitation as they transport the goods we use and consume every day.

The Apostleship of the Sea (AOS) is the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. The Apostleship of the Sea reaches out to seafarers who visit our ports each year, offering pastoral and practical support and care. AOS is wholly dependent on voluntary donations to continue its work; it takes the love of Christ to seafarers in the name of the Church, recognising them as our brothers and sisters in need.

Sea Sunday is your chance to help AOS make a real difference to the lives of seafarers. Everything AOS does is on behalf of Britain's Catholic community, but it receives no statutory funding from either the Church or the government. There will be a second collection on Sea Sunday for the work of AOS or take an envelope with you – please give generously, their ministry cannot continue without you.

READING PIONEER ASSOCIATION

Charity Bingo Evening on Friday, 11th July, at 8 pm in the English Martyrs Parish Hall. Proceeds to the "Naomi Hospice for sick children". Everyone welcome. For information telephone *Joe/Ann 9613503*.

KNITWITS

Next meeting will be on Monday, 7th July at 8 pm at Colleen Collins' home. If you are new to the parish and wonder: "Who are the Knitwits and what do they do?" Please ring *Margaret Chaplin on 9615223* who will be happy to tell you and for those of you who do know, you may be interested to know we have now made over 11,000 garments and blankets for children all over the world who are desperately in need of warmth and comfort. Thank you all for any help you have given us over the years – *Margaret Chaplin*.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Isabella Bolger who is being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

**THE ST EDMUND CAMPION PILGRIMAGE WALK
ORGANISED BY THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION IN THEIR
CENTENARY YEAR**

This year the Reading Catenians are organising a sponsored great walk in the Oxfordshire countryside and raise some funds in the meantime. Want to help raise £££ for The Catholic Children's Society?

The walk takes place in stages from Oxford to London to celebrate the life of St Edmund Campion. All funds will go to The Catholic Children's Society. Find some sponsors, bring the family, pack a picnic, walk with the Reading Catenians.

Assemble at 12 noon on Saturday, 12th July, at English Martyrs Catholic Church, 15 Manor Crescent, Didcot. Walk through the village of South Moreton, onto Wallingford, ending with 5 pm Mass at St John the Evangelist Church in the Market Square. To join please contact either *Paul Sampson on 0780 1193957 (paulsmpson@aol.com)* or *Terry Loughnane on 9789636 (terry@tjl.org.uk)*.

A DAY WITH MARY

At St Michael's Abbey, Farnborough, Hants on Saturday, 12th July. Further details are available in the Church porch.

ST FRANCIS RAMBLERS

Sunday, 13th July. St Francis Ramblers welcomes parishioners on their ramble. Meet: Goring and Streatley station for 11.00 am start. Lunch: Aldworth. Distance: 12 miles returning from Goring. For more details call *Paul on 0790 6666748*.

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.

CALLING ALL PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS

Home-Start Reading is looking for volunteers to make a weekly visit to young families who are going through a difficult time and who have asked for help. Volunteers get free training, all their expenses paid and an opportunity to make a difference to the next generation.

Home-Start volunteers have said, "Home-Start has been a positively life-changing experience for me" and "It is sometimes difficult to see who benefits most – myself or the family!"

A family who received visits from volunteer said, "Knowing that someone cares is wonderful. The feeling of loneliness and despair disappears entirely."

For more information contact *0118 942 9518*, e-mail: *hsreading@ic24.net* or check the website: *www.home-start.org.uk*.

HUMAN FERTILISATION & EMBRYOLOGY BILL

The Report Stage and Final Reading of the Bill are still to come – probably this month. The Bill could be made even more horrendous by amendments tabled at Report Stage. Pro-abortion MPs want easier access to early abortion and have already tabled amendments:

1. to make abortion available on the signature of only one doctor rather than two as at present.
2. to permit early abortions to be carried out by nurses and midwives.

Women need more opportunity for counselling the care, not fast-track abortions. We should once again 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 effects of abortion.

Martin Salter, MP for Reading West, can be contacted at the House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA