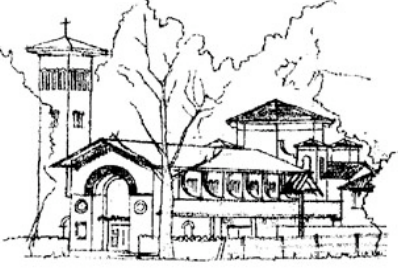
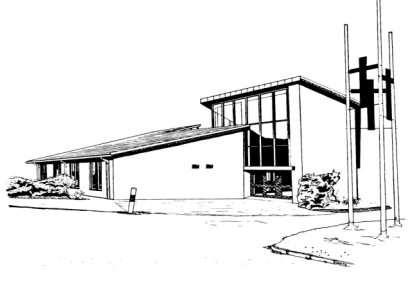


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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>

Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

31 May/1 June 2008

We read the Letter of St James in Weeks 6 & 7, but I feel obliged to go back to it even as we enter Week 9, and this because I believe there is a lot to learn in this letter for our life in this Christian community and in our families. St James wrote his epistle in his capacity as bishop and leader of the Christian community. He wanted to exhort his flock to constancy in the faith in spite of the persecutions they were undergoing and to give them comfort in their tribulations. However, he was also aware of some vices in the community which threatened the peace and unity of the community and so wanted his fellow Christians to rid the community of those vices. The vices against which he warns them are: formalism, which made the service of God consist in outward ceremonies rather than in active love and purity; fanaticism, which, under the cloak of religious zeal, was tearing the Church in Jerusalem in pieces; fatalism, which attributed sins and moral weaknesses to God; meanness, which led to partiality in their treatment of the rich and the poor; falsehood and lie-telling; jealousy and selfish ambition, partisanship; evil speaking; boasting and oppression.

St James exhorts them to abandon these vices and instead exercise patience; patience in trial, patience in good works, patience under provocation, patience under oppression, patience under persecution. The vices about which St James writes can be found in our families and Christian community as well. These vices are a constant source of tension and can tear our families and communities to pieces. If you can find the time, read the letter of St James (it is only 5 short chapters) as a family if possible. Otherwise, you could read it as individuals in a family or in a Church group and make time to discuss the points that seem to speak to your family or community. Are there any signs of favouritism, the irresponsible use of the tongue, jealousy and selfish ambition, dishonesty and lie-telling, the exploitation of the poor by the rich and powerful, the passing of rash judgments on others, etc., in our family or community that may tear it to pieces? What action is God inviting us to take in that situation?

Fr Joseph

MASS INTENTIONS				
<u>ENGLISH MARTYRS</u>	<u>TIMINGS</u>			<u>ST. JOSEPH'S</u>
People of the Parish	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Florrie Ballard RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Rosita Artuz Ganzon RIP
Jacob Agbor RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	John Thornton RIP
Angelica De Rama	5.00 pm			
Kathleen Gaynor's Intentions	10.00 am	Monday	No Mass	
Bill Canning RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Mairin Hayes RIP & Family's Intentions
Mathias Family Intentions	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Bernard McCormack RIP
Theresa Little RIP	8.30 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Irene & Herbert Pollard RIP Lizzie & Greg's Intentions
Pamela D'Cruze RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Joseph Geddis RIP
Sheila Martin RIP	11.00 am			
		Saturday	10.00 am	Rhona Clifton RIP
THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:				
Monday – Ss Marcellinus & Peter		Tuesday – St Charles Lwanga & Companions		
Thursday – St Boniface		Friday – St Norbert		
Thursday 7-8.30 pm	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION			Tuesday – 7pm Exposition
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY			10.30-11.00 am
Responsorial Psalm: "Be a rock of refuge for me, O Lord."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 25th MAY 2008

Gift Aid:	£342.73
Planned Giving:	£48.00
Loose Plate:	£255.77
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
CAFOD Burma Appeal	£1,033.63
TOTAL	£1,680.13
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£1,278.48
CAFOD Burma Appeal	£1,033.63

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 8th June are Tony Chaplin & John Macbeth.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Please note that next Sunday, 8th June 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 St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 6th June will be an Equipment Night. For further details please contact Nicola Ritchie 9415636.

ST JOSEPH'S QUIZ NIGHT

There will be a Quiz Night on 7th June. 7 pm for 7.30 pm. Adults: £5. Children (up to 14 years old): £2.50. Ploughman's Supper plus one free drink. Licenced bar and raffle. Maximum number in a team: 8. Tickets are on sale **TODAY** after both Masses.

OBERAMMERGAU 2010 – PASSION PLAY

If anybody is interested in going, please contact Theresa Bricker on 9426788.

KNITWITS

Knitwits meet next on Monday, 2nd June at 8 pm at Ruth Lewis' home: 30 Calder Close.

THE DEC (DISASTERS AND EMERGENCIES COMMITTEE) MYANMAR (BURMA) CYCLONE APPEAL

Parishioners of St Joseph's should be congratulated concerning the amount received for the Burma Appeal - £1,033.63. Several people have asked whether the appeal is still open and it has been agreed to make the Burma Buckets available at the end of the two Masses **TODAY**. Parishioners who have not yet been able to contribute may put their donations in these buckets and the total received will be forwarded to CAFOD immediately.

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesday, 2nd July and Wednesday, 9th July from 8 pm - 9.30 pm in the main church hall. We will be using a programme called: Baptism – helping your child get the most out of life. Godparents are also welcome to join us for discussion and to watch a DVD. The courses only run every few months, so if you are new or expectant parents it might be better to attend this course if you wish your child to be baptised fairly soon.

If you are considering Baptism for your child, whatever their age, please register for the course by contacting *Brigid Parkes* on 9427436 or alternatively email the parish office (details on the front of this newsletter).

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.

CAFOD – PURE GOLD?

CAFOD is holding a Pure Gold photographic exhibition at Southampton Solent University Conference Centre Cafe in the Square, 157-187 Above Bar Street, Southampton from 5th – 7th June. Admission is free and all are welcome. Open Thursday, 5th June from 9 am – 6 pm, Friday, 6th June from 9 am – 7 pm and Saturday, 7th June from 9 am to 4 pm. Come along and find out more about the impact of gold mining on communities around the world and how we can make a difference to the thousands of people affected. For further information please ring CAFOD Portsmouth on 01252 329385 or visit www.cafodpuregold.net.

BLESSING OF THE SICK SERVICE AT ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH ON 8TH JUNE AT 2 PM

In preparation for this service, there is a need for the following assistance from the parishioners of both The English Martyrs and St Joseph's parish:

1. Volunteers to ferry the sick to/from the Church.
2. Helpers on the day to set up the hall, wash and tidy up afterwards, and generally help out.
3. Food contributions, snacks, etc.
4. Please encourage all Catholic friends and neighbours who are infirm to come to the service.

Sheets are provided on the tables at the back of the Church. Please add your name and details to the list(s) of tasks that you can commit to. All help will be much appreciated by our sick and housebound parishioners.

CHRISTIAN ENCOUNTERS WITH OTHER RELIGIONS

At Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, near Reading commencing on Friday, 20th June from 7 pm until Sunday, 22nd June at midday. *Please see posters in porch for further details.*

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

Despite the bad weather, the Corpus Christi procession took place on Sunday, 25th May and comments received have been very supportive. One comment of note from a parishioner expressed the view as to how well the altar servers and First Holy Communicants carried out their duties. Congratulations to Mike Tomas for the altar server training and to the First Communion Catechists and to those parishioners who supplied rose petals – *Fr Joseph*.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Kieran William Cooke who is being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

UCM

The Union of Catholic Mothers invites all ladies to a Musical Fun Evening on Wednesday, 4th June at 7.30 pm in the small hall.

CAKE SALE

Cake Sale in aid of the church in Lesotho. The bishop of the diocese of Mohale's Hoek, through Electa, has asked for our help. They need to build a church large enough to accommodate their congregations. Many people travel large distances to attend mass, often in bad weather. Please help by baking some cakes to sell or come along and support the sale. The cake sale will be after Masses next Sunday, 8th June.

BMS WORLD MISSION

Job vacancy at BMS World Mission for a Volunteer Programmes Organiser based at offices in Didcot. The salary for this post will be with Grade 5: £20,979 - £23,286. *Further details are available in the Church porch.*

REMINDER

Will members of the Area Pastoral Council kindly note that the next meeting of the council will be held at 7.30 pm in St Joseph's Presbytery on Monday, 2nd June 2008.