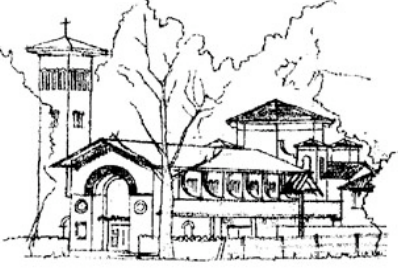
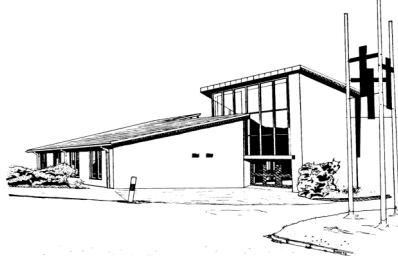


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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)</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>

Palm Sunday – Year A

15/16 March 2008

For Christians this is the 'week of weeks'. On Palm Sunday we enter once more into those final days of Jesus' life on earth and hear the whole story through the eyes of St Matthew. Each of the Gospel writers include slightly different details so it is always important to hear the story in its entirety. Then on Thursday evening we gather to celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper, remembering the night when Jesus shared the Passover Meal with his friends but made it his own – giving himself as food and drink for life. On Good Friday we walk the *Via Dolorosa* with Jesus on his way to Calvary. The awfulness of his death on the cross gives way to the joy and light of his resurrection that we celebrate on Saturday night.

At English Martyrs we have a baptism to celebrate during the Easter Vigil on Saturday and after that Mass there will be a Reception in the Parish Centre to which you are invited. Easter is the time when we all renew the promises made in baptism when our journey in faith began. The joy of Easter Night spills over into Easter Sunday and the following days. This is **the** week, Holy Week, and we have spent the whole of Lent looking forward to it. Come and take part in all of these liturgies if you possibly can, or as many as you can make. They give meaning and life to all that we do during the rest of the year.

Fr John

MASS INTENTIONS/HOLY WEEK/EASTER PROGRAMME				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Peter McGrath RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Special Intention	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Martin Tomas RIP
People of the Parish	11.30 am		10.30 am	Bridget O'Driscoll RIP
Peggy Crotty RIP	5.00 pm			
Josephine Quilty RIP	9.30 am	Monday	No Mass	
CHRISM MASS IN PORTSMOUTH		Tuesday	7.00 pm	Private Intention
Sheila Martin RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Pauline Howart's Intentions
Funeral: Eddie Quinlan RIP	11.30 am			
Mass followed by 'Watching' – Martin & Maureen Gill's Intentions	7.30 pm	Maundy Thursday	8.00 pm	Mass followed by 'Watching' - Cecilia Rivera's Intentions
Solemn Liturgy	3.00 pm	Good Friday – Day of Fast and Abstinence	3.00 pm	Solemn Liturgy.
Good Friday - 9.45 am - Walk of Witness in Forbury Gardens.				
Easter Vigil Mass – Bishop Hollis' Intentions	9.00 pm	Holy Saturday	8.00 pm	Easter Vigil Mass - all the parish members
Arch. Cornelius' Intentions	8.00 am	EASTER SUNDAY	8.30 am	Ted Harrington's Ints.
Pat & Chris Watts RIP	9.30 am		10.30 am	Michael & Rose McCann RIP
Vincent Glynn RIP	11.30 am			
Sarah Walsh RIP	10.00 am	Easter Monday	10.00 am	
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION				
CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY			10.00 am	
Responsorial Psalm: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"				

COLLECTIONS FOR 9TH MARCH 2008

Gift Aid:	£364.00
Planned Giving:	£37.50
Loose Plate:	£275.23
Tf5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
Clergy Assistance	£5.50
Family Fast (CAFOD)	£18.58
TOTAL	£700.81

Running Totals

Fr Zvonko	£1,051.03
Family Fast (CAFOD)	£285.04
Clergy Assistance	£433.72

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 23rd March are John O'Shea and Clare McSoley.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Special Collection on Good Friday is for the Holy Places. Your Offering at the Easter Vigil and the two Easter Sunday Masses is, by tradition, for the personal use of the clergy. Your generosity is always valued as, together with the Offerings at Christmas, forms the major part of a priest's annual income.

YOUTH GROUP

The next St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 21st March will be participating in the Walk of Witness. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 9415636*.

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.

BAPTISM

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesday, 23rd April and Wednesday, 30th April from 8 pm - 9.30 pm in the main church hall. If you are considering Baptism for your child, whatever their age, please register for the course by contacting *Brigid Parkes on 942 7436* or alternatively email the parish office (details on the front of this newsletter).

PASSOVER MEAL

There will be a Pastoral Area Passover Meal with the parishes of St James & William of York, St Joseph's & English Martyrs on Wednesday, 19th of March. This will take place at Hugh Faringdon School 7 pm for 7.30 pm. Tickets £5.00 (Age 14 plus) £2.50 (Age 5 - 13) - Available after Mass this week and next.

WALK OF WITNESS – GOOD FRIDAY 2008

The parish has recently been advised that the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, 21st March will commence with a service at 9.45 am in the Forbury Gardens, Reading. At 10.30 am, participants will walk from the Forbury Gardens, down Broad Street, finishing at St Mary's Church, St Mary's Butts. Please wear red, as last year.

Because of this early start, the Stations of the Cross will be held at 9 am in St Joseph's Church. Father Joseph and Father John are anxious to encourage all parishioners to participate in the Walk of Witness on this special occasion.

Stewards are required for this event, so please contact the Parish Office if you are able to help.

CHURCH CLEANING

The 'spring clean' for Easter here at St Joseph's will be on Thursday, 20th March from 9 am onwards. Any help will be appreciated.

ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICE

Altar Servers practice will be held on Tuesday, 18th March after evening Mass here at St Joseph's – *Mike Tomas 9412786*.

ROTAS

It would be much appreciated if the people who generate rotas could please send copies to Sean Murphy at the following email address: *sean@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk*, so that he can keep the website up-to-date - *Thank you*.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Women's World Day of Prayer service, especially the Youth Club and the dancers.

DAY OF RENEWAL AT ST JOSEPH'S

There will be a Day of Renewal led by Father Joseph for Eucharistic Ministers, Readers and all those involved in parish ministries on Saturday, 5th April after 10 am Mass until 4 pm. Please bring a packed lunch.

EASTER GREETINGS FROM FR WOJCIECH

The Parish has recently received Easter Greetings from Father Wojciech and he wishes all parishioners every blessing and joy for the Easter Season.

JULIA FEENEY

The parish has recently been advised that Julia Feeney is to have heart surgery on 15th March. Please keep her in your prayers.

ARCHBISHOP KEVIN MCDONALD

The parish has also been advised that Archbishop Kevin is to have a heart bypass operation in the next few days. Please keep him in your prayers.

PENITENTIAL SERVICES- STARTING AT 7.30 PM

St Joseph's, Tilehurst.	17 th March
St Anne's, Caversham	
Christ the King, Reading.	18 th March
Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi, Earley	19 th March

HOLY WEEK'S SERVICES FOR ST JOSEPH'S

Stations of the Cross to be held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday, 19th March.

Thursday, 20 th March:	Maundy Thursday Mass at 8.00 pm. Presentation of the Oils; Recommissioning of Eucharistic Ministers; Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until midnight. Watching list at back of Church.
Friday, 21 st March:	Good Friday 9 am: Stations of the Cross, led by Fr Joseph 9.45 am: Walk of Witness in Forbury Gardens, Reading 3 pm: Solemn Liturgy. Children's Liturgy in the hall. Children to return for the Veneration of the Cross.
Saturday, 22 nd March:	Holy Saturday 10.00 am: Confessions 8.00pm: Easter Vigil
Sunday, 23 rd March:	Easter Sunday Masses at 8.30 am and 10.30 am. Children's Liturgy as usual; no tea and coffee

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

If anybody is interested in attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend at Ammerdown, Radstock (near Bath) from Friday, 4th April and concluding about 4.30 pm on the Sunday, please see further details in the porch.

(Continued from Newsletter)

EASTER CARDS

Easter Cards are now for sale in the Repository here at St Joseph's.

ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL

- SATURDAY 29TH MARCH 2008

St. Lucy's Convent, Medstead Manor, Medstead The theme for this year is THE LOVE OF THE FATHER. Starting with Rosary at 11 am - MASS at 11.30 am - First talk 12.30 pm - Shared lunch at 1.15 pm - Praise & Worship 2.15 pm - Second talk 2.45 pm - Finishing with tea & Prayer for healing - ending around 4 pm. Collection to defray expenses. More information or directions, ring *Rev John Foley on 01189 333420* or see poster. Next meeting - Saturday, 26th April 2008.

WOODLEY JUMBULANCE GROUP

As it is the 150th anniversary of the apparitions, we have booked to go to Lourdes from September 26th - October 4th 2008, travel by Jumbulance and staying in a 4* hotel. We have vacancies for volunteer nurses and helpers, preferably male. Anyone who is interested or who would like more information please ring *John Gill 9694769, Marie O'Gorman 9691927 or Anne McDonald 9585841.*

MUSICIAN WANTED

Encouraged by the success of last Autumn's seminars, Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Dominic Barberi Parish will be running another "Life in the Spirit" programme leading up to Pentecost this year. We need an experienced musician to lead Worship. For more information or to express interest please contact *Peter Hobbs 07887 700809 or email peter@hobbspartnership.co.uk.*

BEDA EXPERIENCE

The Beda College in Rome is offering men who might be considering the priesthood the opportunity of spending Easter in Rome from Wednesday, 19th - Friday, 28th March 2008. There is no charge for accommodation at the college, and it is open to all those eligible for formation, not just older men. Those participating will have the opportunity of attending the Chrism Mass in St Peter's, celebrating the Triduum in the college, and also seeing something of the city of Rome. It is also an opportunity for them to experience something of seminary life and priestly formation. If there is anyone you know who might benefit from this opportunity please contact our Diocesan Vocations Director, Gerard Flynn, whose contact details are in the Diocesan Directory and whose email address is *gerarddominic@waitrose.com.*

THE CHAPLAINCY DEPARTMENT - RBH

The Chaplaincy Department for the Royal Berkshire Hospital are seeking volunteers to train as chaplaincy visitors. You are invited to contact them for more details. Closing Date 21st April 2008. Tel. 0118 3227105 or email *office@royalberkshire.nhs.uk* or write to: The Chaplaincy Office, Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust, Craven Road, Reading RG1 5AN. Also, if you have any spare rosaries could you please hand them into the Office as these are required by the Chaplain at the Royal Berks Hospital.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please can all Eucharistic Ministers make every effort to attend Mass on Maundy Thursday evening, when we will be recommissioned. It is a requirement of our Ministry that we take part in this ceremony each year.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

There will no Holy Communion or Benediction after Stations of the Cross on Wednesday, 19th March as Fr Joseph will be attending the Passover Supper.

PRAYER FOR WEST READING

The 3rd Tuesday prayer meeting for West Reading is next week at 10.30 am on Tuesday, 18th March at Norcot Mission, Brockley Close, Tilehurst. We would welcome members of your church to join us as we pray for this part of Reading, local concerns and communities. If you have any specific items for praise and prayer in which we can share and rejoice, please pass them on to Fingland: *fingland.dent@ntlworld.com* - Tony Bartlett Cornwell Community Church.

VISIT TO ROME & ASSISI - 2009

Father John and Father Andrew are planning to lead a 10 Day Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi next year. The exact dates will be Saturday, 14th to Monday, 23rd February 2009 which coincides with the school half-term break. At this stage we are testing the water for potential numbers as a booking on accommodation needs to be made by the end of March. We cannot yet be definite on price but experience tells us that it would probably be around £700 per person to include:

- Transfers to and from airport in the UK
- Return flights to Rome
- All coach travel in Italy
- Six nights accommodation in Rome
- Three nights accommodation in Assisi
- Four or five meals (plus all breakfasts)
- Entrance fees and tips

The idea of not tying people down to half-board is to leave individuals free without having to return early every evening to where we are staying. This has worked well in the past. If you are interested then let one of us know, with no commitment, giving a note of your name and contact details so that we can send you the full information as soon as it is ready.

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.

THE LINK

Are you, or have you ever been, a volunteer at The Link? If so then you are warmly invited to a Volunteers Tea Party, here in the church hall, on Saturday, 12th April from 3 - 5 pm to celebrate the 20th year of The Link. Further details can be found on the notice board in the porch, or contact *Ann Epps 9411479.*

MAUNDY THURSDAY - WASHING OF THE FEET CEREMONY - REMINDER

The under-mentioned have kindly agreed to participate in the washing of the feet ceremony:

Calvin Lewis, Gerry Heenan, Paul Williams, Joe D'Cruz, Harry McSoley, Peter Nicholson, John Macbeth, Mike Tomas, Norman Bricker, Joseph Ritchie, Geoff & Thomas Collier.

