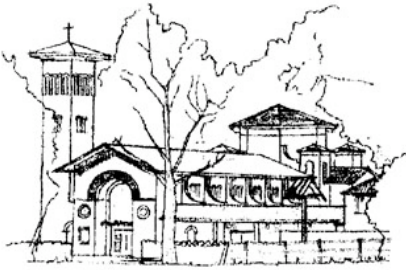
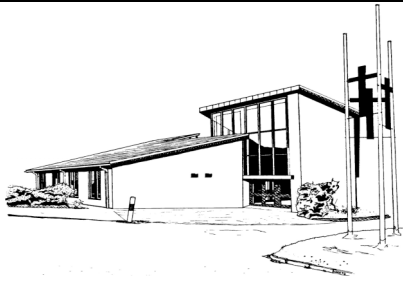


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p style="text-align: center;">Parish Clergy:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest & Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fr Joseph Awoh (Resident at St Joseph's)</p> <p style="text-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 style="text-align: center;">RBH Chaplaincy - (Tel. 0118 3227105)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fr Chris Whelan Fr Richard Maniak</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>

Second Sunday of Easter – Year A

29/30 March 2008

In the second reading this Sunday we hear how Peter has a newfound confidence as he encourages those having to endure very real and terrifying suffering for their faith. Only someone who had also suffered would be able to make such assertions with any credibility, and Peter speaks from the heart. He knows what it feels like to be scared of standing up for what you believe in, he knows what it feels like to fail miserably despite good intentions, when you try to do things in your own strength. And he also knows that even the most timid of us can cope with anything when we are living the risen life in the power of Jesus Christ.

The Gospel shoots us back to a very anxious group of people, terrified of the Jewish authorities even though they are (apart from Thomas at this stage) convinced that Jesus is alive. Although they know he is risen, they have not yet accessed the power of that risen life.

What Jesus does is to reassure them by his visible and tangible presence. There is a wonderful sense of normality in his greeting. When someone we love has died, and our life seems thrown up in the air and is falling slowly in pieces around us, what we crave is for things to be back to normal again. Jesus understands that and provides the reassuring presence they need. Then he breathes into them, as Adam was breathed into at the creation. This breath is what gives the disciples the power of new life, and with it comes the conferring of authority, whose hidden side is responsibility. Like Jesus they are sent out, as the word 'apostle' proclaims, to tell the Good News with confidence in the living spirit of Jesus.

Thomas was also scared. He was scared, like many of us, of being taken for a ride – of belief being only wish-fulfilment. Thomas was going to stick to an honest recognition of where he stood until he had definite proof. When he is offered it, he finds he no longer needs it; the sight of Jesus is quite enough. Suddenly prophetic, Jesus acknowledges the faith of all those, including us, who do not have the benefit of visual and tactile sightings of Jesus, and yet are still able to believe in him and share his risen life.

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST. JOSEPH'S
Lucy Hope RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Theotonio Goes RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Martin Tomas RIP
People of the Parish	11.30 am		10.30 am	Elinor Gamorot RIP
Anne Wells RIP	5.00 pm	Monday	No Mass	
John & Margaret McGowan RIP	9.30 am			
Clare & Dave Palmer's Intent.	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Martin Tomas RIP
Joseph Mills' Intentions	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Martin Tomas RIP
Margaret Crotty RIP	8.30 pm	Thursday	9.00 pm	Ashley & Rosalind Gilbert's Special Intentions
Vera Garrigan's Intentions	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Martin Tomas RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Mary Broderick's Intentions
THE FEASTS OF THE WEEK ARE:				
Monday–THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD		Wednesday–St Francis of Paola		Friday- St Isidore
Saturday–St Vincent Ferrer				
Thursday: 7 - 8.30 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT			Tuesday: 7.30 – 8 pm
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY			10.30-11 am
Responsorial Psalm: "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His love has no end."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 23RD MARCH 2008

Gift Aid:	£0.00
Planned Giving:	£0.00
Loose Plate:	£0.00
Tf5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
Easter Offering	£1,894.66
Holy Places	£569.09
TOTAL	£2,463.75
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£1,051.03
Easter Offering	£1,924.66
Holy Places	£599.59

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 6th April are Tony & Jill Flint.

YOUTH GROUP

The next St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 4th April will be a Break Up Disco. 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 9427436 or alternatively email the parish office (details on the front of this newsletter).

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.

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.

VISIT TO ROME & ASSISI - 2009

Thank you to everyone who responded to the recent item about a pilgrimage to Rome & Assisi in 2009. The level of interest expressed means that we will now go ahead and make the necessary bookings. Then, soon after Easter, Booking Forms will be available. If you are interested but did not give your name don't worry as we will work on the basis of fifty places which means there should be room for all who want to participate. I shall try and make sure that everyone who did give their name receives a Booking Form but please keep an eye out after Easter so that you don't miss them when they are available. Father Dominic has mentioned the pilgrimage at St James & William of York so we are likely to be group from the Pastoral Area as a whole [Central & West Reading].

CAR BOOT SALE

There will be a car boot sale on Saturday, 26th April here in St Joseph's car park. 11 am: Sellers. 12 noon - 3 pm: Buyers. Car: £5. Van: £8. Tea and refreshments in the small hall. For more information please ring *Theresa Bricker* on 9426788.

VACANCIES

After School Club and Breakfast Club Supervisor. After School Club up to 17.5 hours per week. Breakfast Club 5 hours per week. Term time only. Up to £11.00 per hour depending on experience. Qualified to (or working towards) NVQ Level 3 in childcare and education, play-work or equivalent. Please contact the school office for an application form. *St Paul's Catholic School, City Road, Tilehurst, Reading, Berkshire, RG31 4SZ. Telephone: 9422003. Email: office.stpauls@westberks.org.*

SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE LIVING GOD

Encouraged by the success of last autumn's seminars, Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi will be running another "Life in the Spirit" programme leading up to Pentecost this year. The seminars will be an opportunity to seek a fuller experience of the Holy Spirit we each received in the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Evenings will be structured to enable people to get to know one another as members of the same Christian family, listening to talks given by a variety of speakers whose lives have been touched by the Holy Spirit and praying together for a similar experience of God in our lives. For further information please see Notice Board. Registration Forms at the back of the Church.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Michael James Lavelle who was baptised here at St Joseph's yesterday.

JULIA FEENEY

Julia had her operation and all went well. All seems to be very successful so far - please keep her in your prayers.

KNITWITS

The next meeting will be on Monday, 7th April at 8 pm at Veronica Williams' home - 9 *Orkney Close*.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TILEHURST

The Ecumenical Healing and Wholeness group now meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturday afternoons 2.30 - 4 pm at 'The Link' 28, School Road (April 5th & 19th) offering prayer to the public, also 1st and 3rd Mondays 7.30 - 9 pm. If anyone who is part of a healing ministry in their church would like to join us they are very welcome. We urgently need more men on the team! For more information please ring *Pam Toon* on 9429136.

THE 45TH WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND CONSECRATED LIFE - SUNDAY, 13TH APRIL

Pope Benedict XVI has proclaimed that Sunday, 13th April, will be celebrated for "Vocations to the service of the Church-mission". Pope Benedict asks that as a community we endeavour to commit to work with faith and generosity in the service of vocations and he sends his Apostolic Blessing to educators, catechists and to all, especially to the young people on their vocational journey

GIFT AID/PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Will parishioners who use the Gift Aid/Planned Giving envelopes kindly note that the new envelopes for the year 2008/2009 are now available, in numerical order, in the Church porch.

UCM

At our next meeting on Wednesday, 2nd April, Stephanie Bricker will tell us about her recent trip to New Zealand. We meet in the small hall at 7.30 pm. All ladies are welcome to join us.

THANK YOU

The Holy Week and Easter celebrations were a wonderful experience for all the parishioners at St Joseph's, together with our visitors. I am most grateful to all the people who helped make these celebrations so meaningful. *Many thanks - Father Joseph.*