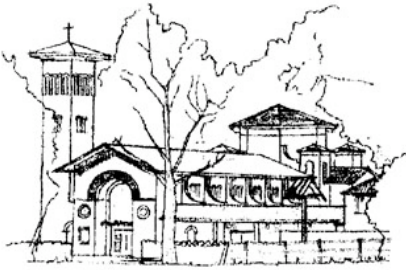
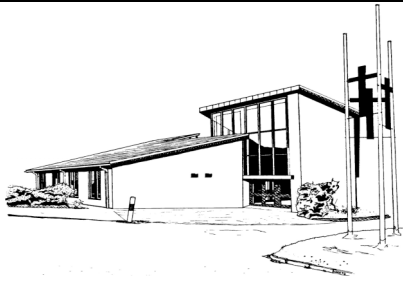


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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) 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>

Pentecost Sunday – Year A

10/11 May 2008

For six months, going on seven, our worship has been dominated by three great themes, the Birth of the Saviour (Christmas) with its preparation period of Advent; then we celebrated his Death and Resurrection (Easter) with its preparation period of Lent; for the last seven weeks we have been living in the aftermath of Easter which is a time of preparation for the celebration of Pentecost.

It's a long slog through these next six months to the end of November when the next Advent Season begins. Sunday after Sunday after Sunday we shall be wearing, green vestments. Perhaps for that reason green has come to represent an almost lifeless colour for me!

But it is a heaven sent opportunity. The Advent - Christmas - Lent - Easter – Pentecost cycle has been a time of looking heavenwards, a time of building our hopes, a time for living out of this world. Now we have the opportunity to come down to earth again. The “green” season, if I may call it that, is a reminder that our Christian life has to be rooted in this world. If, metaphorically speaking, we always have our heads in the clouds, now is the time to get our feet back on the earth!

Jesus summarised the Ten Commandments of the Old Testament as two: Loving God (Heads in the Clouds) and Loving our Neighbour (feet well grounded on Earth).

The great humanitarian battles with injustice, poverty, starvation, have to be fought in every generation. In our time they are joined by all the issues which come under the “Green” umbrella, Global Warming, Waste Control, Fuel Resources, issues which remind us that we only hold this planet in Trust for the next generation. And in every community in every generation there is the ongoing struggle with right and wrong, a struggle which begins with *me*.

The Heavenly Gardener has been sowing his seeds, now he'll be looking around to see which ones are starting to bear fruit.

Fr Terence

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Josephine Quilty RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Anthony Tanner RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Gus Vickers RIP
People of the Parish	11.30 am			
Michael Doyle RIP	5.00 pm		10.30 am	Eileen Ryall RIP
Bridie Traynor RIP	9.30 am	Monday	9.00 am	Funeral - Mary Frances Walsh RIP
Thanksgiving for Prayers	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Catherine Hanley's Intentions
Mary McCoy RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Julia Feeney's Intentions
Julia Feeney's Intentions	8.30 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Vincent McGrath RIP
Lillian Campbell's Intentions	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	John Thornton RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Vincent McGrath RIP
THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:				
Monday - Ss Nereus, Achilleus & Pancras		Tuesday – OUR LADY OF FATIMA		Wednesday – St Matthias
Saturday – St Dunstan				
Thursday: 7 - 8.30 pm.	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT			Tuesday: 7.30 – 8 pm
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY			10.30-11.00 am
Responsorial Psalm: “Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.				

COLLECTIONS FOR 4TH MAY 2008

Gift Aid:	£401.00
Planned Giving:	£96.50
Loose Plate:	£235.49
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£198.50
World Communications	£301.44
Clergy Training	£5.00
TOTAL	£1,237.93
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£1,278.48

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 18th May are John O'Shea & Clare McSoley.

YOUTH GROUP

The next St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 16th May will be a Disco Party with First Holy Communion candidates. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 9415636*.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: 22ND - 29TH AUGUST 2008

Are there any **young people (17+)** in the parish who would like to go and help as 'Handmaids' & 'Brancardiers'? If so, please contact *Tina Foreman or Vincent Harvey tel. 01252 621295 / dcn.peter@ourladyfleet.org.uk*. There are information brochures at the back of church

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI

Information and Booking Forms are now available for this trip to Italy from 14th – 23rd February 2009, under the leadership of Fathers John and Andrew. If you would like to take part please collect and complete the necessary form as, with limited space, we will take bookings on a first-come-first-served basis. If you have any questions please contact *Fr John by phone or at nelsonjohnf@aol.com*.

MARY FRANCES WALSH RIP

The Parish offers condolences to Mrs Mary Walsh's family. Please pray for the repose of her soul. Mary's requiem Mass will be held here at St Joseph's at 9.00 am on Monday, 12th May. All are invited.

GIFT AID SUBSCRIBERS

There are still a few named offertory envelopes remaining at the back of the Church. Will the parishioners concerned kindly collect them as soon as possible? *Thank you.*

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 11TH - 17TH MAY

Anybody willing to help with collections please contact *John Macbeth 9414685*. There is also a Christian Aid Week Service **TODAY** at St Catherine's Church. Speaker: Martin Conway of Christian Aid. *Further details available in the porch.*

ROYAL BERKSHIRE HOSPITAL- COFFEE SHOP

The WRVS will shortly be opening a new coffee shop at RBH and they need more volunteers to help in the running of the shop. If you can help, further details are available in the porch.

NIGHT VIGIL

On the occasion of the solemnity of the Sacred Heart, the Sacred Heart Guild (Moyo Musande Guild) of the Zimbabwean community will be organising the Night Vigil on Friday, 30th May 2008 starting at 8 pm and ending on Saturday, 31st at 6.30 am at St James church. The programme will be made available in due course. All are welcome.

LIFE

After both Masses TODAY at St Joseph's, we will be having a sale of plants, cakes and quality donated goods in the large hall - *Christine Wall on 9411605*.

NHS - BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Someone you know could need blood. Please see the NHS poster concerning the need for blood donors in the porch.

THAMES WATER - WATERAID

Change lives: donate old phones. Thinking of getting a new mobile? Your old handset could help WaterAid save lives. Every three phones recycled could help one person in the developing world gain access to a lasting supply of water, sanitation and hygiene education. There is a box for collection of phones at the back of the Church.

REMINDER FOR YOUR DIARIES

There will be a Quiz Night on 7th June. *Details to follow.*

FLOWER PETALS

Donations of flower petals for the Corpus Christi Procession on Sunday, 25th May, would be greatly appreciated. A box will be available to deposit the petals in the Church porch on Friday 23rd/Saturday 24th May.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS:

Tyra Baah	Tia McGrath
Shekinah Bautista	Jacob Newman
Charlotte Brennan	Thomas Newman
Jacob Camac	Ania Owczarek
Megan Coleman	Joe Partridge
Simon De La Vega	Danny Pearson
Abigail Flach	Olivia Roberts
Fiona Harris	Kieran Shotter
Kyle Laleye	Erinn Sturgess
Abby Lee	Chloe Tomlinson
Bridget Lockwood	Meixa-Marija Tonna
Ciara McArthur	Talora Welsh
Nathan McCaugherty	Sophie Wilson
Orla McCoy	Matthew Woolford

Please support them with your prayers.

A big **THANK YOU** to the children, to the parents and the team of catechists who prepared the children and to all who prepared the Church and the Liturgy so beautifully.

PASSOVER MEAL

Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to make this a successful event: cooks, musicians, readers, setters-up and washers-up and everyone who took part. A special thanks to all our young serving staff – you did a great job! We made a profit of £350 on the ticket sales. A donation of £50 has been sent to Blessed Hugh Faringdon School who hosted the event and the rest has been divided equally between our parishes in aid of parish charities – the Hope Community in South Africa, Fr Zvonko of Bosnia and Romanian orphanages, respectively.

KNITWITS

The next Knitwits meeting is on Monday, 12th May at 8 pm at the home of *Christine Wall: 4 Tylers Place*.

ALTAR SERVERS' PRACTICE

There will be a practice on Thursday, 22nd May at 3.45 pm

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to all the footballers of St Paul's School after their success last week in the Catholic Schools Competition. Having never won either the A or B Team title in the eighteen year history of the tournament, St Paul's excelled themselves this year by winning both competitions. Well done everyone!

ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL - SATURDAY, 24TH MAY 2008

St. Lucy's Convent, Medstead Manor, Medstead. The theme for this year is THE LOVE OF THE FATHER. Starting with Rosary at 11am - MASS at 11.30 am – Shared lunch at 1.00 pm – Praise & Worship 2.00 pm - Talk 2.30 pm – Finishing with tea & Prayer for healing - ending around 5 pm. Collection to defray expenses. *More information or directions, ring Rev John Foley on 01189 333420 or see poster displayed in the porch.* Next meeting – Saturday, 28th June 2008.