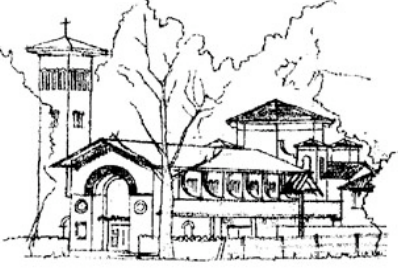
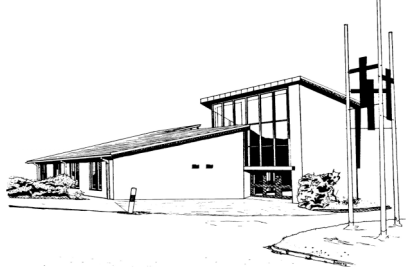


# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p align="center"><b>Parish Clergy:</b></p> <p align="center"><b>Mgr John Nelson</b> (Parish Priest &amp; Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p align="center"><b>Fr Joseph Awoh</b> (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: <a href="mailto:admin@englishmartyrs.org.uk">admin@englishmartyrs.org.uk</a> website: <a href="http://www.englishmartyrs.org.uk">www.englishmartyrs.org.uk</a> <b>Secretary: Gwen Price</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>RBH Chaplaincy -</b> (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: <a href="mailto:office@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk">office@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk</a> website: <a href="http://www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk">www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk</a> <b>Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones</b></p>

## The Ascension of the Lord – Year A

3/4 May 2008

One of the most difficult questions I have had to grapple with in my priestly ministry in parishes and institutions is: How do I know when I am doing my own will and when I am doing the will of God? How do I decide that things should be done one way and not another, whether the issues at stake are liturgical or administrative?

I guess that this question bothers other priests in their work as well. And I think it should also bother the members of committees that serve our parishes and members of Parish Pastoral Councils. I have sat through committee meetings, not only in our parishes, but even back in my native Cameroon and wondered whether the decisions arrived at were meant for the welfare of the whole community or for the welfare and/or convenience of a few.

I thought about this question recently when, during a committee meeting, a member asked whether that committee could really claim to be speaking for the rest of the community, whether it represented the views within the community. I don't know whether committee members should be able to represent views within the community. But I believe that if committees are put in place for the service of the church community they must be in constant touch with that community, they must seek ways of knowing what the needs of their community are and how best to respond to those needs in order to render effective service. We must constantly re-examine our stewardship to our communities and find out whether we are serving those communities or just serving ourselves. And effective service to community demands sacrifice, sometimes lots of sacrifice.

*Fr Joseph*

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS		ST. JOSEPH'S	
Aithna Bennett RIP	6.30 pm	<b>Vigil Mass</b>		
Leonilda Figueira RIP	9.30 am	<b>Sunday</b>	8.30 am	Angela Macbeth RIP
Deceased members of the Barratt/Cummins families RIP	11.30 am			
Thomas Davis RIP	5.00 pm		10.30 am	Les Hopper RIP
Ann Morris' Intentions RIP	10.00 am	<b>Monday</b>	10.00 am	Joan O'Brien RIP
Funeral - Michael Reid RIP	9.30 am	<b>Tuesday</b>	7.00 pm	Martin Tomas RIP
Gregory Sakaria RIP	9.30 am	<b>Wednesday</b>	9.00 am	Fr Joseph's Intentions
John Joseph Walsh RIP	8.30 pm	<b>Thursday</b>	9.00 am	Pat & Tom Leonard's Intns.
Bernard Rael's Intentions	9.30 am	<b>Friday</b>	7.00 pm	Francis Najman RIP
			9.00 am	Julia Feeney's Intentions
		<b>Saturday</b>	11.00 am	First Holy Communion Mass
Thursday: 7 - 8.30 pm. 5.30-6.15 pm	<b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT</b>		Tuesday: 7.30 – 8 pm	
	<b>CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY</b>		<b>No Confession</b>	
<b>Responsorial Psalm: "God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.</b>				

Please note that Mass on Monday at English Martyrs is at 10 am, rather than the usual 9.30 am.

International Lunch takes place next Sunday at English Martyrs Church from 12.00pm – please join us if you can.

## **COLLECTIONS FOR 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2008**

<b>Gift Aid:</b>	<b>£691.45</b>
<b>Planned Giving:</b>	<b>£70.79</b>
<b>Loose Plate:</b>	<b>£174.34</b>
<b>TF5 (Fr Zvonko)</b>	<b>£20.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£956.58</b>
<b>Running Totals</b>	
<b>Fr Zvonko</b>	<b>£1,079.98</b>

### **REMINDER**

The counters for Sunday, 11<sup>TH</sup> May are Pat Toner and Angela Barry.

### **SPECIAL COLLECTION**

There is a special collection **TODAY** for World Communications. The Catholic Communications Network provides support for the Bishops of England & Wales in promoting the Gospel in the media. Please be as generous as you can to support this important work.

### **YOUTH GROUP**

The next St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> May will be Arts & Crafts – Communion Cards. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 9415636*.

### **LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: 22<sup>ND</sup> - 29<sup>TH</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> 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*.

### **RACE AGAINST POVERTY WITH CAFOD**

Great South Run – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2008. Further details are available at the back of the Church.

### **CAFOD**

Details of CAFOD Diocesan Manager, Portsmouth job vacancy are available at the back of the Church.

### **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.*

### **TRANSPORT REQUEST**

Do you attend 10:30 am Mass at St Joseph's on a Sunday? Do you live in Tilehurst? If so, can you please assist one of our parishioners by providing her with a lift to Church? If you can help please contact *Eileen Kerrigan on 9412757*.

### **CHRISTIAN AID WEEK: 11<sup>TH</sup> – 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

Anybody willing to help with collections please contact *John Macbeth 9414685*. There is also a Christian Aid Week Service on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May 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.

### **CHURCHES TOGETHER IN READING**

The CTR has recently produced a new newsletter, a copy of which is displayed in the Church porch.

## **BMS WORLD MISSION**

Details of Financial Services Team Member job vacancy are available at the back of the Church.

### **FEAR, FRIENDSHIP AND FAITH**

A study day for those engaged in Inter Faith dialogue on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 from 10.30 am to 4.00 pm at St Clement's Family Centre, Cross Street, OXFORD, OX4 1DA. Speakers: Alan Race and Shanthy Hettiarachchi. Organised by the Oxford Diocesan Committee for Interfaith Concerns. For more information or to book a place on this day please contact: *Alwyn Samuel on 07956 882588 or David Barton 254 Iffley Road, Oxford, OX4 1SE. Telephone No. 01865 240059 Email: daviebarton@aol.com*.

### **LIFE**

On Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, after both Masses at St Joseph's, we will be having a sale of plants, cakes and quality donated goods in the large hall. Any donations can be brought to the hall between 5 pm and 7 pm on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> May. (No jumble for this event please). Further details from *Christine Wall on 9411605*.

### **ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF THE CHURCH**

Parishioners are invited to attend Mass and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> May for the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dedication of St Joseph's Church.

### **WELCOME**

A warm welcome to Harrison Oliver James Newman who is being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

### **PARISH DIRECTORY**

The details collected for the new parish directory are in the process of being put on the website. No personal email addresses will be included. People wanting to make email enquiries will be directed to the parish office address, from where messages will be automatically forwarded. However it's felt the web version of the directory will be of limited use without people's phone numbers, so the plan is to include them. If you would like your number removed, please contact Colin Parkes as soon as possible on 9427436, or *colin.parkes@gmail.com*

### **APF BOXES**

It is time to empty the APF boxes again. There are magazines available at the back of the Church.

### **NHS – BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE**

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

### **UCM**

There will be an Area Meeting on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30 pm in the small hall at St Joseph's. During the evening we will watch a DVD about Christian Aid Week. All ladies are welcome to come along.

### **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.

### **THANK YOU**

Many thanks to the Social Committee for organising the car boot sale on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> April. The sale produced a profit of £94.00.

### **REMINDER FOR YOUR DIARIES**

There will be a Quiz Night on 7<sup>th</sup> June. Details to follow.