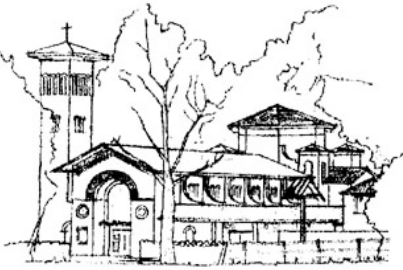
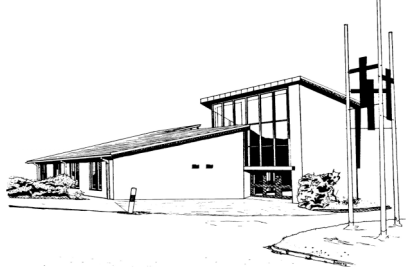


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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 englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk</p> <p>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</p> <p>Secretary: Sheila Jones</p>

Thirtieth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

25/26 October 2008

Praying for all who have died

Something that we have always taken extremely seriously as Catholics, is the responsibility to pray for those who have died. This begins in our celebration of a Funeral Mass where the liturgy is full of references to the person who has died and supporting them on their journey with our prayer. Just how seriously people take this call to pray for the dead is indicated by the difficulty we have at English Martyrs in responding to all the requests for Mass to be said for a particular person: these are always booked many months ahead.

Next weekend sees the start of the month of November when, in a particular way, we focus on praying for those who have gone before us. Within that month, on Remembrance Sunday, we will join with people across the land in remembering those who fell in battle and conflict – who gave their lives to ensure the freedoms we enjoy. On Sunday 16 November, beginning at 2 pm, there will be the annual Service and Blessing of Graves at the Henley Road Cemetery. I know that these are very important occasions for many parishioners.

We should not forget that many people who come to English Martyrs and St Joseph's for the Funeral of a loved one are not members of our church. For this reason, a Funeral is an important moment when we make others welcome and help them through a very tough time. Whether they share our faith or not, make no mistake that they appreciate deeply the chance to come and to be with others who do believe that there is much more to our lives than the part we spend here on earth.

This year, at **3 pm on Sunday 2nd November**, we have invited families across our Pastoral Area of Central & West Reading, who has suffered bereavement in the last twelve months, to join us for a simple Service of Prayer and a chance to be still and reflect. This will be at English Martyrs Church. The invitations have been issued – we have no idea how many might come along. But this is not restricted – all those who would like to come and join in prayer for those who have died are most welcome. There will be light refreshments afterwards.

Fr John

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST. JOSEPH'S
Rosamund Hoar RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Mick & Liz McSoley's Ints	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Richard Patrick RIP
Patrick O'Connor RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Patrick Campbell RIP
People of the Parish	5.00 pm			
Sr Hedwig's Intentions	9.30 am	Monday	NO MASS	
Funeral - James Thomas RIP	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Bill Cuss RIP
Peggy Pich RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	John Francis Pickering RIP
Kate Knollys RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	John Francis Pickering RIP
Mary O'Neill RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Bridie McGlynn RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	Thanksgiving for people of the Parish

THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:

Tuesday – SS Simon & Jude

Thursday – Blessed Winchester Martyrs

Thursday 7 – 8 pm	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION	Tuesday – 7.30-8 pm
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY	10.30-11.00 am

Responsorial Psalm: "I love you Lord, my strength."

COLLECTIONS FOR 19TH OCTOBER 2008

Gift Aid:	£424.50
Planned Giving:	£45.50
Loose Plate:	£289.50
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£0.00
Cathedral Fund	£19.50
Mission Sunday	£393.83
Youth Group Donation	£178.00
Christmas Cards	£2.50
Candle Money	£14.70
Family Fast (CAFOD)	£70.00
TOTAL	£1,438.03
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£154.34
Mission Sunday	£474.99
Cathedral Fund	£356.75
Family Fast	£913.68
Christmas Cards	£343.30

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 2nd November are John O'Shea & Clare McSoley.

BAMENDA SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND

Every year we have a special collection to support the priests, religious and people of Cameroon in our twin Diocese of Bamenda. This week, we attach a copy of 'Bamenda Briefing', along with this newsletter and see how much your help is needed.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING DANCE

Annual Fund Raising Dance for the Poor and Homeless on 15th November, at the Reading Irish Centre. Music by P.J. Murrhy. Tickets £3.

CAKE AND PRESERVE SALE

The UCM are organising a sale of cakes, preserves and produce in aid of The Duchess of Kent Hospice on Sunday, 2nd November. In order to make a success of this event, we need contributions from you. Please bring any items you have made or grown to the small hall on 2nd November, for sale after Masses that day. *Thank you.*

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Currently have a vacancy for a Headteacher. *More information is available at the back of the Church.*

CARDBOARD ADVENT PRAYER CANDLES

St Joseph's Parish has received advice from the Archdiocese of Liverpool regarding the availability of cardboard Advent Prayer Candles. These are quite attractive and a novel way for families to say a simple prayer each day of Advent. The Parish has ordered 50 of these prayer cards (£1.50 each) which will be available for sale at the back of the Church before the First Sunday of Advent.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW OF SEASONAL HAMPERS

The parish is organising a Grand Christmas Draw in aid of Church funds. The actual draw will take place on Sunday, 14th December after 10.30 am Mass in the hall. Tickets will be on sale from Sunday, 9th November 2008. In order that we can raise as much money as possible, we are asking parishioners to donate luxury foods and drinks, (chocolates, spirits, wine, crackers, mints, coffees, teas, dried fruit, cakes, pies, biscuits, sauces, nuts, etc.) Please leave items in the basket provided in the Church porch, where they will be regularly collected and stored in a safe place. Parishioners will now note that a list of suggested luxury items will appear on the big notice board inside the Church porch. *Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.*

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY ACTION!

CURRENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES - Please check the notice board for all details.

SHOP EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS!

Not as daunting as it sounds, if you shop from the CAFOD World Gifts Catalogue. At the same time, of course, a wonderful way to help so many people around the world. The catalogues are now available in the porch. Please help yourself. *Thank you – Margaret Chaplin.*

PARISH FINANCIAL ACCOUNT NAME

We have recently experienced some minor difficulties when parishioners are writing cheques for parish use. When writing out cheques for the parish, the cheque should be made payable to: "PRCDTR – St Joseph's Reading".

'LIVE LIFE & DANCE!'

- A DANCE SHOW IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH

Professional dancers performing dances from all over the world including: Irish Dancing, Bollywood, Flamenco, Ballet, Tap, Modern, Street Dance, and Belly Dancing. Date: Saturday, 1st November - 7.30 pm at Leighton Park School Theatre. Tickets: £10. For more information please see Mary Rafter. For tickets please contact *Georgina Miller 07760 168479 or email-millergeorgina@hotmail.com.*

HOLY SOULS

Seven designated Masses will be offered in November for the departed members of families, parishioners and friends. It is not possible to celebrate individual Masses for each family in the Parish. I invite you to add the names of deceased persons you wish to be prayed for during November to the clip board which is on the Sanctuary step. In addition to our general intention to include them in every Mass, the following seven Masses will be offered specifically for those named:

Tuesday, 11 th	7.00 pm	Tuesday, 25 th	7.00 pm
Thursday, 13 th	9.00 am	Thursday, 27 th	9.00 am
Friday, 14 th	7.00 pm	Sunday, 30 th	10.30 am
Sunday, 23 rd	10.30 am		

If you wish to offer a stipend for these Masses, please **DO NOT** put the money or cheques on the clip board.

WELL DONE YOUTH GROUP!

Many thanks to the Youth Group who raised the sum of £178 as a result of its recent competitions. This sum has been donated to parish funds.

Particular thanks are due to Nicola and Stephen Ritchie who devote much time and energy to the Youth Group's organisation – *Fr John/Fr Joseph.*

PARENT/CARER AND TODDLER GROUP

Held in the Church hall each Thursday between 9.30 am – 11 am during term-time. Here, your children can play and socialise in a safe environment and you can enjoy a coffee and a chat. Please do come and join us.

REMINDER

St Joseph's Office hours are on Tuesdays & Thursdays from 9 am until 12.30 pm.

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.

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.