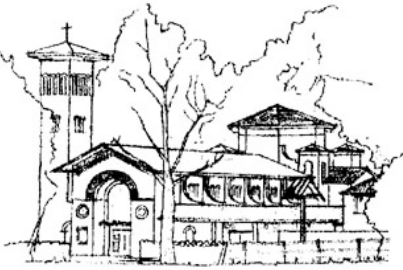
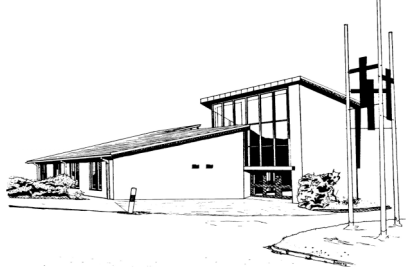


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

| | | |
|--|---|---|
|  | <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> |

The Triumph of the Cross - Year A

13/14 September 2008

Part of being a Christian is to see the world around us in a different way. What do I mean? In the Gospels we hear Jesus, again and again, challenging his followers not to just fit in with the way others behave and do things but rather to look carefully through 'eyes of faith'. Today's feast, which focuses on the cross, is a good example because for many the image of a man nailed to a cross and dying is a sign of abject failure. But for those who believe, the cross is actually a sign of hope because we understand that Jesus chose this as a demonstration of the depth of his love and the way to open up for us a future of life without end. We see the cross bound to the day of resurrection. As we look at Our Lord on the cross what we see is not only a man dying in agony but also a man with his arms outstretched – embracing the world for which he is suffering.

On **Sunday 19th October** we have organised an afternoon of prayer, centred on the theme of giving thanks for all the gifts that God has given us, and continues to give us. We live in a world of anxiety which is full of cares and concerns. But as Christians we should be very aware of the huge and many blessings we have received – and for which we want to give thanks. The afternoon will begin from 12.30 pm with a *Bring and Share Lunch*. Then, between 1.30 pm and 4.30 pm there will be opportunities for prayer in a variety of ways, including prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The afternoon is open to everyone, especially those who worship at St Joseph, St James, St William of York and English Martyrs churches.

Please put this date in your diary and make the decision to give this afternoon in October to prayer with the rest of us. There will always be reasons why we could be busy doing other important things that afternoon. Set them aside and come to pray and to give thanks for all that we have been given. It may help us to see again how the world around us is full of God's gifts.

Fr John

| MASS INTENTIONS | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| ENGLISH MARTYRS | TIMINGS | | | ST. JOSEPH'S |
| Fr Dominic's Intentions | 6.30 pm | Vigil Mass | | |
| Hillary Umeh & family's Ints | 9.30 am | Sunday | 8.30 am | Patsy Kennedy RIP |
| Josephine Arnold RIP | 11.30 am | | 10.30 am | Henry & Ethel Wiggins RIP |
| Josephine Quilty RIP | 5.00 pm | | | |
| Funeral - Joseph Meredith RIP | 9.30 am | Monday | NO MASS | |
| Tony Doherty RIP | 9.30 am | Tuesday | 7.00 pm | Christopher John Quinn's Ints. |
| Alex Brittow RIP | 9.30 am | Wednesday | 9.00 am | Margaret Tinsley RIP |
| Funeral - Theresa Cook RIP | 11.30 am | Thursday | 9.00 am | Pat Jennings RIP |
| Sr Bridie's Intentions | 8.00 pm | | | |
| M/M Corneille, Mrs B Jeremiah RIP | 9.30 am | Friday | 7.00 pm | Agnes Payne's Intentions |
| | | Saturday | 10.00 am | Nora Connolly RIP |
| THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE: | | | | |
| Monday – OUR LADY OF SORROWS Tuesday – SS Cornelius & Cyprian Wednesday – St Robert Bellarmine | | | | |
| Friday – SS Januarius & Theodore of Canterbury | | | | |
| Saturday – SS Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang & Companions | | | | |
| 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 am |
| Responsorial Psalm: "Never forget the deeds of the Lord." | | | | |

COLLECTIONS FOR 7TH SEPTEMBER 2008

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Gift Aid: | £523.50 |
| Planned Giving: | £41.00 |
| Loose Plate: | £259.45 |
| TF5 (Fr Zvonko) | £30.35 |
| TOTAL | £854.30 |
| Running Totals | |
| Fr Zvonko | £3,024.34 |

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 21st September are Tony & Jill Flint.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Special Collection next Sunday, 21st September for CASE (Catholic Agency to Support Evangelisation).

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

Please note that the Parish Office will be closed on Thursday, 18th September, but will be open on Friday, 19th September instead.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2008 – 2009

St Joseph's Parish Programme will begin next term in preparation for reception of the sacrament next May. If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September, you are invited to contact the parish office to register for the programme as soon as possible. Please see the front of the newsletter for contact details. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept applications received after **Friday 19th September**, so please do not forget to register in plenty of time.

CONFIRMATION 2009

The next Confirmation programme will start in November with a 'Come and See evening' and is open to anyone in Year 8 and above. To help us with planning, please register your interest by leaving your name, phone number and email address with the office. More details will follow in November.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

- THEME OF "THE CROSS" . . . CLOSING SOON!!

This is just a quick message to remind you that there are now less than 2 weeks left to get your photos in for the competition. As you know, the Society is currently on the look out for interesting photographs depicting the theme of "the cross" which they can print as greetings cards and sold to raise money for the Society. Entries close on 15th September so there is still time to submit your photos. Up to 5 images can be entered and full details of how to apply are online at www.cathchild.org (see 'News' section). Alternatively you can email or call *Ann Hoggan from the Supporter Care team: ann.hoggan@cathchild.org, 020 8668 2181* she will be pleased to post you an application form.

SALE OF HANDMADE CARDS

After morning Masses **TODAY**. Proceeds to Fr Zvonko's Training Fund. All welcome – *Jenny Pearson on 9412597*.

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesday, 15th October and Wednesday, 22nd October from 8 pm - 9.30 pm in the main Church hall. We will be using a programme called: Baptism – helping your child get the most out of life. Godparents are also welcome to join us for discussion and to watch a DVD. The courses only run every few months, so if you are new or expectant parents, it might be better to attend this course if you wish your child to be baptised fairly soon. 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).

FOUND – SUNDAY MISSAL

Owner appears to be David Herbert, 212 Wensley Road, Reading. *Please contact the office to retrieve the Missal.*

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Luke Raymond John Morgan who is being baptised here at St Joseph's today.

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.

STEWARDSHIP- DATE FOR DIARY

At its meeting on Monday, 1st September, the St Joseph's and English Martyrs Pastoral Council decided to plan for the introduction of a Stewardship Scheme for the two parishes based on the Diocesan Guidelines. A reserve date has been made for Sunday, 19th October 2008 for the scheme to start. *Further details in due course.*

ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL - SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER 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 celebrated by Fr Nicholas Broadbridge OSB – Shared lunch at 1.00 pm – Praise & Worship 2.00 pm - Talk 2.30 pm – CHANGE TO SPEAKER, now Kristina Cooper speaking about AS WE FORGIVE – Finishing with tea & Prayer for healing - ending around 5pm. Collection to defray expenses. More information or directions, ring *Rev John Foley on 9333420* or see poster. Next meeting – Saturday, 25th October 2008.

GET READY FOR CHRISTMAS . . .

The Catholic Children's Society has been in touch to let us know their Christmas Cards are on sale this week and that the catalogues will be with the parishes in the next few days. The collection comprises 20 cards, including Grand Masters in the Classic Collection (4 of which can be personalised) and some striking designs in the Family and Contemporary Collections. There is range of cards for children and two advent cards. A sneak preview of the cards is available online at www.cathchild.org/news. If you would like to have your own copy of the brochure, please contact the Society direct on *020 8668 2181*.

CONFIRMATION 2008

There will be two follow-on events in the English Martyrs Parish Centre for everyone who was confirmed this year: Barbecue – **TODAY** at 6 pm. Quiz – Sunday, 23rd November at 6 pm - this will be after the 5 pm Mass. Please call *Roz on 07876 596758* if you would like to come so that we can plan numbers for the food.

FR ZVONKO'S TRAINING FUND

Thanks to the generosity of parishioners, the parish was able to send to Fr Zvonko on 9th September the sum of £3,000 towards his training expenses for the academic year October 2008 – June 2009. The fund remains open for any voluntary contributions made during the coming year – *Fr John*.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN TILEHURST

The work of the Ecumenical Healing and Wholeness Group that meets at the Link Coffee Shop is growing. We are finding that some people are happy to receive prayer for healing on the street. We feel that this is the way that God wants us to go but if we are to expand by going into Tilehurst Village we urgently need more people on the team. It would be so good to have the support of more Churches. We meet on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the month 2 – 4 pm. The commitment is just for one of the Saturdays. We also meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings 7.30 – 9 pm for prayer and planning. Please contact *Pam Toon on 9429136* for further details.

ROOM AVAILABLE

One large room available in a shared house on Foxhill Rd behind St William of York. £300 pcm + bills. Would suit serious student, postgraduate, or young, mature professional looking for a Catholic / Christian home. Please phone *Brian on 07748 797930* or *Chris on 07834 990919*.