
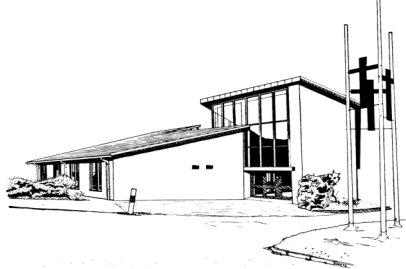


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<p align="center">Parish Clergy:</p> <p align="center">Mgr John Nelson (Parish Priest & Co-ordinating Pastor)</p> <p align="center">Fr Joseph Awoh (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 englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk website: www.englishmartyrs.org.uk</p> <p>Secretary: Gwen Price</p>	<p 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>

Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

27/28 September 2008

CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day 2008

Twice a year, we are asked to set aside a day when we Fast. This may take the form of eating and drinking less – it may involve other ways of denying ourselves some of the things we take for granted. Why? Partly to help us focus on all the good gifts we are receiving from God – which we so easily take for granted – and partly so that the money we save in this way can be given and shared with those who have less, or nothing. It is also one small way through which we stand in solidarity with those in need. This Friday, 3rd October, is CAFOD's Harvest Fast Day.

One of the families we stand in solidarity with this year is Celina's family in Mozambique. At the age of just 18, Celina bears a heavy burden of responsibility. Both her parents are HIV positive. Since her mother and father are often sick, Celina is forced to care single-handedly for her young siblings and her own son – as well as nursing her parents. She spends her days cooking, washing and collecting firewood. And when the village pump stops working, she has to walk for three hours just to fetch water. It is a huge responsibility for a young woman to carry, but thankfully Celina is not entirely on her own. CAFOD supports a network of volunteers – known as HIV activists – who stand alongside families like Celina's as they struggle to cope with the devastating impact of HIV and AIDS.

As well as nursing people who are living with HIV, the volunteers bring monthly food parcels, help out with chores and often just lend a listening ear. At a time when many families are facing stigma and discrimination, HIV activists offer a vital lifeline. Celina's mother told how grateful she is for this support: "Without the food parcel, our family would be starving. We also rely on our activist to help us around the house. As well as counseling us, she brings water and is a daily support to us Without this help, I think I would have died.

Please observe Friday as a Day of Fasting. Then, use the CAFOD envelope attached (with Gift Aid declaration) and return your offering next Sunday.

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST. JOSEPH'S
Tina's Intentions	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Maria Rodrigues RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Mrs Josie Hennessy RIP
Bernard & Joyce Fyens RIP	11.30 am		10.30 am	Patrick Kearns RIP
Philomena Tec's Intentions	5.00 pm			
Brigitt Flynn RIP	9.30 am	Monday	NO MASS	
Fr Gerard Flynn's Intentions	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Sabina McHugh RIP
Peggy Pich RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Tilly Ryce RIP
Tony Doherty RIP	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Michael O'Sullivan RIP
Sr Bridie's Intentions	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Tilly Ryce RIP
		Saturday	10.00 am	John Connell RIP
THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:				
Monday – The Holy Archangels Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Tuesday – St Jerome Wednesday – St Teresa of the Child Jesus Thursday – The Holy Guardian Angels Saturday – St Francis of Assisi				
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: "Remember your mercy, Lord."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 21ST SEPTEMBER 2008

Gift Aid:	£415.95
Planned Giving:	£51.00
Loose Plate:	£247.92
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£110.00
TOTAL	£824.87
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£154.34

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 5th October are Maurice O'Brien & Ryan Hawkins.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

There will be a Special Collection TODAY for the Cathedral.

YOUTH GROUP

The next St Joseph's Youth Group session on Friday, 3rd October will be a Cinema Night. For further details please contact *Nicola Ritchie 9415636*.

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.

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).

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.

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 Nathan Jacob Shoefield and Benjamin Joseph Shoefield who are 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.

REMINDER

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

LIFE

LIFE will be holding a jumble sale on Saturday, 11th October in the English Martyrs Parish Centre at 12 noon. Jumble may be left at English Martyrs from 11 am that morning. Please do not leave jumble at St Joseph's. Enquiries to *Kathie Hamilton – 9429245*.

STEWARDSHIP SCHEME – AFTERNOON OF PRAYER

In preparation for the introduction of the stewardship scheme in the pastoral area, an afternoon of prayer has been arranged for Sunday, 19th October. Full details were in last week's newsletter in Fr John's reflection.

However, as a reminder, the afternoon will begin at 12.30 pm with a bring and share lunch. 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 in the Central & West Reading Pastoral Area.

CONFIRMATION 2008

There will be another follow-on event in the English Martyrs Parish Centre for everyone who was confirmed this year: 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.

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*.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gipsy Lane, Bracknell, RG12 9AP. Group 2 School - NOR 210 (Age range 4-11). Salary Range L7 – L11. Closing Date: 13th October. Interviews: 20th October. Visits to the school welcome. *Telephone No. 01344 425246*.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

In response to public demand, the next series of Life in the Spirit seminars will be held on Wednesday evenings commencing Wednesday, 22nd October – Wednesday, 3rd December excluding Wednesday, 29th October (Half term) and including Saturday, 22nd November. Venue: St John Bosco Parish, Woodley. *More details to follow - Ann-Marie Paterson.*

HUMAN FERTILISATION AND EMBRYOLOGY BILL

The final stages of the Bill will take place in this autumn's session of Parliament, when various ways to slacken the abortion law will be debated. No Bill has ever attached the dignity and sacredness of human life as this Bill does. A final push in opposition to it, we are asked to send a pre-printed postcard to our MP, Martin Salter (MP for Reading West), and to write to the Prime Minister at 10 Downing Street, London, SW1A 2AA, asking them to vote against the proposals. It is known that they both justify the Bill. The postcards are available at the back of the Church.

THE MARIST SCHOOLS

Senior Open Evening on Thursday, 2nd October 2008 from 5 pm – 9 pm. Invitations and more information available in the Church porch.

Various staff vacancies also available. Further details are available in the Church porch.

(Continued on Meditation Sheet)

(Continued from Newsletter)

CARE FOR THE FAMILY

This voluntary organisation is holding a special meeting in the Reading Town Hall on Wednesday, 8th October from 7.30 pm – 10 pm on the subject: "Teenagers! What every parent has to know". It is open to all parents from Churches and communities throughout Reading and full details are on the notice board.

CAFOD

What sounds like a good evening and the opportunity to help CAFOD at the same time?

TODAY at 6 pm at Our Lady of Peace Church, 338 Wokingham Road. Gerry Coates – Catholic singer, songwriter and poet, will be giving a concert where admission is free with a collection in aid of CAFOD. An evening of foot-tapping songs and poems with witty thought-provoking messages about Life, Faith, Peace, Charity and most of all God!

SALE OF CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR ST JOSEPH'S PARISH FUNDS

A group of parishioners have produced, from their own resources, Christmas Cards which will be on sale TODAY, at the Repository Stall at 8.30 am Mass and in the Church Hall after the 10.30 am Mass.

These attractive Christmas Cards are priced at 5 for £2.50 and all profit will go towards parish funds. It will be greatly appreciated if you will kindly support this initiative – *Fr Joseph*.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL - PROSPECTIVE PARENTS OPEN EVENING

St Paul's Catholic Primary School are holding an Open Evening for prospective parents on 15th October 2008 at 6.00 pm. Ms. Feeney will give a presentation at 6.00 pm and this will be followed by an opportunity to tour the school. An appointment is not necessary but it would aid the school to know expected numbers. Please contact the school office to advise your attendance.

APF

It is time to empty the red boxes please. Could I have your contributions by Sunday, 19th October. Any money received after this date cannot be included in the 2008 accounts. If you would like a red box, or if you have one and it is more than six months since it was last opened then please contact me. The autumn magazines are available at the back of the church - *Mike Tomas, APF Secretary – 941278*.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

At its recent meeting, the Pastoral Council decided to hold a Memorial Service for the recently bereaved at the English Martyrs Church at 3 pm on Sunday, 2nd November. Personal letters have been sent to the bereaved families from St Joseph's community. However, all parishioners are invited to attend the service to pray for the repose of the souls of their loved ones.

FAMILY FAST DAY – 3RD OCTOBER

Will parishioners kindly note that Family Fast Day will be held on Friday, 3rd October and all contributions may be placed in the Sunday collection plate on Sunday, 5th October.

A representative from CAFOD will be making a short presentation after both Masses next Sunday and all are invited to be as generous as possible in making their donation to this highly respected organisation. CAFOD envelopes are available at the back of the Church TODAY.

BEE GEES EVENING

There will be a Bee Gees Evening at the Royal British Legion Hall, Tilehurst for the Bicycle Helmet Initiative Trust on Saturday, 4th October. Auctions, raffles and a two-course meal are included in the price of £27.50 per head. The evening begins at 7 pm. Further details are available from *BHIT – 9583585. Email: bhit@dial.pipex.com*.

PRAYING FOR THE SICK

If you know of anyone who is unwell and would like to be prayed for at Mass, please let St Joseph's Parish Office know. Their names will then be included in the bidding prayers. Please make sure the person is happy for their name to be mentioned beforehand.

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.

APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA

A letter of thanks has been received for your support of the annual collection taken in July. Your offerings will make a huge difference in the lives of seafarers.