
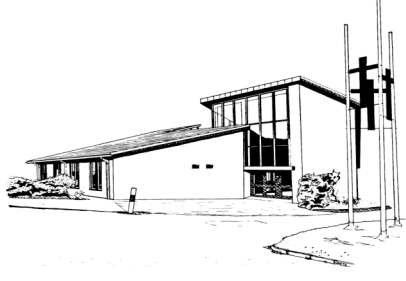


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S & THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

	<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-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time - Year A

6/7 September 2008

Is it just me, or do other people feel disturbed by the way the media have treated Sarah Palin and her family? This is the woman chosen by the Republican Presidential candidate, John McCain, to be his Vice-Presidential nominee for the forthcoming elections in the United States. At the moment Sarah Palin is Governor of the State of Alaska and the choice has surprised many people for a number of reasons. The fact that she is relatively inexperienced – especially in the area of foreign policy is fair comment. She is a 44 year old mother of five. Immediately after the announcement concerning her being chosen, rumours began to circulate on the web that her fifth child was actually her daughter's but was being brought up as Sarah's. This proved to be untrue.

However, within a day it was announced that her seventeen-year-old daughter, Bristol, is expecting a baby. Now we are told that she is planning to marry the baby's father, and the media are having a field day. Some have criticised Sarah Palin as if she hasn't managed to keep her own family on the straight and narrow. By the way, Sarah has spoken many times of her pro-life views and is supporting her daughter. No individual who puts themselves in the public eye can expect much privacy, but isn't there some line that should be drawn when it comes to their family? Her daughter is just seventeen and surely deserves some space in these months to prepare for the birth of her child. I wonder whether she has any chance of that now - which can't be right. They are human beings. How many people today could say that their family hasn't had challenges of one sort or another? For me the main point in Sarah Palin's situation is not how this has come about but rather how they, as a family, are dealing with it.

On this story, as with so many others where human beings are paraded and judged, it is easy to criticise the media. But then who is it that buys the newspapers and absorbs the TV coverage?

Fr John

MASS INTENTIONS				
ENGLISH MARTYRS	TIMINGS			ST. JOSEPH'S
Alec Elan RIP	6.30 pm	Vigil Mass		
Tom Manson RIP	9.30 am	Sunday	8.30 am	Juliet Ettwein & Toshi Araki intentions
Fr Maurice Twomey's intentions	11.30 am		10.30 am	Norman Bricker & Raymond Brown RIP
Martin McCarty RIP	5.00 pm			
Malayalam Mass	6.30 pm			
Olive Cullity RIP	9.30 am	Monday	NO MASS	
Theresa & Paul's Intentions	9.30 am	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Eddie Greaves RIP
Elsie Goldrick RIP	9.30 am	Wednesday	9.00 am	Private intention
Exposition as usual (7-8pm) followed by Service of Word & Communion	8.00 pm	Thursday	9.00 am	Frances Hoban RIP
Funeral – Vera Garrigan RIP	9.30 am	Friday	7.00 pm	Thanksgiving – Barry family
		Saturday	10.00 am	Frank Yelland RIP
THE FEASTS FOR THE WEEK ARE:				
Monday – THE NATIVITY OF OUR LADY Tuesday – St Peter Claver Friday – THE HOLY NAME OF MARY Saturday – St John Chrysostom				
Thursday 7 - 8pm	EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT/BENEDICTION			No Exposition
5.30–6.15 pm	CONFESSIONS – SATURDAY			10.30-11.00 am
Responsorial Psalm: "O that today you would listen to His voice! Harden not your hearts."				

COLLECTIONS FOR 31ST AUGUST 2008

Gift Aid:	£336.53
Planned Giving:	£44.00
Loose Plate:	£233.60
TF5 (Fr Zvonko)	£130.00
TOTAL	£744.13
Running Totals	
Fr Zvonko	£2,993.99

REMINDER

The counters for Sunday, 14th September are Sean Murphy and Peter Chesworth.

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 15 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.

Good Luck, I look forward to receiving your entries.

Ann

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.

LIFE

The AGM of Reading & District LIFE will be held on Tuesday, 9th September at the LIFE Care Centre, English Martyrs Church, Reading at 10.30 am. All LIFE supporters are welcome.

MALTA DAY – UK

On Saturday, 13th September, starting at 10 am with the following: Maltese Fair at Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, London SW1. Concelebrated Mass at Westminster Cathedral at 2.30 pm. Gala Dinner and Dance and Variety Show at The Chartwell Suite, Churchill Hotel, Portman Square London W1 from 7 pm.

READING INTER-FAITH GROUP

There will be a Friendship Walk **TODAY** starting at 2.30 pm from Forbury Gardens Bandstand. Further details are available in the porch.

CONGRATULATIONS & BEST WISHES

To Matthew Gollop & Jayne Dunne on their recent marriage here at St Joseph's.

EDDIE GREAVES RIP

A special Funeral Mass celebrating the life of Eddie Greaves will be said by Fr Joseph on Tuesday, 9th September at 7 pm. All are welcome. Due to the length of the Funeral Mass, the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will not take place on Tuesday evening.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

Welcome back. We will meet on Wednesday, 10th September at 7.30 pm in the small hall. New members will be very welcome.

SALE OF HANDMADE CARDS

On Sunday, 14th September after morning Masses. 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).

FR ZVONKO – TRAINING FUND

A big 'Thank You' to all parishioners who made a contribution to Fr Zvonko's Training Fund during the month of August. The training fund will remain open throughout the year for any further private donations. During the next few weeks, we will be able to send to Fr Zvonko the sum of £3,000 towards his educational expenses for the next academic year: October 2008 – June 2009 – *Fr John*.

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.

CONFIRMATION 2008

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

Barbecue – Sunday, 14th September 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.

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.

