

English Martyrs' Newsletter

6th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

13th/ 14th February 2021



OUR PARISH VISION

To be a welcoming community, inviting, encouraging and supporting all to have an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus. We are inspired to show God's love to the world with joy and hope.

On Wednesday we begin the holy season of Lent. It is holy because it is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with God and to be changed by that encounter. It is a time for deepening faith, recognising sin, and seeking mercy and forgiveness. It is a time to accompany Jesus in His passion and death. It is a grace-filled time when we open our lives, our minds and hearts, to the grace of God.

The ashes of Ash Wednesday remind us of mourning, mortality and repentance. By putting on ashes we are mourning our sinfulness, recognising our mortality and deciding firmly to 'turn away from sin and be faithful to gospel.' Ash Wednesday is the beginning of a long Lenten journey leading to the Sacred Triduum of the passion, death and resurrection of our Saviour.

Lent is primarily about three things:

1) **Prayer** - raising mind and heart to God, spending time with God. Mass, private prayer, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, reading the Bible, praying the Rosary. There are many ways in which we can pray, and prayer is essential to the life of faith. We need to pray if our relationship with God is to grow. Without prayer faith withers like a plant thirsting for water. Decide on what prayer you are going to undertake in Lent.

2) **Sacrifice** - traditionally called giving something up. It can be that or it can be taking something on. Whatever it is, it must involve us denying ourselves and embracing things that are not easy. It is good for us spiritually to be more detached from those things to which we are attached, those everyday things we think we cannot do without. Lent can help us to achieve more freedom from these attachments if we identify those things to which we are attached. Decide on a sacrifice for Lent. Make sacrifice central to your Lent.

3) **Giving** - is good for us. It is spiritually beneficial to give in gratitude for all that we have received from God. We can give to the global poor by donating to CAFOD or to the local poor by donating to SVP. We can give to our Parish or to our Diocese. We can give time, talent or treasure but give we must if we are to have the heart of the Father who has freely and abundantly entrusted His gifts to us. Decide what you are going to give generously to in Lent.

Lent is meant to change us for the better. We may feel that we've had a year of Lenten sacrifice, but let us freely choose to embrace this time of great spiritual opportunity.

Fr. Michael

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH, READING : 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB

Registered Charity No. 246871

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH, READING

Parish website - updated regularly-: www.englishmartyrsrdg.com

Our livestream link on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVh4RKNcsEo>

Parish Priest: **Canon Michael Dennehy**
mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Retired Priest: **Fr Richard Maniak**
Parish Office: telephone and e-mail monitored
Tel: 0118 957 2149
Email: englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Safeguarding Officer: **Charlie McArthur**
Contact through parish office

Schools:

English Martyrs Catholic Primary
Dee Road, Reading RG30 4BE
Head: Mrs Doberska 0118 937 5466

Blessed Hugh Faringdon
Fawley Road, Reading RG30 3EP
Head: Dr Simon Uttley 0118 957 4730

Mass Times for the coming week



Tuesday 16th at 7.00pm; Thursday 18th at 9.30am; Friday 19th at 6.30am & 9.30am; Saturday 20th at 10.00am. No booking required. Turn up at church and our stewards will take your details.

Ash Wednesday 17th at 6.30am: 9.30am: 11.00am & 7.00pm. Book via Eventbrite.

Saturday 20th (Vigil) at 6.00pm; Sunday 21st at 7.30am: 9.30am: 11.30am and 5.00pm. Book your place at <https://englishmartyrsrdg.eventbrite.co.uk> (Bookings open at 8.00pm Monday 15th)



Masses will be live-streamed onto our YouTube channel on Tuesday (7pm), Saturday (Vigil) 6.00pm and Sunday 11.30am

Confessions will be heard at the front of the church on Saturdays after 10.00am Mass and at 5pm. On Sundays at 4pm

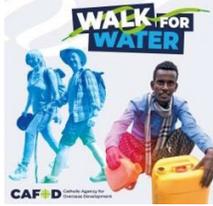
Private Prayer & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this week will be between 9am and 10am on **Tuesday 16th ONLY**. There is no need to book but we will be asking for names and contact details as you come in.

Going into Hospital: If you or a loved one are taken into hospital, please let the Catholic Chaplaincy know. Hospital staff are not allowed to ask you. Ring the hospital on **0118 322 7105** to let them know that you or your loved one would like a visit from a priest.

HOPE into ACTION

Enabling churches to house the homeless

*Hope into Action is a national charity that provides supported housing to the homeless by partnering with local churches. A group of parishioners have agreed to provide friendship and support to the residents of a new shared house alongside the professional support provided by Hope into Action. Would you like to help with this project? There will be an online training day on **Saturday 27 February 10am-4pm**. Please contact Mary Lewis if you would like to attend: mary.lewis@hopeintoaction.org.uk*



CAFOD Lent Appeal

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also give via text. Text **LENT to 70460** to donate £10*. *Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message you'll be opting in to hear more about CAFOD's work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10 but do not wish to receive marketing communications, text LENTNOINFO to 70460. For more information, please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice

Respond to Department of Health consultation to stop home abortions!

The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) has prepared a briefing which gives a step-by-step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire.

Please go to: <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation>

The consultation ends on 26 February 2021.



"Do everything for the glory of God." Your vocation is to give glory to God through your very being. Is He choosing you to be a priest or consecrated religious? Contact Fr. John Cooke.

vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

or call 01329 318 86

LENT 2021

MASS TIMES

Tuesdays at 7.00pm; Wednesdays 9.30am;
Thursdays at 9.30am; Fridays at 6.30am &
9.30am; Saturdays at 10.00am
Saturdays (Vigil Mass for Sunday) 6.00pm
Sundays at 7.30am; 9.30am; 11.30am; 5.00pm

Open Masses. No booking.
Turn up and we will take your details

Public Masses. Book via Eventbrite.



The following Masses will be live-streamed onto our YouTube channel;

Tuesdays at 7pm, Saturdays (Vigil) at 6.00pm and Sundays at 11.30am

Confessions will be heard at the front of the church on Saturdays after 10.00am Mass and at 5.00pm. On Sundays at 4.00pm

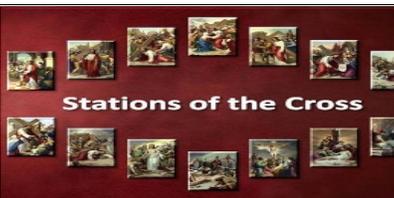


PRIVATE PRAYER



From 22nd February,

The church will be open on Mondays from 3.00pm to 4.00pm and Tuesdays from 9.00am to 10.00am.



Thursdays at 7.00pm via ZOOM

<https://zoom.us/j/98439484117?pwd=QzIGSm9FMG43S29PVUI1U2sraThpdz09>

Fridays at 7.00pm on the Livestream

Lenten Retreat: "I Thirst".

Every Tuesday from 16th February to 30th March, 7.45pm to 9pm on Zoom.

This spiritual pilgrimage is an invitation to walk with Mother Mary, and become a presence of consolation for Jesus as his passion unfolds. It is a walk of love along a path that, I hope, would gently lead participants to respond to Jesus' appeal: "I thirst" in the manner he desires. Join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89816641271?pwd=bzBSS09xWTRZSnFaU1ZIMzljdWZpUT09>

Lenten Talks (Starting 25th Feb)

Each Wednesday at 7pm, Lenten talks will be given to help us prepare ourselves in this season.

Join on Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/91674594853?pwd=Vit0N3hLempgWkZkSFNRYIRZWVnydz09>

MASS INTENTIONS: SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

<i>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary time - Year B</i> ** Live Streamed Mass		
Saturday 13 th February Vigil Mass for Sunday	6.00pm ** (Public Mass)	Jim Pickering RIP
Sunday 14 th February	7.30am (Public Mass)	Derek Robins RIP
	9.30am (Public Mass)	Richard Davis
	11.30am ** (Public Mass)	Karen Gallagher RIP
	5.00pm (Public Mass)	Lya Turner RIP
Tuesday 16 th February	7.00pm ** (Open Mass)	Ethelreda Davis RIP
Wednesday 17 th February Ash Wednesday	6.30am (Public Mass)	Frank Carr RIP
	9.30am (Public Mass)	Raymond Delaney
	11.00am (Public Mass)	
	7.00pm ** (Public Mass)	Ransford Emmanuel Tetty RIP
Thursday 18 th February (Weekday of Lent)	9.30am (Open Mass)	Michael Joyce RIP
Friday 19 th February (Weekday of Lent)	6.30am (Open Mass)	Jim Pickering RIP
	9.30am (Open Mass)	Agnes Dudgeon RIP
<i>First Sunday in Lent</i> ** Live Streamed Mass		
Saturday 20 th February	10.00am (Open Mass)	Fr. Albert van der Most RIP
Saturday 20 th February (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm ** (Public Mass)	Jim Pickering RIP
Sunday 21 st February	7.30am (Public Mass)	People of the Parish
	9.30am (Public Mass)	Thanksgiving
	11.30am ** (Public Mass)	Silverio Guansing RIP
	5.00pm (Public Mass)	Margaret Summerville RIP