

English Martyrs' Newsletter

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

27th/ 28th 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.*

"If you don't know where you are going, any road will get you there" - Lewis Carroll.

How important it is in life to have a destination in mind, a clear sense of direction and purpose. Until we can identify where we are going, we cannot say that one route is better than another. Lent is a good time to review where we are going in life. It is a time to do a review of life and to consider where we believe our destination to be, and whether the route we have chosen is likely to get us there. It is a time for us to shake ourselves out of complacency, and to ask ourselves some uncomfortable questions.

The first reading on this Second Sunday of Lent is stark. If we allow the word of God to speak to us and to enlighten us, then we can be helped greatly in our Lenten review of life. The testing of Abraham is a heart-rending story, and it is one of the master pieces of the Old Testament. It is the story of the testing of a father's love, and it is linked with the basic truth of the Christian faith, proclaimed by St. Paul. The eternal Father, who for our sake 'did not spare his own Son', will not refuse anything to his people in their need. Because of Abraham's obedience to God, he is promised descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore.

The promise made to Abraham was to be fulfilled in the victory of the Saviour's resurrection. As Jesus undertakes the journey towards the Cross and its glorious aftermath in the Gospel, he gives the chosen three among his followers a glimpse of the triumph to come. Peter, James and John would be with him in the Garden of Gethsemane where his resolve would be sorely tested, and his anguish would be clearly seen. The love of the Father shines through on the mountain: "This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him." (Mk 9:8). God, in his goodness, prepares the disciples for the trials ahead. They see Jesus in his glory, and they have revealed to them his identity as Son of God.

Our destination is to be with God for eternity. This is where we are going. We need to choose the route that will get us there. We cannot earn heaven, but by our choices we demonstrate what we desire most. We are invited this Sunday to set our hearts on God and to be obedient to him, particularly in times of trial and difficulty.

Fr. Michael

ACTIVITIES DURING LENT

MASS TIMES

Tuesdays at 7.00pm; Wednesdays at 9.30am;
Thursdays at 9.30am; Fridays at 6.30am &
9.30am; Saturdays at 10.00am

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

Saturdays (Vigil Mass for Sunday) 6.00pm
Sundays at 7.30am; 9.30am; 11.30am; 5.00pm

Public Masses. Book your place at:
<https://englishmartyrsrdg.eventbrite.co.uk>



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 at the following times:

Saturdays after 10am Mass and at 5.00pm.

Sundays at 4.00pm



PRIVATE PRAYER



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 on ZOOM

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

Fridays at 7.00pm on the Livestream

Lenten Retreat: "I Thirst".

Every Tuesday until 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

Every Wednesday until 31st March. 7pm to 8pm. A Lenten talk to help us prepare ourselves in this season. Join on Zoom:

<https://zoom.us/j/91674594853?pwd=Vit0N3hLempqWkZkSFNRYIRZWVNYdz09>

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH, READING

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

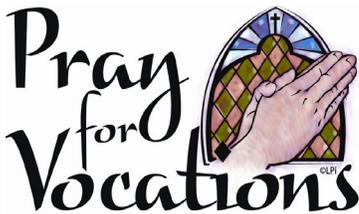
Our livestream link on You Tube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVh4RKNcsEo>

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

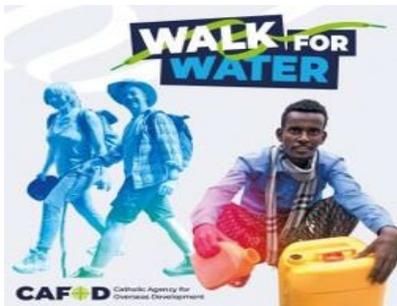
Schools:

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



"If God is with us, who can be against us?" Is the Lord strengthening you to consider the grace of a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life? Contact Fr. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869



CAFOD LENT APPEAL

Please donate online at cafod.org.uk/lent or by phoning 0303 303 3030 or by cheque using one of the CAFOD envelopes which you should freepost directly to CAFOD. You can also give via text by texting LENT 10 to 70460 to donate £10.

Several parishioners have taken up CAFOD's Lent challenge to walk an average of 10,000 steps a day for 40 days to raise money to help improve the lives of clean water deprived communities. It's not too late to learn more and even sign up to Walk for Water by going to <http://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

Texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message and 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, please text CAFODNOINFO to 70085. For more information please see CAFOD's Privacy Policy: cafod.org.uk/Legal-information/Privacy-notice



Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Ralph Lamden and Richard Davis. May they rest in peace. Amen.

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.

OUR PARISH



News, Views and Updates from around the church community

Published by English Martyrs, Wall & No. 4

New parish magazine - please give us your views

The team responsible for producing the new parish magazine have had their first meeting and had a good discussion regarding content etc.,. As the magazine is aimed at you, the parishioner, we would also like to hear your views and ideas so would appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete a short on-line survey. Just visit: <https://forms.gle/fiGT3WX1JxeXx1fC9> enter your comments and click "submit".

Mill Hill Missionaries National Novena to St Joseph

10 - 18 March 2021

The Year of St. Joseph

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

36 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7EG



The image above is from a hand-painted icon donated to the Mill Hill Missionaries by The Tablet, and is now in our chapel in Maidenhead.



Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde*, inaugurating the Year of St. Joseph, can be scanned from this QR code, or downloaded from http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html

NOVENA MASS TIMES

- Wednesday 10 March - 7.30pm
- Thursday 11 March - 7.30pm
- Friday 12 March - 7.30pm
- Saturday 13 March - 10.00am
- Sunday 14 March - 11.00am
- Monday 15 March - 7.30pm
- Tuesday 16 March - 7.30pm
- Wednesday 17 March - 7.30pm
- Thursday 18 March - 7.30pm

For the first time, these Masses will be available to view on Zoom via the Mill Hill website: www.millhillmissionaries.co.uk

Invitation to join us in Prayer

You are all invited to join us at the Novena Masses. If you are unable to attend but would like a Novena prayer leaflet to say the Novena prayers at home, please send a stamped self - addressed envelope to:

Novena Director
St Joseph's Missionary Society
41, Victoria Road
Liverpool
L37 1LW

Or email: novenamhm@gmail.com

For more information about the Mill Hill Missionaries, please visit our website: www.millhillmissionaries.com

Registered Charity No. 220690 & No.SCO39809



HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO OUR PARISH REGISTER?

So that we can keep in touch with you and let you know what is happening in the parish, we need to have your up to date details and the easiest method of doing this is electronically via the parish database at: <https://p1.pamis.co.uk/cwreading/onlinee16cb5>

It is probable that you already are registered, but if you have the slightest doubt then please register again. Similarly, if your circumstances have changed - new telephone number/email address/personal address or whatever, then do please register again. We would rather have your details 2 or 3 times than not at all.

All information provided by individuals, together with all other personal data held by the Parish and the Diocese of Portsmouth, is processed in accordance with the Diocese's Privacy Notice. A copy of this notice can be obtained from the Department of Administration or by visiting: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/gdpr>

English Martyrs Liturgy for the Under-5s (Over 5s welcome too). 2.30pm on Sundays via ZOOM. (link below)

This short Liturgy is a chance to gather and share our week, to hear a Bible story presented in a child-friendly way and to pray together. Each child is encouraged to bring their teddy bear (or other cuddly toy of choice) with them. Fr Michael is usually present to give a blessing to those taking part. As these are designed for the under-5s, they are very short services; usually no longer than 15 minutes. To join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/94291393644?pwd=cGkwMDZMbzFSUjZrWkJ2QTRQcTNpQT09>
Meeting ID: 942 9139 3644 : Passcode: 018481

MASS INTENTIONS: SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Second Sunday of Lent - Year B

Saturday 27 th February (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm (Public Mass) <i>Live Streamed</i>	Stanley Perera RIP
Sunday 28 th February	7.30am (Public Mass)	People of the Parish
	9.30am (Public Mass)	Dickson and Rosaline Fernandes Thanksgiving
	11.30am (Public Mass) <i>Live Streamed</i>	Jim Ryan RIP
	5.00pm (Public Mass)	Anna Rosario RIP
Tuesday 2 nd March	7.00pm (Open Mass) <i>Live Streamed</i>	Evangelina Sison RIP
Wednesday 3 rd March	9.30am (Open Mass)	Maurice Moan RIP
Thursday 4 th March	9.30am (Open Mass)	Spencer Pocock
Friday 5 th March	6.30am (Open Mass)	Agnes Dudgeon RIP
	9.30am (Open Mass)	Marian Hickey RIP
Saturday 6 th March	10.00am (Open Mass)	Maureen Hanson RIP

Third Sunday of Lent

Saturday 6 th March (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm (Public Mass)	Anna Rosario RIP
Sunday 7 th March	7.30am (Public Mass)	Anna Rosario RIP
	9.30am (Public Mass)	Eileen Drake RIP
	11.30am (Public Mass)	Jim Pickering RIP
	5.00pm (Public Mass)	Agnes Dudgeon RIP