

English Martyrs' Newsletter

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.



22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

28th/29th August 2021



The focus of the Scribes and Pharisees was on law. They appreciated the value of the Ten Commandments but to ensure that people would not violate the basic commands they created a series of mini regulations to prevent people from violating the Ten Commandments. These came to be known as the Tradition of the Elders. Among these regulations there were a number dealing with purity and impurity. People became impure, for instance, when they went into the house of a Gentile or foreigner. Touching a corpse also made a person impure. A woman after childbirth was considered impure. To eat the meat of certain animals, like pigs, made one impure.

In the Acts of the Apostles St. Peter had an extraordinary vision of a large sheet laid out before him with various animals, reptiles, and birds on display. A voice said to him, "Now, Peter, kill and eat. "But Peter answered, 'certainly not, Lord; I have never eaten anything profane or unclean.'" The voice responded, "What God has made clean, you have no right to call profane." (Acts 10:11-16) This vision freed Peter from a whole body of Jewish regulation and permitted him to welcome non-Jews into the church.

From Peter we get some idea of the pressure of Jewish culture on him in his early ministry. But in our Gospel this Sunday Jesus challenges the thinking of the time. The whole approach was superficial, concerned only with external actions. Following Isaiah Jesus makes his position very clear. "This people honours me with lip-service while their hearts are far from me."

Jesus emphasises the importance of the heart. For him it was very different from our idea of heart. The heart was the seat of intelligence and emotions. The heart enables us to think, reflect, will and decide. All action, good and bad springs from the heart. It is not what goes into a person from outside that makes him impure. It is what comes from the heart that makes a person unclean. He mentions several actions and attitudes that make us impure. "For it is from within, from men's (people's) hearts that evil intentions emerge, fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride and folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man (person) unclean."

At the top of the list is fornication, a self-indulgent practice that displaces the life-giving purpose of sexuality intended for the stable and responsible context of marriage. There is also mention of adultery which shows lack of faithfulness and love to a married partner. Most of the other vices display a lack of respect for other people and the intent to damage and cause them injury. The main message for us is to get the heart and conscience right so that, like St. Paul, we will always seek the advantage of our brothers and sisters. "Never do anything offensive to anyone ... just as I try to be always helpful to everyone, not anxious for my own advantage but for the advantage of everybody else, so that they may be saved." (I Cor. 10:31)

Fr. Michael

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH, READING: Registered Charity No. 246871

Parish website: www.englishmartyrsrdg.com

Livestream link on You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCulqb5ncxASpguMmd_OMNtA

Parish Priest: **Canon Michael Dennehy**
mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Canon Simon Treloar
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: No Booking Required for any of our Masses

- Monday 30th at 10.00am (Bank Hol)
- Tuesday 31st at 9.30am
- Wednesday 1st Sept at 9.30am
- Thursday 2nd at 9.30am
- Friday 3rd at 9.30am
- Saturday 4th at 10.00am

Saturday 4th (Vigil) at 6.00pm;
Sunday 5th at 7.30am: 9.30am: 11.30am:
and 5.00pm.

11.30am Sunday Mass will be live-streamed
onto our YouTube channel.



Confessions will be heard in the confessional on:
Saturday 4th after 10am Mass and at 5.00pm.
Sunday 5th at 4.00pm



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Friday:- 10.00am to 6.00pm

Available on Zoom (our website Calendar page has the links)

Faith Formation:- weekly on a Monday 7.00 to 9.00pm :

Homegroups:- Thursdays 7.30 to 9.00pm : Emmaus Groups:- various days/times :

Divine Mercy Chaplet:- 3.00pm Daily : Pray the Rosary:- 4.00pm Daily :

Night Prayer:- 9.00pm Daily

Friday 3rd September

Rosary. Songs. Bible reflection.
Adoration. Confessions. Intercessory prayers.
Benediction.

IN HONOUR OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS



1st Friday
PRAISE & WORSHIP
KNOW, LOVE, WORSHIP HIM

Venue: English Martyrs Parish Reading
Date: First Friday of Every Month.
Time: 7pm - 9pm

Theme for this month:

*Blessed are the
peacemakers for they
shall be called children
of God.*

Matthew 5:9



A small steering group have been studying Laudato Si; a letter from Pope Francis on Care for our Common Home. He implores us to listen to "The cry of the earth and the cry of the poor".

In response to this, we have been researching how we can work together as a parish to Live Simply, Live sustainably with creation and Live in solidarity with the poor.

With this in mind, a parish **Live Simply** Action Plan will be launched shortly.

To discover more about Laudato Si, why not watch a short video available on our website by clicking on <https://englishmartyrsrdg.com/care-of-creation/>

And for more information about our group, please contact the parish office.

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.

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 28th August to Sunday 5th Sept.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 28 th (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm	Thomas Donohue RIP
Sunday 29 th	7.30am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	Errol Rodrigues RIP
	11.30am <i>Live Streamed</i>	Frances and Eddie Rogers Thanksgiving. Golden Anniversary
	5.00pm	Pat Leonard RIP
Monday 30 th	10.00am	Melocel Jenizan RIP
Tuesday 31 st	9.30am	Helena Lourenca RIP
Wednesday 1 st September	9.30am	Hugh Faringdon Burrett RIP
Thursday 2 nd	9.30am	JS Albert RIP
Friday 3 rd	9.30am	Pat Leonard RIP
Saturday 4 th	10.00am	Private intention

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 4 th (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm	Deceased members of the McCormack and Martland families RIP
Sunday 5 th	7.30am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	Pat Leonard RIP
	11.30am	Joe Murray
	5.00pm	Pat Leonard RIP