

English Martyrs' Newsletter

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

30th APRIL / 1st MAY 2022

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.



The meeting with Jesus beside the lakeshore can be seen as the story of Peter's repentance and restoration. Others prefer to see it as his declaration of faith. His repeated answer "Yes, Lord!" is surely a declaration of love and loyalty. It corresponds to Peter's threefold denial of Jesus.

There are interesting uses of the word "love" in this text. In English, when Jesus asks, "Do you love me?" and Peter answers, "Yes, I love you," it makes good sense. But in the Greek original of the New Testament, what Peter replies does not respond exactly to the question Jesus asked. Greek has several words to express various levels of affection.

In his book *The Four Loves*, the author C.S. Lewis described them as follows: There is *Storgé* (affection) the quiet liking you might feel for a cheerful neighbour whom you meet from time to time. Then there is *eros*, a sensual or erotic love, the love that unites a couple and often leads to marriage. Another term is *Philia*, or friendship, a trusting companionship with people with whom we share some real interest. Finally, there is *Agapé*, which means generous, self-giving love, which we value even when there is nothing tangible to be gained.

Back to our gospel story. Jesus asks Peter, "*Agapas me*, do you have *agapé* for me?" meaning "Do you love me enough to risk everything for me." Peter has not lived up to this kind of love. He had disowned Jesus to save his own skin. So, what can he say? He answers, "*Philo se*. Yes, Lord, I love you as a friend." He was saying, "Yes, I admire you... but I was unable to risk my life for you." Jesus asks him a second time "*Agapas me?*" and again Peter answers at the level of friendship (*philia*). Finally, unwilling to embarrass him further, Jesus asks him "Are you really my friend?" (*phileis me?*) And Peter answers "Lord, you know everything; you know that I am your friend." Jesus accepts Peter just as he is; even friendship (*philia*) is good enough, for now. Fullness of *agapé* would come later when Peter was put to death for the faith.

In that meeting beside the lake, Peter was not the boastful man who thought he was better than the other disciples but a wiser, humbler heart that would not claim more than he can deliver. Peter's confession is like that of the father of the possessed boy who said to Jesus, "I believe; help my unbelief!" Implicitly, what Peter said was, "I love you, Lord; help my lack of love."

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH, 64, LIEBENROOD ROAD, READING, RG30 2EB:

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: Fr. Anthony Fyk

Retired Priest: Fr Richard Maniak

Secretary: Barbara Poole. Tel: 0118 957 2149

Parish Office: Open Tuesday - Thursday 10am - 3pm.

Telephone and e-mail monitored at all times

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 THIS WEEK

Monday (BH) at 10.00am

Tuesday to Friday at 9.30am;

Saturday at 10.00am

Saturday (Vigil Mass) 6.00pm

Sunday at 8.00am; 9.30am; 11.30am; 5.00pm

11.30 Mass will be Livestreamed.

Confessions will be celebrated in the confessional as follows:
Saturdays after 10.00am Mass & at 5.00pm.

Sundays: 30 mins before 8.00am; 9.30am & 11.30am Masses
and at 4.00pm.

15 mins before weekday Masses.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Friday from 10:00am to 6pm. Volunteers are needed to be in church during this time. If you can spare an hour either once a week or just occasionally, please contact the Parish Office.

The Life of Christ
The greatest story of all time
21-25 JUNE 2022 - 10.00AM - 3.30PM
BOOK NOW!
10% discount on groups of 30 or more.
Our powerful biblical outdoor drama takes you back in time to when Jesus lived on earth.
Follow over 100 actors in full costume moving through the beautiful grounds of the Wintershall estate with its lakes and ancient woodland re-enacting the remarkable events of Jesus' life.
This is a performance in three acts with a lunchtime interval.
Prices:
Weekday
Adult £22
Child (3-18 yrs) £12
Family (2 adults and 2 children) £55
Weekend
Adult £25
Child (3-18 yrs) £12
Family (2 adults and 2 children) £60
Book tickets now on our website: www.wintershall.org.uk or by calling 01483 892167
Wintershall, Bramley, Surrey GU5 0LR
Registered Charity Number 1167111

English Martyrs is proposing a Parish outing on Saturday 25th June to see 'THE LIFE OF CHRIST'; details as shown on the adjacent poster.

It is a Bible story for all ages, all faiths and none, through the presentation of high quality drama. Staged open-air in the stunning Surrey countryside in the heart of Guildford, the play focuses on the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus. Immerse yourself in the stories that shaped our world.

THIS IS AN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE NOT TO BE MISSED.
You will be in the crowd and feel JESUS near you.

If you are interested, either individually or as a family, please contact Mel on 0118 996 7208 or email: noronhamel@hotmail.com.

If we can get a group of 30 or more, we can make a block booking and avail ourselves of a 10% discount on ticket prices.

Such a booking would need to be done by **13th May** ~~30th April~~ so please contact Mel as soon as you can.

For travel to & from the event, we are, at the moment, looking at the idea of CAR SHARING.

Note: Other dates are possible.

<p>English Martyrs Parish Plant Exchange</p> <p>Sunday 22 May After 8.00, 9.30 and 11.30 Mass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you grow fruit, veg or flowers? • Don't know what to do with your spare plants? • Or would you like to grow some but don't know where to start? <p>Bring plants to swap or take one to grow and look after</p> <p>Outside the church, weather permitting, or in the hall if it's raining</p> <p>Donation box for Ukrainian refugees</p> <p>If you grow fruit or veg and would like to be part of a parish network and get involved in similar future events, please contact Nick Gurr: nicky.gurr@blinternet.com 07951 544373</p>		<p>1st Friday Praise and Worship Adoration (with music), Rosary, Confession, Scripture study, Vespers and Benediction.</p> <p>KNOW, LOVE, SERVE HIM!</p> <p>Theme: I AM THE DOOR OF THE SHEEP</p> <p>Venue: English Martyrs Parish Reading Date: Friday, May 6th; Time: 5.00pm - 6.45 pm</p>
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The Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Called & Gifted Administrator

- Part time - 5 hours per week
- Reporting to the Leader of Called & Gifted Team
- Salary – £12 per hour
- Remote working from home with occasional attendance at meetings/training

Overall job purpose

- To undertake the day to day administration for the Called & Gifted Team.
- Monitor and respond to department emails
- Database upkeep
- Finance
- Circulate newsletter via Mailchimp

About you

An Intentional disciple of Jesus in full communion with the Church.

An understanding & passion for "The Called & Gifted 3 stage Discernment process" aimed at enabling others to discover their charisms & mission; an understanding of their own personal charisms.

Ideally manifesting a Helps/Admin Charism mix or a Service charism with a good range of administrative and communication abilities.

The ability to serve & flourish in a small Team environment whilst being able to work independently & remotely.

If you would like a confidential discussion about this role, please contact:

Gerry Penfold

E-mail: gpenfold@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Tel: 07802 608549

For job description and details of how to apply please contact: recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk:

Closing Date: Monday 16 May 2022

Interview Date: Monday 23 May 2022

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 30th April to Sunday 8th May 2022.

Third Sunday of Easter

Saturday 30 th (<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>)	6.00pm	Eric Dent RIP
Sunday 1 st May	8.00am	Intentions of Tracey Gurr's family
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am <i>Live Streamed</i>	Cummin & Barrett families RIP
	5.00pm	Mary Togher RIP
Monday 2 nd	10.00am	Derek Taplin RIP
Tuesday 3 rd	9.30am	Anna & Vincenzo Severino RIP
Wednesday 4 th <i>Feast of The English Martyrs</i>	9.30am	Harry Mullin RIP
Thursday 5 th	9.30am	Sheila Daubenspeck & Alfie Macnamara RIP
Friday 6 th	9.30am	Theresa Matthew RIP
Saturday 7 th	10.00am	Gregory Sakaria RIP
<i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i>		
Saturday 7 th (<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>)	6.00pm	Kay Krauze RIP
Sunday 8 th May	8.00am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	Jose Roque Fernandes RIP
	11.30am	Harry Mullin RIP
	5.00pm	Ebenezer Quartey RIP

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.