

English Martyrs' Newsletter

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

14th/ 15th 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 passage in John's Gospel this Sunday is often referred to as Jesus' farewell discourse. Jesus has an appreciation of the end of his earthly life approaching, and with a sense of urgency is offering some parting words about what He thinks is most important for us to remember.

There is indeed something about us, within us, when we begin to sense that our time is running out, that prompts us to want to sum up just who we are succinctly and honestly. Often people will speak from the heart in the hope that they and their words will be remembered long after they have departed. There are certain threshold moments in life when we are acutely aware that things may never be the same again, and we want the others to know what we believe to be the truth.

Jesus addresses His friends one last time and says: "My time of glorification has come." "If you were ever to hear my voice, hear it now." He wants his disciples to get it straight, and to remember what it all boils down to: "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you should also love one another." It is not enough to love as we love, but to love as "He" loves. To love this way is painful. To love this way will feel like we are dying, and yet that is what we are called to do. Yet, it was loving this way that took Jesus right through the cross to the resurrection. It is no wonder that He wanted us to remember this and live the same way he did. St. Paul says if we die with Christ we rise with Christ.

Maybe we do not yet feel that sense of urgency, but make no mistake about it, from the moment of our baptism we all have been dying. To live and love like Jesus showed us will indeed feel like we are dying, but it will affect how we are living today and through eternity. Saint Augustine noted, "Love is possible at any time, but it is proven in times of trial."

Fr. Michael

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/UCulqb5ncxASpquMmd_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 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 6.00pm. Volunteers are needed to be in the church during this time. If you can spare an hour either once a week or just occasionally, please contact the parish office

English Martyrs Parish Plant Exchange

Sunday 22 May

After 8.00, 9.30 and 11.30 Mass

- 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?

Bring plants to swap or take one to grow and look after

Outside the church, weather permitting,
or in the hall if it's raining

Donation box for Ukrainian refugees

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@btinternet.com

07951 544373





PRAYER & HEALING SERVICE - SATURDAY, 28TH MAY: 1.00 PM

A celebration of Praise and Healing Service at St Joseph's, Tilehurst - Come and worship with us. Please bring your friends and family. See what wonders the Lord has for you! Do not be afraid to open your heart to the power of the Holy Spirit. The next one will take place in several months time. *All are welcome!*
If driving, please park your car considerately and under no circumstances block people's driveways. If possible, park your car further away and come to the service on foot. This will ease traffic congestion greatly. Thank you.



"SVP Afternoon Tea"

The SVP are again organising an Afternoon Tea for parishioners to come together for a relaxed afternoon with tea / cake and a chat. The event is being held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 26th May at 2.30pm. It would be useful to know if you are able to come so that we cater for the right number of people. We can offer transport to anyone who needs it. Please let Stephen Hogg know on 07891 773379. We look forward to seeing you all again."



ENGLISH MARTYRS CARING FOR CREATION

To find out more about English Martyrs Caring for Creation please scan the QR code below to view our series of short videos, explaining how we are responding to the Papal Encyclical Laudato Si and inviting you to join us in responding to the urgent cry of the poor and cry of the earth.

Link to latest You Tube video is:

<https://youtu.be/yilWuprQRcA>



Significant Wedding Anniversaries Mass 2022

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th anniversary, or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on **Saturday 2nd July 2022 at 11am**. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. If you would like to come, please email Liz Murphy at:

anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the Parish Office at St Bede's and they will provide you with the form. To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a **COPY** of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you complete the form online. Alternatively, scan and send via email to the above email address. If you have no access to the internet, you can post a **COPY** along with the completed form by post to the following address: St Bede's Parish Office, Popley Way, Basingstoke, RG24 9DX (*Please mark the envelope Significant Wedding Mass*)

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 14th to Sunday 22nd May 2022.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Saturday 14 th (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm	Deceased members of the McCormack & Martland families RIP
Sunday 15 th	8.00am	Sybil Buttell RIP
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	11.30am <i>Live Streamed</i>	Harry Mullin RIP
	5.00pm	Mary Togher RIP
Monday 16 th	9.30am	English Martyrs SVP Conference
Tuesday 17 th	9.30am	Harry Mullin RIP
Wednesday 18 th	9.30am	Pat & Mary Togher RIP
Thursday 19 th	9.30am	Mark Swallow RIP
Friday 20 th	9.30am	Paddy Kilbane RIP
Saturday 21 st	10.00am	Stephen Aldworth RIP
<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>		
Saturday 21 st (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm	Andrew Rosario RIP
Sunday 22 nd	8.00am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	Aidan Farrelly RIP
	11.30am	Kay Krauze RIP
	5.00pm	Private intention

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.