



English Martyrs' Newsletter

3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

14th APRIL 2024

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

Registered Charity No. 1199568

Parish website: www.englishmartyrsrdg.com

Livestream link on You Tube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCulqb5ncxASpguMmd_0MNtA

Parish Priest: Fr. Gaston Forbah gforbah@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Assistant Priest: Fr. Samuel Alabi MSP salabi@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Retired Priest: Fr Richard Maniak
Secretary: Barbara Poole. Tel: 0118 957 2149
Parish Office: : Open Tuesday to Thursday 9.00am to 3.00pm

Schools: English Martyrs Catholic Primary
Dee Road, Reading RG30 4BE.
Head: Mrs C. Doberska
0118 937 5466
<https://www.englishmartyrs.reading.sch.uk/home>

Telephone and e-mail always monitored.
Email: office@englishmartyrsrdg.com
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Yvonne Newman. Contact via parish office.

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

DONATE TO OUR PARISH:

Parish Bank Details: A/C Name: CDP Reading English Martyrs. Sort Code: 30 – 93 – 04. Account No. 00885666
You can also use Direct Debit (forms available in colonnade) and the Dona(te) machines in the church.

MASS TIMES Week commencing 14th APRIL.
Sunday at 9.00am; 11.30am; 5.00pm.
Monday to Friday at 9.30am
Saturday at 10.00am
Saturday at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass for Sunday)

Week commencing 14th APRIL.
Confessions will be celebrated as follows:
Sunday 30 mins before 9.00am & 11.30am and at 4.30pm.
Mon to Fri: 15 mins before Mass.
Saturday: After 10.00am Mass and at 5.30pm.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: On Friday from 10.00am to 6.00pm. From 5.00pm, Praise and Worship featuring music, scripture reading, guided reflection, a time of silence and concluding with Benediction.

JESUS OUR ADVOCATE

Have you ever been in need of an advocate? Or been an advocate on someone's behalf? It is a very special role, bridging the gap between two parties but fighting for the rights and justification of one. In the first letter of St John we read that Jesus is our advocate before God the Father.

Why might we need Jesus as our advocate before God? It is only through our advocate's life, death and resurrection – the paschal mystery we celebrated recently, that we stand before God free from the clutches of sin (Romans 8:2). Jesus paid the price so that we would be free and so that we could live a life of abundance (John 10:10) and experience true freedom (Galatians 5:1). We are not saved by our own merit but through Christ alone (CCC 1992). However, we have to choose to accept what Jesus has done for you and live out its implication every day.



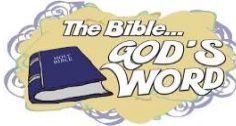







An advocate can only be helpful to us to the point that we allow them to help us. This is the same with the work of Jesus on the cross. He said "it is finished" (John 19:30), and it is! Everything that needed to be done for us to be forgiven, to live free from sin and its affects has been done. Our sins may cry out to God demanding infinite punishment, but the free gift of God through this work of Jesus Christ is eternal life (Romans 6:23). Will you choose daily to accept this free gift from Jesus, our advocate before the Father?

Biblical Theme for our Week: YOU ARE WITNESSES

Dear friends, this theme is drawn from the last line of the gospel passage for this weekend. The risen Jesus stood among his apostles, giving them strong evidence of his resurrection. He declared that they are witnesses. They were to spend all their energy giving testimony about the power of God and demonstrating that God is indeed faithful to his promises. This week, let our every word and action point to Jesus who is indeed alive and present among us as a loving friend. Let us present Jesus as one who can indeed be trusted, for in him, all prophecies were fulfilled.

Fr. Gaston

→ PARISH NOTICES ←

Sunday Readings for:	3 rd Sunday of Easter	4 th Sunday of Easter
	<p>First: Acts 3: 13-15.17-19. Psalm: 4: 2-4. 7-9 Second: John 2:1-5 Gospel: Luke 24: 35-48.</p>	<p>First: Acts 4: 8-12 Psalm: 117(118) 1.8-9.21-23.26.28-29 Second: John 3:1-2 Gospel: John 10: 11-18.</p>
	<p>RCIA/ Journey in Faith The group begins meeting again on Tuesday 16th April at 7.30 pm in the Bethlehem Chapel. The period following Easter and the reception of the sacraments of Initiation (Mystagogia) is a time for the newly baptised and confirmed to explore the meaning of those great sacraments and how they can begin to take their place in serving the Christian community.</p>	
	<p>Emmaus Groups – How to understand the Bible. In these groups, we look at the readings for the flowing weekend or some other part of the Bible to discuss it and try to understand the message God has for each of us – the Bible is the Word of God and He wants us to listen to it. Everybody is welcome to join. Next scheduled meeting is: Wednesday 17th April at 10.30am in Room 2</p>	
 REST IN PEACE	<p>Please pray for the souls of: Mildred Oates RIP. Her Requiem will be at 10.45am on Monday 15th April 2024 John Bolger RIP. His funeral will be on Monday 22nd April at 10.45am at Reading Crematorium (South Chapel). Daniel Delaney RIP. His Requiem will be 12.00pm on Monday 29th April 2024 Helen Farley RIP Edward Doran RIP Please keep their loved ones in your prayers.</p>	
	<p>Parish Afternoon Tea: There will be another Parish Afternoon Tea for any parishioners who would like to come and join us for a relaxed afternoon with tea / cake and a chat. The event is being held in the Parish Hall on Thursday 18th April at 2.30pm. Please spread the word, and you can bring a friend with you to the Tea if you wish. 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.</p>	
	<p>Congratulations to; Nola Jean Bartlett & Elsie Violet Mackie who are being baptised on Saturday 13th at 1.00pm. Jeremiah Nicholaus Aloyce Tarimo who is being baptized on Sunday 14th at 9.00am Mass.</p>	
	<p>Congratulations to; Harvey Tarimo who will be making his First Holy Communion on Sunday 14th at 9.00am Mass.</p>	
	<p>First Holy Communion Next Session on Friday 19th April. We remind parents of the importance of bringing their children to the in-person sessions. We also emphasize that the home activities to be done with the respective booklets need to be completed. Failure to do these could lead to the postponement of the reception date of First Holy Communion for the candidates.</p>	
	<p>Bookshop and Repository:.. open each Sunday morning after 9.00am Mass selling Prayer books, Rosary's, statues, cards and other religious items for both every day and special occasions. Located at the rear of the Parish Hall in the room on the right. If you can help with the bookstall after any of the other Sunday Masses, please contact Chris Coxwell at chris.coxwell@ntlworld.com or the parish office.</p>	
	<p>Resurrection Rock – An Easter Musical: On 20th April at 7:15p.m, our children of English Martyrs Primary School will be presenting an uplifting and inspiring musical event in our Church. They are hoping to use this thrilling musical event to help raise funds for the restoration of our Parish Organ. It would be wonderful if we all turn out to appreciate the talents of our children and show the support of the Parish towards our parish primary school. It will also be so encouraging for the children if we support their initiative to participate in the raising of funds for the restoration of the Parish Organ. Rehearsal for the Resurrection Rock event The church will be in use on Tuesday 16th April from 10:15a.m to 13: 15p.m by the English Martyrs Children who will be rehearsing for the music presentation on Saturday, 20th April</p>	



Vietnamese Mass: This will take place next Sunday 21st April at 2p.m.



Reading Half Marathon: is this Sunday, 14th April.
Roads will be closed as follows: Tilehurst Road from Russell St. to Liebenrood Rd. from 9.30am to 1.15pm:
Liebenrood Rd. from 9.30am to 2.00pm.
There will be no vehicular access to the car park for those attending the 11.30 Mass.



Our parish has decided to support with prayers and donations the Tilehurst Drop-in Centre & Foodbank. TDICF provides a warm space with food and a listening ear for needy members of the community, every Wednesday, from 1-3pm, at St. Joseph's RC Church. The needy will be provided fresh food, long-life food and household products to take home. Your donations would be much appreciated. This week, TDICF is short of baked beans, tinned corned beef / luncheon meat, packet soup, cereal, apple/orange juice, tea, coffee, sugar and shaving foam, so would greatly appreciate receiving these items. A collection bin is situated in the church foyer. Many thanks for your generosity. Any questions, please contact: John Foley 07769251747.



marriage care

better relationships
better lives

Trustee Vacancy with Marriage Care

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation providing marriage preparation and relationship counselling services across England, Wales and Gibraltar.

We are looking for **Trustees** to strengthen our board and to help us continue to provide vital relationship support services to the Catholic community and beyond. For more information please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Next weekend 20th / 21st April

We welcome Deacon Ambrose Chou to our Parish who will be speaking at each Mass.
There will be a Second Collection for the Clergy Training Fund.



Toilets

PARISH TOILET FACILITIES

Plan for Upgrading: Many thanks to everyone who sent in their thoughts regarding the suggested plan for upgrading our parish toilets. The extension of the Colonnade and the upgrading of our parish toilets are the two projects we have decided to fund with our proceeds from the Closer to Christ Campaign. From the suggestions presented, we shall once more revisit the suggested plan and present the modified plan to the parish.
Thanks for being constructive and ready to sacrifice your time to improve our parish.

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 13th to Sunday 21st April 2024***3rd Sunday of Easter***

Saturday 13th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Rena Pinto RIP
Sunday 14th	9.00am	Thanksgiving, Dickson & Hannah Fernandes
	11.30am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Mary Fahy RIP
	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Monday 15th	9.30am	Maria Victoria De Araujo RIP
	10.45pm	Requiem of Midred Oates RIP
Tuesday 16th	9.30am	Maria Vitorio Fernandes RIP
Wednesday 17th	9.30am	Francisco Vito De Araujo RIP
Thursday 18th	9.30am	Agnelo Ernesto De Araujo & Fioza Francisca Dia, Thanksgiving
Friday 19th	9.30am	Fr George Curton RIP
Saturday 20th	10.00am	George Family Intention
<i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>		
Saturday 20th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Ebenezer Quartey RIP
Sunday 21st	9.00am	Martina Downey RIP
	11.30am	Eddie Rodgers RIP
	5.00pm	People of the Parish