



English Martyrs' Newsletter

CORPUS CHRISTI - THE MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST 2nd JUNE 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), the Dona(te) machines in the church or by scanning the QR code on the right..



MASS TIMES WEEK COMMENCING 2nd JUNE

Sunday at 9.00am; 11.30am; 5.00pm.

Monday to Thursday at 9.30am

Friday at 9.30am & 6.30pm (Mass for Peace)

Saturday at 10.00am

Saturday at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass for Sunday)

WEEK COMMENCING 2nd JUNE

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 5.00pm. Praise and Worship as usual until 5:45p.m, followed by silent adoration for 15 minutes. Then, Angelus at 6p.m followed by Rosary, benediction, reposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Mass for Peace at 6:30pm.

O PRECIOUS AND WONDERFUL BANQUET!

Since it was the will of God's only begotten Son that men should share in his divinity, he assumed our nature in order that by becoming man he might make men gods. Moreover, when he took our flesh, he dedicated the whole of its substance to our salvation. He offered his body to God the Father on the altar of the cross as a sacrifice for our reconciliation. He shed his blood for our ransom and purification, so that we might be redeemed from our wretched state of bondage and cleansed from all sin. But to ensure that the memory of so great a gift would abide with us for ever, he left his body as food and his blood as drink for the faithful to consume in the form of bread and wine.

O precious and wonderful banquet, that brings us salvation and contains all sweetness! Could anything be of more intrinsic value?



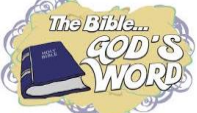




What could be more wonderful than this?

No other sacrament has greater healing power; through it sins are purged away, virtues are increased, and the soul is enriched with an abundance of every spiritual gift.

Yet, in the end, no one can fully express the sweetness of this sacrament, in which spiritual delight is tasted at its very source, and in which we renew the memory of that surpassing love for us which Christ revealed in his passion.

Taken from "On the feast of Corpus Christi", by St Thomas Aquinas.

→ PARISH NOTICES ←

Sunday Readings for:	CORPUS CHRISTI	10 th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME
	First: Exodus 24:3-8 Psalm: 115(116) 12-13. 15-18 Second: Hebrews 9:11-15 Gospel: Mark 14: 12-16.22-26.	First: Genesis 3:9-15 Psalm: 129(130) Second: 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1 Gospel: Mark 3: 20-35
You can find more information on the Sunday readings on: www.WednesdayWord.org . It includes a special section for families with younger children to explore the Sunday scriptures together.		
	NAME BADGE SUNDAY: Another opportunity to meet and greet fellow parishioners by name and develop a better sense of community within the parish.	
	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 week's meeting is on Thursday 6th June via Zoom – link from cath_harrington@compuserve.com	
	Baptism: We pray for James Theo Kamara who will be baptised at the 9am Mass on Sunday 2 nd June.	
	Prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus: We are reminded to say the prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus on 7 th June at 8:30pm as part of our first Friday devotion. We could say this prayer as individuals or as families using the cards we distributed or the online version on our website homepage.	
	BOOKSHOP AND REPOSITORY: A new Sunday Missal, including the texts for all Sunday services in the three year cycle in the new ESV translation, is now available to pre- order from Redemptorist Publications. The price will be £24.95. It can be ordered through us. Please register your interest by visiting the Bookstall, open after the 9am Sunday Mass to 11.10am, or by contacting Chris Coxwell at chris.coxwell@ntlworld.com or through the Parish Office. This book has a luxury leatherette cover, high quality paper and other extra features. There will be a one year version from advent 2024 to 2025 available from CTS Books later in the year.	
	VOLUNTEER DRIVERS: The SVP urgently need volunteer drivers (male or female) for Food Centre deliveries in the Reading area. Can you spare a few hours a week for a very worthwhile cause? A car, estate or small van would be needed. Membership of the SVP is not necessary. For more details please contact Jack Ewins, President SVP Portsmouth Central Council; Mob 07734 499190. Email jackewins9@gmail.com	

GATHERING FOR THOSE GOING TO LOURDES WITH THE EM PILGRIMAGE

Friday 7th June from 7pm in the Parish Hall. Bring a plate of food to share and we will end our gathering with the rosary. It will be great preparation for our pilgrimage!

If you are able to come, please let me know as early as possible (judithcrimmins@yahoo.co.uk)

THE WINTERSHALL OUTDOOR DRAMA ON THE LIFE OF CHRIST

Join over 100 actors in full costume re-enacting the remarkable events of Christ's life at the Wintershall Estate in Bramley, Surrey. Tickets are £35 for adults; £15 children; £90 for families. 10% discount for groups of 20 or more booked by 3rd June. Please, book tickets on the website: www.wintershall.org.uk.

Check the noticeboard for more information.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT - DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH on ZOOM.

7 Sessions starting on Thursday evenings, from 6th June to 18th July 2024 from 7.30pm until 9pm Live Holy Spirit Day for course participants at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on Saturday 29th June starting 9.30am with Mass until 1pm. Adoration at 8.30am optional! Tea and coffee will be provided. Welcome to bring and share packed lunch afterwards.

Please use this link to register – <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlIf--trDwjGNAuzzyTiLVcwy7IzHwq87dG>

Free to all – Crowdfunding to cover costs

- <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/CHARISPortsmouthLIFEINTHESPIRITcourse>



SEMINAR ON PARISH EVANGELIZATION CELLS (PECS)

This seminar is aimed at equipping and empowering every Catholic to be a missionary disciple in line with the Diocesan 10-Year Mission plan which has as focus – inner conversion that inspires mission within and outside the walls of the church. Consider attending this seminar on Saturday, June 15th, facilitated by Fr. Victor Vella, National Promoter of Parish Evangelization Cells in England. Fr. Victor will reflect on this important dimension of missional discipleship, presenting the PECS as a handy vehicle for achieving this within a parish. The day will begin with Mass at 10 a.m., followed by refreshments in the hall and the seminar, which will end at 1 p.m. For more information on PECS, visit the website via the link: www.pecsengland.com

SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th 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 7th September at 2pm. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please send an email to anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to request a form for you to complete and return.

Please note this address is not monitored daily and you may have to wait for a reply, so please be patient.

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact our own Parish office who will have the form you need to complete.

To help celebrate the occasion please could you provide a COPY of your Wedding photograph, you can upload it when you return the form.

Again, if you have no access to the internet, you can post a COPY along with completed form by post to the following address: St Bede's Parish Office

Choir Concert: Organs for the Organ

Tamesis Chamber Choir will be performing their summer concert at English Martyrs Church on Saturday 29th June at 7:30pm. The concert will be in aid of the organ restoration fund and is aptly titled "Organs for the Organ". Each piece of music will have a reference to an organ of some kind - whether that be of the musical instrument variety or a part of the body! The programme includes music from a variety of genres, so there will be something for everyone to enjoy. There will be refreshments in the hall after the concert.

Tickets cost £12 (£5 for children and students in full time education) and are available from Tamesis' website or on the door. Nearer the time, we'll have them available to buy after Mass.

<https://tamesischamberchoir.com/eventer/summer-concert/edate/2024-06-29>

Sponsored cycling:

Many thanks for to all who made time to be part of the two sponsored cycling trips to Abingdon and Whitley. Thanks to everyone who has generously supported the trips. The online sponsorship pages are still active for those who have not yet had a chance to support them. All monies raised will go into the Parish Organ Restoration Fund. Sponsorship Forms and Envelopes are still available in the Colonnade. Don't forget to Gift Aid your donation if you are able to (You must be a UK Tax Payer).

Catechists Training

We thank the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph for coming to train both our Parish Catechists and those from other parishes in our Pastoral Area on Saturday 1st June, at English Martyrs Parish. We hope this training will revive a new spirit in our Catechist especially given the following areas of focus:

1. Moving from a focus on sacramental preparation to a focus on faith transmission
2. Re-discovering what catechesis is from Scripture.
3. Experiencing a catechetical session with the Scripture and the catechism as unique resources (model session)

The training began with Mass at 10 a.m., followed by refreshments, a morning session, lunch, and an afternoon session. Many thanks to the Catechists who signed up. We hope to create another opportunity for those who couldn't.

50% Cap on admissions to faith schools

The Government has opened a consultation on lifting the cap that for the last 14 years has limited the number of Catholic children that can be admitted into any new Catholic school. Please open the link and respond to the consultation (only name and email address are required). Responses are crucial if Catholic families throughout the country are not to continue to be deprived of a Catholic education. <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lifting-the-faith-schools-cap/>

Parish Eucharistic Ministers Day of Prayer and Training:

Eucharistic Ministers are invited to attend the day of Prayer and Training on Saturday 8th June. The programme begins with Mass at 10am and continues in the hall. It will be an opportunity to meet other Eucharistic Ministers; especially those recently commissioned. A review of the ministry within our parish will be done and feedback from the diocesan training will also be discussed.

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 1st to Sunday 9th June 2024

Corpus Christi – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

Saturday 1st June <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Peter Sheppard RIP
Sunday 2nd	9.00am	Michael Sarjent RIP & Patricia Bottomley RIP
	11.30am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Charles Warner RIP
	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Monday 3rd <i>St Charles Lwanga / Companions, memorial</i>	9.30am	Bill Canning RIP
Tuesday 4th	9.30am	Mary Barbara Green RIP
Wednesday 5th <i>St Boniface, memorial</i>	9.30am	Derek Taplin RIP
Thursday 6th	9.30am	John O’Sullivan RIP
Friday 7th <i>THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS</i>	9.30am	Felix John Dias RIP
	6.30pm	Mass for World Peace
Saturday 8th <i>The Immaculate Heart of Mary, memorial</i>	10.00am	Jack Bolger RI
<i>10th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>		
Saturday 8th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Lucy & Patrick McGullion RIP
Sunday 9th	9.00am	Pam & Hugh Roddie RIP
	11.30am	Carmel Duffy RIP
	5.00pm	João Da Luz RIP

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CARDS & GIFTS: SUNDAY 9TH JUNE

For sale in the Parish Hall after Morning Masses

The Total raised for the Organ Refurbishment Fund (excluding the sponsored Bike Rides) now stands at: £8,114.40