



English Martyrs' Newsletter

PENTECOST SUNDAY

19th MAY 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 19th MAY

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 19th MAY

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.

The sending of the Holy Spirit

When the Lord told his disciples to go and teach all nations and baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, he conferred on them the power of giving men new life in God.

The Spirit accomplished the Father's will in men who had grown old in sin, and gave them new life in Christ.

This was why the Lord had promised to send the Advocate: he was to prepare us as an offering to God. Like dry flour, which cannot become one lump of dough, one loaf of bread, without moisture, we who are many could not become one in Christ Jesus without the water that comes down from heaven. And like parched ground, which yields no harvest unless it receives moisture, we who were once like a waterless tree could never have lived and borne fruit without this abundant rainfall from above. Through the baptism that liberates us from change and decay we have become one in body; through the Spirit we have become one in soul.

The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and strength, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of God came down upon the Lord, and the Lord in turn gave this Spirit to his Church, sending the Advocate from heaven into all the world, we need the dew of God.

From the treatise "Against the Heresies" by St Irenaeus

BIBLICAL THEME FOR OUR WEEK: The Influence of the Holy Spirit

Our biblical theme for this week is drawn from the second reading. According to St. Paul, it is only under the influence of the Holy Spirit that we can acknowledge Jesus as Lord. In other words, only with the help and support of the Holy Spirit can we truly show ourselves as servants of Christ. Let us pray that we shall let the Holy Spirit guide us at every moment during this week. Many different things can influence us, but may the Holy Spirit have the pride of place at every moment of our week. So, as we face every situation, ask the Holy Spirit to teach us how to speak and act.

→ PARISH NOTICES ←

Sunday Readings for:	PENTECOST SUNDAY	MOST HOLY TRINITY
	First: Acts 2: 1-11. Psalm: 103(104): 1.24.29-31.34 Second: 1 Corinthians 12:3-7.12-13 Gospel: John 20: 19-23.	First: Deuteronomy 4: 32-34.39-40. Psalm: 32(33): 4-6.9.18-20.22 Second: Romans 8: 14-17 Gospel: Matthew 28: 16-20.
<p>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.</p>		
	RCIA/ JOURNEY IN FAITH On Tuesday this week, Anne Hogg, Gerard Rocks, & Tom Carroll (Jnr), shared powerfully their experience as Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Readers and Altar servers and encouraged others to consider these ways of serving the community. We also considered the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and explored some of the readings for Pentecost. There will be no meeting on May 28 th due to Half Term.	
	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 meetings are on Wednesday 22nd May at 10.30am in Room 2 and Thursday 23 rd May at 11.00am on ZOOM - link from cath_harrington@compuserve.com	
 REST IN PEACE	PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF: Artur Goc RIP. His Requiem will take place on Thursday 23rd May at 12.30pm. Catherine Carolan RIP. Her Requiem will take place at 1.30pm on Wednesday 29th May Please also keep their loved ones in your prayers	
	ELEVATE JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP: Meets on Friday 24 th May from 6p.m to 7p.m in the parish hall. An opportunity for your child to interact with other junior youth and deepen their love of God.	
	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 23 rd May 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	
	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. If ordered before the end of May the price will be £19.95. After that the price will be £24.95.It can be ordered through the Parish Bookstall. 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.	
	TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK Every Wednesday, from 1-3pm, at St. Joseph's RC Church. This week, TDICF is short of tinned corned beef/spam, packet leek and potato soup, instant mashed potato, whole/semi-skimmed long-life milk, cornflakes/wheatabix, apple/orange juice, small bags of sugar, rice pudding and biscuits, so would greatly appreciate receiving any of these items. A collection bin is situated in the church foyer. Many thanks for your generosity. Any questions, please contact: John Foley 07769251747.	
	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	
	BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS FOR MAY: Next weekend after the homily at all Masses, there will be a special blessing for all those celebrating birthdays during May.	

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)

Pentecost lapel ribbons

Available on
Pentecost Sunday
19 May

Before and after 9.00 & 11.30 Mass

Donations invited for the
organ restoration fund

Come Holy Spirit!



Pentecost Sunday International Lunch



Celebrate our National and cultural diversity and join us for lunch at 1.00PM in the parish hall. Show off your National costume, bring your National dish(es) and join in the fun.

This year we hope to have some musical entertainment while we lunch hopefully provided by one or more individuals/groups from the many different cultures represented in our parish.

Do come along and join us.
Meet friends, share recipes and have a really good time.

Everybody Welcome

CALLING ALL PARISH CATECHISTS: SAVE THE DATE!

On Saturday 1st June, at English Martyrs Parish, the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph will offer a day of inspiring and nourishing formation for all parish catechists of English Martyrs Church and for anyone who would like to know more about helping with this rewarding ministry. Catechists and members of other parishes in the Reading Pastoral Area are most welcome to attend. The day will begin with Mass at 10am. Participants can choose to attend either the morning or the afternoon session. (10.45 – 1.15 or 2 – 4.30 pm) Both sessions will be the same. A light lunch will be provided at 1.15 pm. Please register with your choice of morning or afternoon session by 17th May to English Martyrs Parish Office: 0118 9572149 or office@englishmartyrsrdg.com.

NIGHT PRAYER Online - every day at 9.00pm. All are welcome to join Zoom Meeting.
<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81450182394?pwd=U7oZloXSebg5cpadOabRKfBfREZTBMA.1>
Meeting ID: 814 5018 2394 Passcode: 4z0GSz

DURING THE MONTH OF MAY We will be having a Rosary at 8.35pm prompt, every night (using the same link as above). Join us for one or both Prayer meetings



STELLA MARIS

Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is very grateful for this parish's prayer and financial support of its work on Sea Sunday last year. To report back on the use of those funds, it invites parishioners to join an online update and thank you webinar on Tuesday 28th May from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. You will hear about the impact of your generosity on the lives of seafarers, fishers, and their families over the last year. Its CEO and chaplains will share inspiring stories of how they have helped seafarers and fishers through your support.

To register for this virtual event, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyou2024

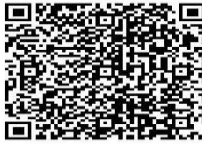
Parish Centenary celebration: The foundation stone of our English Martyrs Church was laid in October 1925 and the completed Church building was consecrated on 14th September 1926. The Parish SLT decided that we could observe a year-long celebration of our Parish Centenary from September 2025 to September 2026 when we hope to have a Solemn Mass.

We are asking parishioners to send in suggestions of the different activities which could feature in this year-long celebration. Please, send in your suggestions by the end of May.

25th May

to Abingdon and back for, Adults only
(Departure time from EM church is 9a.m)

Please scan this QR code
on your mobile to donate



<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/adults-sponsored-cycle-ride>

1st June

to Christ the King Whitley, for both Adults and
younger parishioners
Departure time from EM church is 10:30)

Please scan this QR code
on your mobile to donate



<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/junior-sponsored-cycle-ride>

Sponsored Cycling to Raise Funds for the Parish Organ Refurbishment



Please, register with the Parish Office if you wish to join Fr Gaston on both or one of the trips. All monies raised will go into the Parish Organ Restoration Fund. Sponsorship Forms and Envelopes will be made available from weekend 11th/12th May to 1st/2nd June for donation in cash. These could also be got from the parish office. Cashless giving could also be done using donation link or QR Codes opposite.

*Don't forget to Gift Aid your donation if you are able to
(You must be a UK Tax Payer)*

FOREIGN CURRENCY

The Parish will gladly take foreign currency
from
you when you get back from holiday.

Notes or Coins.



**ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TO
THE ORGAN RESTORATION FUND**

There is a collection box in the wall
at the back of the church. Thank you!

MARRIAGE RETREAT WEEKEND

- **Date:** Friday 14th to Sunday 16th June 2024
- **Venue:** Isle of Wight
- **Cost:** There is no fixed cost. It's based on what one can afford. There is a minimum contribution. Contact centre for more details.
- **Childcare:** inform the centre in advance.
- **Location:** Verbum Dei Centre, Nunnery Lane, Carisbrooke, Newport P0301YR

Tel: 01983 529 554

Email: verbumdei.iow@gmail.com

More details about Verbum

Dei <https://uk.verbumdei.org/about-us/>.

Parish Grounds

Our beautiful grounds are maintained by John. However, as this is a mammoth task for one person, would you be able to offer assistance on a fairly regular basis?

If so please contact the parish office.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Samuel Joseph Yanquoi, Abigail Yanquoi, Tiffany Agyare Mensah, Gideon Tecola Melillo, Hannah Melillo and Samuel Melillo who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday 11th May 2024. Scarlett Catherina Manoah who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday 12th May 2024 at the 9.00am Mass.

Ryan Ibru, Megan Ibru and Ethan Ibru, who were each Received into the Catholic Faith on Saturday 11th May 2024

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 18th to Sunday 26th May 2024

Pentecost Sunday

Saturday 18 th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Peggy Feeley RIP
Sunday 19 th	9.00am	Adrian Thorpe & Pam Maddock RIP
	11.30am <i>Livestreamed</i>	Maeve Nolan RIP
	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Monday 20 th <i>The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, memorial</i>	9.30am	Mary Fogarty RIP
Tuesday 21 st	9.30am	George Hetherington Intention
Wednesday 22 nd	9.30am	Jean Kathleen Thatcher RIP
Thursday 23 rd	9.30am	Mavis Pearse Walsh RIP
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST, feast	12.30pm	Requiem of Artur Goc
Friday 24 th	9.30am	Martin Sheehan RIP
Saturday 25 th <i>St Bede the Venerable, memorial</i>	10.00am	Lindy George Birthday Blessings

Most Holy Trinity

Saturday 25 th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Josephine Pereira RIP
Sunday 26 th	9.00am	Anna Josepha Olivera RIP
	11.30am	Mrs Jose Pereira RIP
	5.00pm	People of the Parish

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CARDS & GIFTS: SUNDAY 9TH JUNE

For sale in the Parish Hall after Morning Masses

Caritas Portsmouth is hosting an online Dementia Friends Information Session on Tuesday 21st May at 7pm for anyone interested in supporting people with Dementia in their parishes, community or family.

Everyone welcome. Please register at <https://tinyurl.com/4ysur27w>

Second Collection for The Catholic Communications Network held last weekend raised a wonderful £489.89. Thank you.

The Total raised for the Organ Refurbishment is unchanged from last week:

£7,680.65