



English Martyrs' Newsletter

17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

28th JULY 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

TO 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 28th JULY
Sunday at 9.00am; 11.30am; 3.00pm (Mass in the Park)
NO 5.00pm mass on Sunday 28th.
Monday to Thursday at 9.30am
Friday at 9.30am and 6.30pm (Mass for Peace)
Saturday at 10.00am
Saturday at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass for Sunday)

WEEK COMMENCING 28th JULY
Confessions will be celebrated as follows:
Sunday 30 mins before 9.00am & 11.30am.
Mon to Fri: 15 mins before Mass.
Saturday: After 10.00am Mass and from 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.

Five questions and two options

Many of us have been in the situation the disciples find themselves in this weekend; when what we have just isn't enough for what we need. This may be something physical like food or something less tangible and more spiritual.

In this moment Jesus is asking his disciples 5 questions:


- What are we going to do?
- What can I do?
- What is in your hands?
- Will you follow me?
- Will you partner with me?

In our moments of lack Jesus invites us on a journey through these five questions. The first question reminds us that we do not face our lack alone; like the disciples we can so often try to find our own solutions to the problems, but Jesus is present with us. The second question reminds us that he is God, and we are not, that we can rely on his provision and providence even when all we have is little. The next question is one of trust. Will we hand to God what we have when all we have are five loaves and two fish? The first three questions are bringing us into a trusting relationship with God, the final two are an outworking of that trust as we follow and work with God to see a solution to our lack; even if that solution is not what we thought it would be. There are two options before us; do we trust and follow God, or do we try to find our own solution?

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Celebrating World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly: Pope Francis instituted this celebration in 2021 to be observed every year on the Sunday closest to the feast of Saints Joachim and Anne – grandparents of Jesus. In this year's message, the Holy Father chose the theme "Do not cast me off in my old age" Psalm 71 reminding us that growing old is a sign of blessing and that we have the responsibility to show our love in practical ways towards the grandparents and elderly members of our families and community. Let us make the effort, to pray, call, visit, listen and appreciate the grandparents and elderly around us.

Fr Samuel

→ PARISH NOTICES ←

Sunday Readings for:	17th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
	First: 2 Kings 4: 42-44 Psalm: 144(145) 10-11, 15-18 Second: Ephesians 4: 1-6 Gospel: John 6: 1-15	First: Exodus 16:2-4.12-15 Psalm: 77(78) 3-4.23-25 Second: Ephesians 4: 17.20-24 Gospel: John 6: 24-35

Helpful comments on the Sunday Readings and guidance for praying the Sunday readings through the week are available on: <https://stbeunosoutreach.wordpress.com>



RCIA/ JOURNEY IN FAITH NO TUESDAY MEETINGS DURING JULY AND AUGUST. Our reflections on the Sunday readings will be shared via WhatsApp and Zoom. A new Cycle of meetings will begin in September. Please contact one of our priests or email rcia@englishmartyrsrdg.com if you would like to know more.



EMMAUS GROUPS – HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE.

Our Parish Emmaus groups explore the Sunday readings together with fellow parishioners in an informal setting. Next week's meetings are on Monday 29th July at 7.30pm in Room 2 and Wednesday 31st July at 10.30am in Room 2.



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS FOR JULY: This weekend after the homily at all Masses, there will be a special blessing for all those celebrating birthdays during July.



PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS: As part of our First Friday devotion on 2nd August, let us say together the prayer to the Sacred Heart of Jesus at 8:30pm. This can be done individually or as a family using either the cards we distributed or the online version on our website homepage.



SPONSORED EVENT FOR PARISH ORGAN RESTORATION.

PADDLE YOUR FEET, TO RESTORE OUR ORGAN

This event will run from July 28th to September 8th, 2024. Participants can swim or paddle their feet to raise funds, whether in open water or at a gym. Even those who cannot swim can participate by paddling their feet in any body of water, even in a small bucket. Children of all ages are encouraged to take part, and parents can involve their little ones by having them paddle their feet in their baths. Sponsorship forms with more details are now available in the colonnade. Please spread the word about this sponsorship event to relatives and friends. The restoration of our cherished parish organ is our joint effort.



**The ORGAN RESTORATION FUND currently stands at
£11,381.04**



FOREIGN CURRENCY: The Parish will gladly take foreign currency from you when you get back from holiday. Notes and/or Coins accepted. ALL THE 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!



REST IN PEACE

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF:

Lee Armstrong RIP. His funeral will take place at English Martyrs Church on Tuesday 30th July at 11.15am.
 Jo Boase RIP. Her funeral will take place at Caversham Crematorium on Monday 29th July at 10.30am. Mass at St Joseph's Tilehurst on Wednesday 31st July at 9.30am.
 Edwin Thomas RIP. His funeral will take place at English Martyrs Church on Thursday 1st August at 2.00pm.
 Albert 'John' Lewis. His funeral will take place at English Martyrs Church on Tuesday 6th August at 11.00am.
 Patricia Hammond RIP. Her funeral will take place on 9th August 2024 at 12.15pm at Henley Road (south) chapel.
 Please also keep their loved ones in your prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 27th July to Sunday 4th August 2024**17th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Saturday 27 th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Deceased members of the McCormack & Martland families RIP
Sunday 28 th	9.00am	Private Intentions (moved from 5pm)
	11.30am <i>Live Streamed</i>	Brian Roche RIP
	3.00pm	MASS IN THE PARK People of the Parish NO 5.00PM MASS TODAY
Monday 29 th <i>St. Mary Martha & Lazarus, memorial</i>	9.30am	Pauline Kirby, Intentions.
Tuesday 30 th	9.30am	Diane McDonnell RIP
	11.15am <i>Live Streamed</i>	Requiem for Lee Armstrong RIP
Wednesday 31 st <i>St Ignatius of Loyola, memorial</i>	9.30am	Tommie, William, Martin, Annie-Kate & Thomas Walsh RIP
Thursday 1 st August <i>St Alphonsus Liguori, memorial</i>	9.30am	Ann, Kathy, Caroline & John Walsh, Intention.
	2.00pm <i>Live Streamed</i>	Requiem of Edwin Thomas RIP
Friday 2 nd	9.30am	Kevin Commins & Kathleen Gaughan RIP
	6.30pm	John Drake RIP
Saturday 3 rd	10.00am	John Alabi RIP (1st Anniversary) And Bernadette Ward RIP

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 3 rd <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Caridade Sebastian Lobo RIP
Sunday 4 th	9.00am	Mary Barbara Green RIP
	11.30am	People of the Parish
	5.00pm	John Josepha 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.