



English Martyrs' Newsletter

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

29th SEPTEMBER 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 1st AND Thursday 3rd October 9.00am to 3.00pm
CLOSED Wednesday 2nd October

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. safeguarding@englishmartyrsrdg.com

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 29th SEPTEMBER.

Sunday at 9.00am; 11.30am; 5.00pm
Monday to Thursday at 9.30am
Friday at 9.30am and 6.30pm (Preservation of Creation)
Saturday at 10.00am
Saturday at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass for Sunday)

WEEK COMMENCING 29th SEPTEMBER

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



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Friday from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Praise and Worship until 5:45pm then.
PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE SEASON OF CREATION
5:45p.m – Angelus, Care for Creation Guided Rosary, Benediction, Thanksgiving Mass for God’s Creation.
Light refreshments in the Hall after Mass.
We invite everyone to join this celebration as we thank God for our beautiful planet and remind ourselves of our duty to care for it.

THE WAY OF THE LORD


When the Israelites entered the promised land, God instructed them to build six cities of refuge. These places were built on a hill, easily seen and easy to get to. They were places where anyone could flee to if they sought refuge and needed a fair trial for what they had done. These cities were also where the priests lived, so they were places of worship and sacrifice. Every year, the city leaders would send people out to ensure that the path was clear and free of all stumbling blocks so that anyone who sought refuge could easily make their way there.

Christ is our city of refuge; we flee to him. We can trust in his sacrifice as payment for our sins, restoring our relationship with God. Christ is not only our city of refuge, but also for our friends and our family. Do we place stumbling blocks on their way to Him, or do we clear the way so that they can easily go to Christ to find forgiveness and acceptance?

Our actions, our hope, what we say, and how we act should all reflect the love that Christ has for the people around us. When our lives align with the love of God, it shows people the way to him and removes the fear and unbelief that can cause them to stumble. If we were to look at our own lives, is our life a signpost to Christ, or do our actions cause people to stumble on their journey to him?

Fr. Gaston

→ PARISH NOTICES ←

Sunday Readings for:	26 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	27 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
	First: Numbers 11: 25-29 Psalm: 18(19) 8.10.12-14 Second: St. James 5: 1-6 Gospel: Mark 9: 38-43.45.47-48	First: Genesis 2:18-24 Psalm: 127(128) 1-4.6 Second: Hebrews 2: 9-11 Gospel: Mark 10: 2-16

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 Journey in Faith meetings are for adults who are considering asking to be baptised, confirmed or received into the Catholic Church - or for anyone who would simply like to understand more about the Catholic faith and the person of Jesus Christ. This formation enables us to deepen our relationship with Christ and strengthen our commitment to serving the church. Meetings take place on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 - 9 pm. If you would like more information, contact the parish office, one of our priests or "Parish of English Martyrs Reading - RCIA" rcia@englishmartyrsrdg.com



EMMAUS GROUPS – HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE.
 Our Parish Emmaus groups explore the Sunday readings together with fellow parishioners in an informal setting.
 Next meetings are on Wednesday 2nd October at 10.30am in Room 2 and Thursday 3rd October at 11.00am via Zoom - – link from cath_harrington@compuserve.com



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS FOR SEPTEMBER: We extend our best wishes to everyone born in the month of September, who will be blessed after the Homily at all Masses this weekend. May God bless all their endeavours.



PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS: As part of our First Friday devotion on 4th October, 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.



ANNUAL MASS COUNT
 The Diocese requires us to count the number of people at Sunday Masses over a 4 week period from 21st September to 13th October



NEW DIOCESAN YOUTH RETREAT.
 Saturday 16th November 10 - 3pm St Peter's Winchester
 Take time to discover what is at the heart of your life. See if there is more to life, friendship, purpose, beauty, truth and goodness than meets the eye!
 Register through the Parish Office: office@englishmartyrsrdg.com



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:
 An information evening for Parents/guardians and children will take place on Friday, October 11th, at 6 p.m. in church. At least one parent or guardian and all the children must attend. Failure to attend as required will result in the child's communion preparation being deferred to the following year.
 The Mass of commissioning of Catechists and parents/guardians will take place on Saturday, October 12th, at 6 p.m. All children are also expected to attend this Mass. We shall be strict about attendance and will drop children whose parents do not commit to bringing them to the scheduled activities.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY:
PARENT CONSENT FORMS
 Parents of children attending the Children's Liturgy need to complete a pink consent form, found at the back of the Church, after the 5pm Mass.
9am and 11:30am MASSES
 We are looking forward to starting the Children's Liturgy at these Masses on October 6th. However, due to an insufficient number of Catechists, we can only have these sessions fortnightly until more people Volunteer to assist the Children's Liturgy as Catechists.

A GALLERY OF UNOFFICIAL SAINTS!

We have had an unusually tall and colourful visitor in the hall for a couple of weeks – the Adelante Romero Gallery, which has been to many schools and churches, including the Cathedral in Portsmouth. Bracknell parishioner Hugh Gibbons made it to mark the official sainthood of Oscar Romero, based on his call to go forward: Adelante! But it also celebrates Unofficial Saints - people of all sorts helping others' lives go forward in some way. The four faces offer many voices to feed the eye, mind and soul - and include a touch of a Quaker school's weekly silence to take away; Fairtrade socks by Churches Together in England; a carpenter's pencil from the TUC, and a great poem on Small Kindnesses. There's a Guide to browse at www.just1.org.uk/adelantegallery

HOME MISSIONS

The HOME MISSIONS Second Collection on 14th /15th September raised £576.12. Thank you for your generous giving.

VACANCY for SCHOOL CHAPLAINCY CO-ORDINATOR

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School See Noticeboard in the Colonnade for more details

ARTHROS - CHARITY TRUSTEES WANTED

Arthros is particularly looking for people who live in Reading who have knowledge and experience of what it's like to live with arthritis / long-term pain, either through their professional experience, from personal experience or from caring for someone. The time commitment should be no more than 3 or 4 hours a month. Please see the notice in the Colonnade for more information.

BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON OPEN MORNING YEAR 7 ENTRY

WEDNESDAY 9TH OCTOBER 9am to 12pm
See Noticeboard for more details

AUTUMN TERM OPEN MORNINGS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

Come and look round during the school day!
Wednesday 23rd October 2024
Wednesday 20th November 2024
Wednesday 11th December 2024
Open Mornings start at 10.15am. Please contact the school office to book a place
admin@englishmartyrs.reading.sch.uk
0118 9375466

VACANCY

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

See Noticeboard in the Colonnade for more information



CAFOD thanks you for your prayers and continuing support. Every pound you give is a lifeline and CAFOD is extremely grateful for it. The Harvest Family Fast Day is this Friday, 4th October. If you need a CAFOD envelope to donate to the Family Fast Day appeal, there are plenty on the table in the colonnade. Please return your donation for collection at one of the Masses next weekend (4th/5th October). If you wish to donate online, you can either use the link <http://cafod.org.uk/envelope> or scan on your phone the QR code on the right to take you straight to CAFOD's virtual envelope where you can make your Fast Day donation online and (NEW this Fast Day!) link it to English Martyrs parish.



ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



If you regularly shop in Asda, you may be interested to know that Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who are making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. All you have to do is, opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between 2nd September and 30th November 2024.

Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to our Primary school. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot. Thank you to everyone who has signed up to support our school. All money raised will be donated to schools to spend on the things they need the most.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOUL OF:

Norman Hayde who died recently. Funeral arrangements to be advised. Please keep his loved ones in your prayers.

UNLOCKING THE MYSTERIES OF THE BIBLE Starts Thursday 3rd October 2024, 7:30-9pm

This is an 8-week event and will be held at English Martyrs parish Hall. *Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible* helps you get the "big picture" by showing how fourteen narrative books of the Bible tell the complete story from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church. Please register your interest to join via the Parish office or to one of the welcomers at each mass.

AFRO-CARIBBEAN DINNER

We would like to extend our gratitude to all those involved in organizing the Afro-Caribbean Dinner, which was a tremendous success. Thank you to everyone who attended the dinner and those who supported it in any way, even if they couldn't be there. So far, we have raised a total of £1,697 to support the organ project and an anonymous donor has pledged to round up the amount to £2000. We will provide an update on the final amount once this has been completed. We hope that parishioners from other nationalities will consider organizing similar events to share their cultural heritage with the parish.



TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK

Every Wednesday, from 1-3pm, at St. Joseph's RC Church. household products to take home.
 For those able to donate, this week the TDICF is short of the following items: tinned corned beef/spam, packet soup, instant mash, marmite, tinned fruit, coffee, tea and sugar A collection bin is situated in the church foyer.
 Many thanks for your generosity. Any questions, please contact: John Foley 07769251747.

MASS INTENTIONS:

Saturday 28th September to Sunday 6th October 2024

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 28 th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	Maria Antonio Rodrigues RIP & Josephine Pereira RIP
Sunday 29 th	9.00am	Deceased members of the Ryce Family RIP
	11.30am <i>Live Streamed</i>	Kathleen Gaughan RIP
	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Monday 30 th <i>St. Jerome, memorial</i>	9.30am	Deceased members of the Paez & Ruiz families RIP
Tuesday 1 st October <i>St Therese of the Child Jesus, memorial</i>	9.30am	Private Intention
Wednesday 2 nd <i>The Holy Guardian Angels, memorial</i>	9.30am	Robert Ayo Priddy RIP
Thursday 3 rd	9.30am	Mayobelle, Thanksgiving
Friday 4 th <i>St Francis of Assisi memorial</i>	9.30am	Lee Armstrong RIP
PARISH CELEBRATION OF THE FEAST OF CREATION		
CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY	5.45pm	Prayers & Rosary
	6.30pm	Preservation of Creation Mass
Saturday 5 th	10.00am	Private Intention
<i>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>		
Saturday 5 th <i>(Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 6 th	9.00am	In Thanksgiving
	11.30am	Kathleen Gaughan RIP
	5.00pm	Pasqualina & Gino Rabuano RIP

READING PASTORAL AREA (PA)

Our two PA groups: Pastoral and Finance both met this week.
 Parish reps from all the Reading parishes are working together
 to implement the Bishop's Plan: 'You will be my Witness'.
 This will result in the six parishes becoming one Catholic Parish of Reading,
 a 'Community of Communities'.