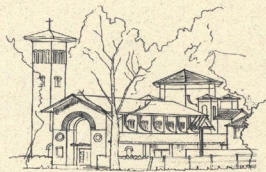


English Martyrs' Newsletter



THE MOST HOLY TRINITY 15TH JUNE 2025

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/UCulqg5ncxASpguMmd_0MNtA

Parish Priest: Fr. Gaston Forbah gforbah@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Asst 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


All calls are monitored. Email: office@englishmartyrsrdg.com

PARISH SAFEGUARDING MINISTERS/CONTACT DETAILS/ROLES

Yvonne Newman: safeguarding@englishmartyrsrdg.com (Safeguarding cases and concerns)

Gavin Knight: safeguarding2@englishmartyrsrdg.com (DBS applications/updating of DBS parish register)

Ernestina Amanfo: safeguarding3@englishmartyrsrdg.com (Safeguarding compliance in all parish activities)

SCHOOLS:		TO DONATE TO OUR PARISH:	
English Martyrs Catholic Primary Dee Road, Reading RG30 4BE. 0118 937 5466 Executive Headteacher: Mr Jamie Carroll Head of School: Mr Anton Dworzak https://www.englishmartyrs.reading.sch.uk/home		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 colonnade and hall or by scanning the QR code on the right.	
Blessed Hugh Faringdon Fawley Road, Reading RG30 3EP. Head: Dr Simon Uttley 0118 957 4730 https://www.hughfaringdon.org/	MASS TIMES WEEK COMMENCING 15th JUNE 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)	CONFESSIONS WEEK COMMENCING 15th JUNE Sunday 30 mins before 9.00am & 11.30am & from 4.30pm Monday to Friday 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 will feature music, scripture reading, guided reflection, a time of silence and conclude with Benediction.		

CALLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOVE OF THE TRINITY

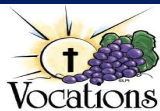
The words Jesus speaks in this week's Gospel remind us of our need for spiritual growth and highlight the intimate life of the Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—working together for our salvation. Jesus, the Son, shares what He has received from the Father, while the Holy Spirit takes what belongs to Christ and reveals it to us.

Last Sunday, we celebrated Pentecost, which represents not only a historical moment but also an ongoing living reality. The same Spirit given to the Apostles now dwells in every baptized person. However, the fruits of the Spirit flourish only when we are docile—open, humble, and obedient to His promptings.

To be docile to the Holy Spirit is to enter more deeply into the love of the Trinity. It involves listening with the trust of a child, letting go of our own will, and allowing God to shape us. As the Spirit glorifies Christ and leads us to the truth, He also draws us closer to the heart of the Father. Let us pray for the grace to remain open, obedient, and attuned to this divine relationship.

Being docile to the Holy Spirit means cultivating silence in our hearts, setting aside our pride, and learning to pray sincerely: "Come, Holy Spirit, enlighten my mind, strengthen my will, guide my steps." It is in our everyday moments—our decisions, conversations, and trials—that we are called to listen and respond.

As we reflect on John 16 in the context of Pentecost, let us renew our desire to be shaped by the Spirit of truth. May we have the courage to surrender control, trusting that the Spirit who glorifies Christ will also lead us closer to Him.



"Everything that the Father has is mine; for this reason, I told you that He will take from what is mine and declare it to you." The unity of the Holy Trinity invites us to participate in God's life and love. How is God calling you to embody this unity through a vocation? Perhaps He is leading you toward the sacred union of holy matrimony.

PARISH NOTICES

If you are a newcomer to our Parish, we are delighted to have you join us. Please, follow this link [New to Our Parish – English Martyrs Reading](#) for some helpful information. Also, please make yourself known to one of our Welcomers at the back of the church after Mass.

Readings for:

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

CORPUS CHRISTI



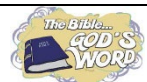
First: Proverbs 8: 22-31
Psalm: 8. 4-9.
Second: Romans 5: 1-5
Gospel: John 16: 12-15.

First: Genesis 14: 18-20
Psalm: 110(109):1-4.
Second: Corinthians 11:23-26
Gospel: Luke 9: 11-17.

Wednesday Word (www.wednesdayword.org) has some helpful reflections for parishioners on the three Sunday readings each week and a special page for younger children and their families.



RCIA/ JOURNEY IN FAITH: This week was the final meeting for this group of newly baptised and confirmed adults and their sponsors. We were delighted to welcome both Tom Carrolls (Senior and Junior) to the meeting. Tom senior spoke about the joy of being part of the parish Bed for the Night team. His son, Tom, shared his experience of being an altar server and how it has deepened his faith and understanding of the Mass. We then spent time reflecting on this Sunday's feast of the Most Blessed Trinity before considering what this part of their Journey of Faith has meant to the participants. All were thanked for their perseverance and faithfulness to the meetings and encouraged to look for ways to live out their baptismal call in their daily lives and in the work of the parish community. We invite everyone to continue to pray for the group. Meetings for adults wishing to explore the Catholic faith will begin again in September. If you would like more information, please contact one of our priests or email rcia@englishmartyrsrdg.com

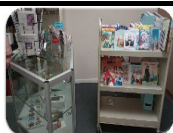


EMMAUS GROUPS – HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE Our Parish Emmaus groups explore the Sunday readings together with fellow parishioners in an informal setting. Next meeting(s) is/are on Wednesday 18th June at 10.30am in the Bethlehem Chapel and Saturday 21st June at 4.30pm in Room 1.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:

Our next session for all First Holy Communion children will take place on Friday, 20th June. We will come together to celebrate a Slow Mass, starting promptly at 6.00 PM. Please be on time. All parishioners are warmly invited to join us.



Bookshop and Repository is open each Sunday morning after 9.00am Mass until approx. 11.15am. and can be found in Room 3 at the rear of the Parish Hall on the right.

We are open for the sale of Prayer books, Rosary's, statues, cards and other religious items for both every day and special occasions. 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.

IN ADDITION: The Bookstall will also be open for one week only after the 6.00pm Mass on Saturday 21st June for the sale of First Holy Communion cards and gifts.

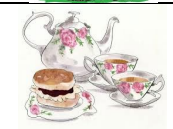


PARISH YOUTH: This week the young people are looking at who is Jesus. Who does he say he is and who do we say he is as we learn what it means to open our hearts to Jesus and have a relationship with him.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

At the morning Masses, we will be exploring which of the fruits of the Holy Spirit we wish to cultivate in our lives to be more like Jesus to those around us.



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 19th June 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 if you need a lift. We look forward to seeing you all again."



VIETNAMESE MASS: This will take place this Sunday, June 15th, at 2.00pm.



TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK We are supporting 35 households with food, thanks to your donations. This week we are short of apple/orange juice, tinned hot dogs, marmite, baked beans, sugar, rice pudding and toilet rolls. We are also in urgent need of more volunteers. If interested, do come over and meet us, during our Wednesday 1-3pm sessions, at St. Joseph's Church Hall. Many thanks.

NOTE: Please, DO NOT bring clothes to our (EM) food collection point by the door of the Church. Only food items are needed. Thank you as always for your generosity.



HOLIDAYS:

We wish Fr Samuel a safe journey and an enjoyable time back home in Nigeria. Fr Samuel begins his annual holiday on Monday 16th June and returns on Thursday 17th July. The anniversary of Fr. Samuel's Ordination falls on 21st June while he is away so let us all pray for him.



BAPTISM Welcome to Ezekiel Colaco who will receive the sacrament of Baptism on Saturday 21st June
Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

ADORE SPIRITUAL MINI-RETREAT

28th JUNE 10.00am - 1.00pm on Zoom. "PILGRIMS OF HOPE – ALONG WITH MARY."

Includes Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prophecy, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring talk from guest speaker Joe Livingston. Please register for the free Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREJUN2025 More information at www.altonrenewal.com

ARBORFIELD MILITARY WIVES CHOIR

The Arborfield Military Wives Choir are giving a concert at Christ the King church, Northumberland Avenue, Reading RG2 8NR on Friday 11th July at 7.30pm. This will be followed by refreshments in the hall. The concert will include a medley of songs and will last about 90 minutes.

This is a free event, with donations to support the choir. Everyone is welcome to what should be a very enjoyable evening.

DIOCESAN PRAYER:

Diocesan prayer after Mass every Friday in place of Prayer to St Michael which will be maintained after the other weekday masses.

JUBILEE YEAR PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM:

We wish all those taking part in our Parish Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Walsingham a safe journey. May they take along the intentions of everyone in the parish.

CHURCH CLEANING:

Many thanks to those who have offered their services. The list is still open.

SEMINARIAN NATHAN KING

will be back in our Parish for his Summer placement from 28th June to 26th July. Let us keep him in our prayers.

SECOND COLLECTION:

Next weekend, we have a second collection for Peter's Pence. This supports the work of the Holy Father, Pope Leo.

STELLA MARIS (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea)

is seeking one volunteer from this parish to help with Sea Sunday (which falls on 12th/13th July this year) in this parish. This is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and takes a second collection to support the work of Stella Maris. The volunteer will read out the appeal (which Stella Maris will provide) at the end of Masses that weekend. If you can kindly do this, please contact roland.hayes@stellamaris.org or call 07887 893 763.

Related to that, all parishioners are warmly invited to an online webinar being run by Stella Maris on Thursday 19th June from 7:30pm to 9pm.

You will hear about the work that Stella Maris has been doing with seafarers and fishers over the past year or so, including the use of the funds kindly donated on Sea Sunday last year. To attend this webinar, please sign up at: www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyouwebinar

EVANGELISATION DAY – Saturday 21st June 2025

Proclaim anew the answer: Jesus Christ!

Time: 10am – 4pm (Please bring a packed lunch).

Venue: St Peter's Church, Winchester SO23 8RY

'Evangelism is just one beggar telling another beggar where to find the bread of life'. (DT Niles)

The day offers practical help and encouragement on ways to witness and share our faith with others and be equipped for the task of evangelisation.

It will include teaching on the importance of sharing faith and the Gospel message. We will also look at the power of testimonies and how to share our personal story with others. Worship and Prayer form part of the day.

Led by Allegra Mutanda, Director of Evangelisation & Leadership (St Peter's and the Winchester Martyrs). For her bio, click here.

To register for the day, visit <https://bit.ly/EvangelisationDay>

VACANCY AT ENGLISH MARTYRS PARISH

*Part Time Gardener/Groundsman –
4 hours per week. Salary – £12.21 per hour*

We are seeking to appoint a part-time Gardener/Groundman to work 4 hours per week to do all aspects of gardening at the church (comprising 3 enclosed garden areas, a courtyard garden and the main grounds.

Work hours: part-time 4 hours per week, to be worked between Monday and Friday as agreed.

Experience and qualifications required for role:

No formal qualifications are required, though some previous experience of gardening is desirable: Motivated and able to work to a high standard.

Personal attributes:

Reliable and motivated: Good knowledge of safe working practices with equipment and tools: Sympathetic to the ministry and mission of the Catholic Church.

For a more information about the role, Job Description and details of how to apply please contact: Barbara Poole, Parish Office: Email: office@englishmartyrsrdg.com

Closing date for applications: Friday 20th June.

FORMATION FOR MINISTERS OF CHILDREN'S LITURGY

SATURDAY 6th SEPTEMBER: ST. BEDE'S, BASINGSTOKE.
FROM 10.30am to 1.00pm

The programme will include prayer and reflection, sharing good practice; working collaboratively; how to grow and communicate as Liturgical Catechists; Music suggestions; and a wish list for future support, networking and how to find more helpers.

Anyone wishing to attend should register via liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

DEVOTIONS TO MARY AND HOLY ROSARY VIA TEAMS.

Mondays at 5:00pm. This is open to everyone in the Parish.

To access this online prayer meeting, contact: email EnglishMartyrsMarianMission@PortsmouthDiocese.org.uk

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.



St James Way – Camino Ingles



Walking Pilgrimage – 68.5Miles over 5 days – Reading to Southampton
Friday 20th June to Tues 24th June

Come and join us for a one day or two Walking pilgrimage. As part of the Jubilee Year "Pilgrims of Hope" we invite you to join us on the UK leg of the Pilgrimage route to Santiago De Compostela in Spain. This ancient route goes along footpaths and bridal ways that are well marked with the yellow scallop shell to yellow arrows. No need to book, just turn up.

Day 1 Reading to Mortimer 11.5m/18.4KM.

Meet at Mass at English Martyrs 9.30am, We will take the 33 bus to Reading town centre and set off from St James Church along the canal to Burghfield, then onto Mortimer. A regular bus service (Line 2) runs back to Reading to get back.

And/Or

Day 2 Mortimer to Worting (outside Basingstoke) 14m/ 22.4KM –

Meet at Mass at English Martyrs 10am) We will take the 33 bus to Reading town centre Then the bus number Line 2 to get back to Mortimer and carry on following the path to Worting. To get back to Reading we will take Bus 76 or Bus 11 outside the White Hart Inn Worting to Basingstoke train station, then train back to Reading.

Please contact Adam at adamwlasak@hotmail.com or 07851504962 for more details.



ST. JOHN BOSCO CHURCH Presents A MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA

on
Tuesday 17th June 2025
from 6:30pm to 8pm

AT
St. Dominic Savio Primary School
WESTERN AVE (RG5 3BH)
**TICKETS ONLY £10/Adults
Children go free!**

Please get tickets from either
St. Dominic Savio school, or
St. John Bosco Church.
All proceeds are going to St. John Bosco
ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT
ENJOY THE MUSIC!

SECOND COLLECTION: DAY FOR LIFE 2025 – THIS WEEKEND 14TH/15TH JUNE

On Sunday, 15th June 2025, Catholics across England and Wales will mark Day for Life, an annual occasion dedicated to cherishing and protecting human life from conception to natural death.

This year's theme, *'Finding Meaning in Suffering – Hope Does Not Disappoint'*, draws on St Paul's words in Romans 5:5-6, reminding us that Christian hope is not mere optimism, but an unshakeable trust in God's presence — even amid the darkest trials of illness, grief, or emotional pain. The 2025 Day for Life comes at a crucial time as the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill — commonly known as the Assisted Dying Bill — is making its way through Parliament. This proposed legislation would permit adults with mental capacity, diagnosed as terminally ill and within six months of death, to request medical assistance to end their lives. While supporters argue this offers autonomy, a wide coalition — including religious leaders, medical professionals, and ethicists — have voiced grave concerns about the dangers of legalising assisted suicide and the erosion of palliative care. Read the Bishop of Portsmouth's call to action to oppose the Bill.

URGENT: YOUR VOICE MATTERS ON THE ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

Please act today: Final Assisted Suicide Bill Vote this Friday Your MP's final vote on the Leadbeater Assisted Suicide Bill is this Friday 20th June. If passed on Friday, this Bill cannot be undone, and many vulnerable people will die as a result. Please, your MP needs to hear from you today. Many MPs are wavering, and your opinion can truly make a difference in defeating this Bill. Please do not leave it to others. With just 3 clicks, petition/ write to your MP today via:

prolifecommunityoxford.org.uk/bill

MAJOR THREAT OF ABORTION DECRIMINALISATION

Pro-abortion MPs are trying to hijack the Government's Crime & Policing Bill by tabling two amendments seeking to decriminalise abortion. If either of these amendments were passed, it would be the most massive expansion of abortion since 1967, effectively permitting abortion for any reason up until birth. This Bill is being debated on Tuesday 17th June and Wednesday 18th June. Please contact your MP urgently, asking him/her to oppose and, if necessary, vote against New Clauses 1 & 20 of the Crime & Policing Bill. Go to the following web address to quickly and easily send a message to your MP using SPUC's webtool: www.spuc.org.uk/campaign/abortion-decriminalisation/. Alternatively, you can write to your MP at House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

**MASS INTENTIONS:
Saturday 14th to Sunday 22nd June 2025**

The Most Holy Trinity

Saturday 14 th (<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>)	6.00pm	Jim Pickering RIP
Sunday 15 th	9.00am	Francisco Vito de Araujo RIP
	11.30am <i>Live Streamed</i>	Martin Brennan RIP
	2.00pm	Vietnamese Mass
	5.00pm	People of the Parish
Monday 16 th	9.30am	Nancy Cordery RIP (2nd Anniversary)
Tuesday 17 th	9.30am	Barnabas Bakaroga RIP
Wednesday 18 th	9.30am	Intentions of Mr Pavinder Kaushal
Thursday 19 th	9.30am	Constance Kathline Harris RIP and Rico Lagamon RIP
Friday 20 th	9.30am	Melvin De Costa – Thanksgiving
Saturday 21 st	10.00am	Baptista Roque Dias RIP

Corpus Christi

Saturday 21 st (<i>Vigil Mass for Sunday</i>)	6.00pm	Lee Armstrong RIP (1st Anniversary)
Sunday 22 nd	9.00am	Anna Joseph Olivera RIP
	11.30am <i>Live Streamed</i>	People of the Parish
	5.00pm	Rosalica Goes RIP



Rest In Peace

*Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed.
Please keep them and their loved ones in your prayers.*