

English Martyrs' Newsletter





28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
12TH OCTOBER 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/UCulqb5ncxASpguMmd_0MNtA

Parish Priest: Fr. Gaston Forbah gforbah@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Asst Priest: Fr. Innaiah Maddineni imaddineni@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/emails 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 12th OCT Sunday at 9.00am; 11.30am; 5.00pm Monday to Friday at 9.30am Saturday at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	CONFESSIONS WEEK COMMENCING 12th OCT. Sunday 30 mins before 9.00am, 11.30am & 5.00pm Masses. Monday to Friday 15 mins before Mass Saturday after 10am Mass and at 5.30pm.	
 EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Fridays 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			

CULTIVATING A LIFE OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

In today's Gospel, ten lepers cry out to Jesus for mercy, and He heals them. However, only one - who is a Samaritan - returns to express his gratitude. This act of thanksgiving becomes a profound encounter with Christ, who tells him, "Your faith has saved you." This story reveals more than just good manners; it invites us to embrace a way of life centred on praise and gratitude.

While the nine lepers received physical healing, only the one who returned to thank Jesus was made truly whole. His gratitude opened his heart to a deeper grace: communion with the Lord. In our busy lives, it is easy to take God's blessings for granted - whether they are our health, family, forgiveness, or the Eucharist - and to forget the Giver. However, when we pause to thank God, we shift our focus from what we lack to recognising His constant love at work in our lives.

To cultivate a life of praise means allowing thanksgiving to become our daily rhythm: starting each morning with a word of thanks, acknowledging God's presence in moments of joy and challenge, and ending the day in gratitude. Like the Samaritan, we are called to return to Jesus repeatedly, our hearts lifted in praise.








True discipleship involves not only receiving God's gifts but also living in continual thanksgiving. Gratitude keeps us close to the Giver. When we embrace this spirit, our very lives become a hymn of praise that draws others to Christ.



And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice;"Just as the healed man returned to glorify God, deacons are called to bring Christ's healing love to others through their dedicated service to the Church. Today, let us show our gratitude for the deacons that serve our Church. If you are called to the diaconate, consider how you can bring Christ's healing love to others through service. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

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:	28th ORDINARY	29th ORDINARY
	First: Kings: 5: 14-17 Psalm: 98(97); 1.2-4 Second: Timothy: 2: 8-13. Gospel: Luke 17: 11-19.	First: Exodus: 17: 8-13 Psalm: 121(120); 1-8 Second: Timothy: 3: 14-4.2. Gospel: Luke 18: 1-8.
	JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA) Meetings for adults who are preparing to receive the sacraments of initiation or to deepen their own Catholic Faith continue now every week on Tuesdays from 7.30 – 9.00pm. Each week we will be exploring together the Apostles Creed and the Sunday Readings. Please keep all our enquirers, their families and catechists in your prayers. For more information, contact the parish office by phone on 0118 957 2149; or email office@englishmartyrsrdg.com . Alternatively email: rcia@englishmartyrsrdg.com	
	WEEK OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER We are thankful to God for a successful and hopefully, fruitful Week of Accompanied prayer. We trust that the experiences of those who were accompanied by the experienced guides from the Diocesan Spiritual Formation Team will grow in their prayer life and be a blessing to their families and to our parish community. Many thanks to Angela Wills, a member of the Diocesan Spiritual Formation Team, who organised and facilitated this activity in our parish. We thank all those who either hosted, provided lunch for the guides or supported the exercise in any way.	
	EMMAUS GROUPS – HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE. MEETINGS SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK ARE: Monday 13 th October at 7.30pm in Room 2 and Wednesday 15 th October at 10.30am in the Bethlehem Chapel.	
	TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK are supporting approximately 35 households with food and household products. This week we are short of weetabix, tinned corned beef/spam; tinned tuna/mackerel, packet soup, oil, coffee, honey, peanut butter and rice pudding. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Please include as a reference, 'Foodbank'. Many thanks.	
	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 16 th October 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.	
	BOOKSHOP AND REPOSITORY is open each Sunday morning after 9.00am Mass until approx. 11.10am. for the sale of Prayer books, Rosary's, statues, cards and other religious items for both every day and special occasions. Also open after 6pm Mass on First (Name Badge) and last (Birthday Blessing) weekend of the month and after 5pm Mass on first weekend (Name Badge) of each month. It is located in Room 3 at the rear of the Parish Hall on the right.	

PARISH CENTENARY Please ensure you have taken a list of our events to celebrate the centenary of the parish and consider how you might be able to help make the celebrations a success. We need as many people as possible to be involved! Among the many events proposed will be an Organ recital on 5th December at 7.15pm, "Bed 4 A Night" in our Parish Centre between January and March 2026 and a Street party within the parish car park area in June 2026.

Youth Activities

The next Senior Youth Group meeting is this Sunday 12th October from 6.00 to 7.15pm and the next Saturday youth meeting is on Saturday 18th October from 7.00 - 8:15pm.

First Holy Communion: The next in-person session for First Holy Communion preparation will take place on Friday, 17th October, starting at 6 p.m. in the Hall.

The Vietnamese Mass will take place on Sunday, 19th October at 2:30 p.m.

English Martyrs October Challenge: We are encouraged as families to pray at least a decade of the Rosary together during this October and beyond. We will bless our Rosaries at all Masses this weekend and distribute leaflets on how to say the rosary, one copy per family.

Launch of the centenary of the dedication of our Parish Church. Please, let us pray for a successful and fruitful celebration of this centenary year, which begins this weekend and concludes with a solemn Pontifical Mass on September 20th 2026, to be celebrated by Bishop Philip.

Wedding: Please, pray for Elizabeth Milsom-James & Jamie Boyd, who will get married this week. May they have a fruitful and happy marriage.

Evacuation Drill: We thank everyone for the successful evacuation drill at all Masses last weekend. Many thanks to our Health and Safety Lead, Peter McDonald, for organising this and thanks to all the Fire Wardens who facilitated the exercise. We hope and pray that we will not have to evacuate the church due to an emergency, but it is important that we are prepared for any such contingency.

Baptism

Congratulations to Ryla Barreto who is receiving the Sacrament of baptism on Saturday 11th October. Please keep her and her family in your prayers on this special day.

The Nativity Journey

Parishioners from all parts of the Reading Pastoral area are invited to join together for an outing to Wintershall on Saturday 20th December 2025 (2.00pm performance), to see 'THE NATIVITY JOURNEY';
Please see Poster in the Colonnade for more details.

MISSIONARIES OF HOPE AMONG ALL PEOPLES

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday

Next Sunday, 19th October, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his charity for world mission – through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world.

To donate, use the Missio envelopes, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.



APF/MISSIO It's time to open the red boxes once again and this needs to be done by the end of this month. If you don't have a promoter, please hand your box to the office during office hours or if that's not convenient telephone Mike Tomas on 07708 032743.

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 11th to Sunday 19th October 2025

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 11th (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 12th	9.00am	Angelo Rinaldi RIP
	11.30am	Gerry Donohue RIP
	<i>Live Streamed</i>	
	5.00pm	João Da Luz RIP
Monday 13th	9.30am	Martin Joseph Brendan Sheehan RIP
Tuesday 14th	9.30am	Jack Murray RIP
Wednesday 15th <i>St Teresa of Avila, memorial</i>	9.30am	Intention of Dickson & Roseline Fernandes
Thursday 16th	9.30am	Ina & Patrick Flood RIP
Friday 17th <i>St Ignatius of Antioch, memorial</i>	9.30am	Eddie Maher RIP & Catherine Margaret Lynam RIP
Saturday 18th ST LUKE, Evangelist, feast	10.00am	

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday 18th (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6.00pm	Rosario Barreto RIP
Sunday 19th	9.00am	Caitano Pereira RIP
	11.30am	Norah O'Dowd RIP
	<i>Live Streamed</i>	
	2.30pm	Vietnamese Mass
	5.00pm	People of the Parish



Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed.

Going into Hospital: If you or a loved one is 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.

RADIO MARIA ENGLAND ANNUAL MARIATHON: 15th– 17th OCTOBER:

This year's Mariathon has special programming focused on "Turning Up the Volume" on the Quiet Revival in this country. Inspiring guest speakers will share how they have witnessed the growth of faith, church attendance, and ministries over the past decade in this country. Tune in via DAB+, the Radio Maria app, online at www.radiomariaengland.uk, or smart speaker.

ENGLISH MARTYRS MARIAN MISSION

Our parish is launching our "Marian Mission" to enable us all - tailored to our time constraints - to devote ourselves to our Blessed Mother Mary because, as St Louis de Montfort said: "Mary is the safest, easiest, shortest and most perfect way of approaching Jesus, we never give more honour to Jesus than when we honour his Mother." This Launch will take place on the weekend of 18th/19th of October. To prepare for this event, there will be a blessing of our Rosaries and the distribution of Rosary leaflets this weekend, 11th/12th October.