

English Martyrs' Newsletter



FEAST OF ALL SAINTS



2ND NOVEMBER 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: 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	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 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 2ND NOVEMBER Sunday at 9.00am; 11.30am; 5.00pm Monday at 9.30am and 7.00pm Tuesday to Thursday at 9.30am Friday at 9.30am and 6.45pm Saturday at 6.00pm (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	CONFESSIONS WEEK COMMENCING 2ND NOV. 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: On Friday from 10.00am to 5.00pm. Praise and Worship as usual until 5:45pm then Benediction/Angelus and at 6pm the Rosary is said. Mass for Peace is at 6.30pm.	

The Beatitudes and Our Daily Habits: In the opening of the Sermon on the Mount (Gospel of Matthew 5:1–12), Jesus invites us into a blessed way of living: “Blessed are the poor in spirit... meek... merciful... pure in heart...” His words call us to turn our hearts toward God as well as our neighbours and to live a life of trust, compassion, humility and peace.

The six holy habits of our Diocese help us to live out this kingdom vision. They remind us to: keep Sunday special by attending Mass; spend five minutes each day in prayer; keep Friday as a day of penance and service; visit the Blessed Sacrament regularly; go to Confession and belong to a small group for formation and fellowship.








When we attend Sunday Mass with a renewed heart, we step into “hunger and thirst for righteousness”. When we spend five minutes a day in prayer, we open our souls to the blessing of the “pure in heart”. When we serve the poor and needy on a Friday, we become merciful and “salt of the earth”. When we visit the Blessed Sacrament and go to Confession, we allow God to heal our brokenness and make us peacemakers. And as we gather in small groups, we live out the community dimension of Jesus’ call.

This week let us pick one Beatitude that especially resonates with you. Perhaps on Friday you’ll serve someone in need or spend five minutes with Scripture in quiet prayer. Invite God’s grace to draw you closer to Him through this simple action.

In doing so we become not only hearers of the Word but doers—sharing Christ’s love and bringing His kingdom among us.

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:	ALL SAINTS	DEDICATION OF LATERAN BASILICA
	<p>First: Revelation: 7: 2-4. 9-14. Psalm: 24(23); 1-6 Second: John: 3: 1-3. Gospel: Matthew: 5: 1-12.</p>	<p>First: Ezekiel: 47: 1-2. 8-9. 12. Psalm: 46(45); 2-3. 5-6. 8-9 Second: Corinthians: 3: 9-11. 16-17. Gospel: John: 2: 13-22.</p>
	<p>NAME BADGE SUNDAY Another opportunity to meet and greet fellow parishioners by name and develop a better sense of community within the parish.</p>	
	<p>JOURNEY IN FAITH (RCIA) There was no meeting this week due to half term. Next meeting will be on Tuesday 4th November.</p>	
	<p>EMMAUS GROUPS – HOW TO UNDERSTAND THE BIBLE. MEETING(S) SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK IS(ARE): Wednesday 5th November at 10.30am in the Bethlehem Chapel.</p>	
	<p>TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK are supporting approximately 35 households with food and household products. This week we are short of tinned hot dogs, tinned tuna, tinned spaghetti hoops, long life whole milk, bolognese/pasta sauce, oil and tinned fruit. 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.</p>	
	<p>PRAYER TO THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS: As part of our First Friday devotion on 7th November, 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.</p>	
	<p>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) weekends of the month and after 5pm Mass on first weekend (Name Badge) of each month. <i>There is now a selection of Christmas cards and other Christmas items on sale together with a limited number of books for advent and advent calendars and candles.</i> It is located in Room 3 at the rear of the Parish Hall on the right.</p>	

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.

BLESSING OF GRAVES: Henley Road Cemetery Sunday, November 9th at 2.00pm.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Adult helpers are needed at both 9.00am and 11.30 Masses so that we can get the Children's Liturgy sessions up and running again on a regular basis. If you are able to offer your help, please see one of our Catechists, Priests or contact the parish office.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION: Will meet on Friday 7th November at 7.00pm in Room 1. This will be an opportunity to follow Jesus through Mary's example. Open to all catholic women aged 18+ so if you are interested, then do please come along and join us.

ENGLISH MARTYRS @ 100

ORGAN RECITAL – FRIDAY 5TH DECEMBER 2025

You do not need to purchase a ticket for this event. Please share the details with your family and friends and bring them along. Festive refreshments will follow the recital.

BED 4 A NIGHT: JANUARY – MARCH 2026

English Martyrs is delighted to be able to participate in this community project to help keep the homeless off the streets in the coldest months of the year.

LITTER PICKING IN PROSPECT PARK 23rd MAY & 18th JULY 2026

Help keep our green spaces clean and tidy.

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

VACANCY AT OUR LADY & ST ANNE CHURCH CAVERSHAM RG4 5AB

Following the announcement that Lis Leddy will be retiring on 31/12/25, the parish is looking to recruit a new parish administrator. The role is part-time, 15 hrs/week. 5 hours/day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. £12.72/hour.

For further information including the job description, please contact ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk

Closing date: 5pm Thursday 27th November. Short listing: Monday 1st December.

Interviews: Thursday 4th December.

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY!

Thank you so much for your generous contributions to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal. Your donations in our parish collection and online are helping families like Waré's in Ethiopia. CAFOD's local partners worked with Waré's community to build an underground water tank that now provides safe water for 300 families. Your support this Harvest will help more communities have better access to safe water. You can read more about Ware's story here: cafod.org.uk/harvest
CAFOD - WORLD GIFT CATALOGUE: Please pick up a copy in the colonnade.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to Mateo Orion Ozioma Edward who receives the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday 1st November 2025.

WEDDINGS:

Let us pray for Ponda Neema Ngwabe & Entsie Amuesi Leroy, who got married last weekend.

May God's blessing accompany them throughout their marriage journey.

Let us pray for Olivia Pearce and Tyreece Vaughn who will have their wedding in Church on Saturday 8th. We pray also for their baby, Francesca Celina, who will be baptised in the same ceremony.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We were delighted to present rosary beads to the children in our First Holy Communion programme last weekend, 25th/26th October.

Our next gathering will take place on Friday, 7th November at 6.00pm in the church hall, where we will explore the Rosary together. Children and parents, please bring your rosary beads.

SOS – SAVE OUR SUNDAY SOCIALISING!

The wonderful teams who prepare tea and coffee after 9.00am Sunday Mass are in urgent need of some new volunteer helpers. Some of the long-standing teams are taking a well-earned rest and so we need one or two new teams to prepare and serve the coffee after the 9.00am Mass. You would be on the rota every 5 weeks or so and your contribution to making our parish a place of warm welcome for all would be invaluable.

Please think of gathering with a few friends or family to create a team and contact the coffee team this Sunday morning for more information.

MASS INTENTIONS: Saturday 1st to Sunday 9th November 2025

ALL SAINTS (Transferred from 1st November)

<i>Saturday 1st (Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	<i>Deceased members of the McCormack & Martland families RIP</i>
<i>Sunday 2nd</i>	9.00am	<i>Mary & Alex D'Souza RIP</i>
<i>Feast of All Saints</i>	11.30am	<i>Maria Goes RIP</i>
	<i>Live Streamed</i>	
	5.00pm	<i>People of the Parish</i>
<i>Monday 3rd</i>	9.30am	<i>Michael & Mickey Heneghan, Martin & Kathleen Gaynard & John Nevin, RIP</i>
<i>Commemoration of All Souls</i>	7.00pm	<i>Kathleen Carolan RIP</i>
<i>Tuesday 4th</i>	9.30am	<i>In Thanksgiving, for favours received.</i>
<i>St Charles Borromeo, memorial</i>		
<i>Wednesday 5th</i>	9.30am	<i>Mr Eufemio & Mrs Paulina D'Souza, Miss Grace D'Souza & All Souls, RIP.</i>
<i>Thursday 6th</i>	9.30am	<i>Good Health of Denzila Gina Fernandes</i>
<i>Friday 7th</i>	9.30am	<i>Agnela Ernesto de Araujo, Thanksgiving</i>
	6.45pm	<i>Pedro Rodrigues RIP</i>
<i>Saturday 8th</i>	10.00am	<i>Harry Mullin RIP</i>
<i>Mass of Remembrance</i>	<i>Live Streamed</i>	

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

<i>Saturday 8th (Vigil Mass for Sunday)</i>	6.00pm	<i>William 'Bill' Debben RIP</i>
<i>Sunday 9th</i>	9.00am	<i>Marie Piedad Rego & Esteve Araujo RIP</i>
	11.30am	<i>Bridie O'Gorman RIP</i>
	<i>Live Streamed</i>	
	5.00pm	<i>Rosalica Goes RIP</i>



Rest In Peace

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Pedro Rodrigues RIP. His Requiem will be at St Joseph's Tilehurst on Monday 17th November 2025.

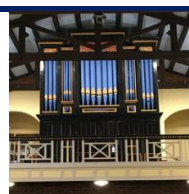
Ann Commins RIP. Her Requiem will be here at English Martyrs at 12.30pm on Tuesday 25th November 2025.

Please keep them and their loved ones in your prayers.

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.



ORGAN RESTORATION PROJECT

Our next fundraiser is the Organ Recital on 5th December at 7.15pm then Christmas Dance and Dine on Dec 20th @ Blessed Hugh Farringdon School.

OUR TARGET IS: £ 84,480.00 incl. VAT

RAISED TO DATE: £55,837.41 (excludes some Gift Aid)

NOVEMBER: MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

Please place your intentions for deceased family & friends in the Prayer Basket at the front of the altar.