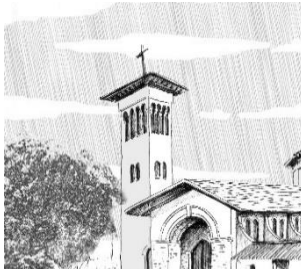


ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B
11th/12th August 2018



Once again, this Sunday we hear of Jesus who is the bread of life from the Gospel of John. The people were complaining because Jesus had said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They know his father and mother, Joseph and Mary, but they cannot accept that he is the bread that came down from heaven. We find the complaining motif also in the book of Exodus when the people of Israel complain against God when they are hungry and thirsty. As much as anything their complaining reflects a lack of faith, a failure to believe in God who led them out of slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land, a failure to believe in Him who alone can satisfy their hunger and thirst. Elijah also complains in the first reading this Sunday wishing he were dead. God feeds both Elijah and the people of Israel with food and drink for their journey.

We are also guilty of complaining. We complain at the discomforts and dissatisfactions we experience in daily life. We complain at the challenges we face. But I wonder if the underlying problem in our complaining is a lack of faith, a failure to come to Him alone who can satisfy all our human needs. So often we look in the wrong places for what we need. We seek that which can only give us temporary satisfaction

Far from walking away from Mass, from receiving the Body and Blood of Christ, in the face of challenges and difficulties in life, it is precisely then that we need to turn to God with all our hearts. By believing that we receive heavenly food and drink at Mass, that it is the Lord who is giving himself to us truly and substantially, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, we are sustained and strengthened. But we must believe.

"No one can come to me unless he is drawn by the Father who sent me," Jesus tells us. The life of faith begins when we respond to the prompting of God in our lives. Faith is a gift of God, so we need to ask God to strengthen and deepen our faith.

Lord, I do believe. Help my unbelief.

Fr Michael

Responsorial Psalm:
Taste & See that the Lord is good

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
WEDNESDAY 15th AUGUST 2018
(Check Mass times on back page)



HALF MARATHON
!! Fundraiser !!

Seb Rodrigues aged 16
Running for English Martyrs

Please will you sponsor him online at
<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/seb-rodrigues-1> OR via the Parish Office

WINDSOR HALF MARATHON ON 30th SEPTEMBER

At this Weekend's Masses

John Deeney will be appealing on behalf of the **Catholic Missionary Union**. There will be a special collection for this cause

ROSARY

7PM Tues 14th August

In the Parish Hall

Immediately before the Vigil Mass on the Feast of the Assumption

SVP Afternoon Tea

The SVP are holding their Monthly Afternoon Tea this **Thursday 16th August at 3pm** in Room 1.

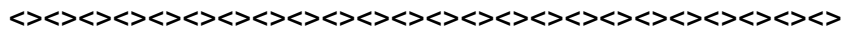
Please come along for tea, cake and chat. We would be delighted to see you.

If you want to come and would like a lift, then please contact Stephen Hogg on 9427646 or 07891 773379."

First Holy Communion 2018/19

Preparation for First Holy Communion will begin in the autumn. The programme has 5 evening sessions for parents alone and 14 sessions on Saturday mornings when parents and children will work together. Our greatest desire in preparing children for First Holy Communion is to enable them and their families to have an encounter with Christ in the celebration of the Sunday Mass. We want to do all that we can to welcome and support 'inactive Catholics' who want their children to make First Holy Communion. This may take a little longer. We wish to help these parents and their children to have a sense of belonging to our parish community. We propose the following arrangements;

1. Only children of practising parents will be admitted to preparation for First Holy Communion. By 'practising' is meant those who attend either 6.30pm Mass on Saturday or 9.30am Mass or 11.30am Mass or 5.00pm Mass on Sunday here at English Martyrs.
2. Children will receive First Holy Communion at the Mass they normally attend over a few Sundays in June 2019.
3. Parents wishing to enrol a child in First Holy Communion will need to make an appointment to see me before September 28th 2018, begin the conversation and agree on the arrangements going forward.
4. Parents who are not yet familiar to me as parish priest will be invited to take an active step in exploring the own faith as adults, by joining small groups of parents and attending Sunday Mass.



DIVINE MERCY RETREAT - Saturday 18 August

2018 11:00 am - 4:30 pm

St John's RC Cathedral Portsmouth PO1 3HG. See Poster on Noticeboard for details

FREE LUNCH- every Thursday of the school summer holiday's from 11.30am to 1pm

This is for local children and families who usually benefit from free school meals during term time and is being run in partnership with TFL Make Lunch.

At Reading Central Salvation Army Anstey Road Reading RG1 7JR

You can help by praying for the success of this new initiative.

If you want to know more or get involved in the future then please contact

matthew.stone@salvationarmy.org.uk

FOR LIFE

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING. 'On **Tuesday 14th August**, the Vigil of the Feast of the Assumption, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed, and it really does save lives.

www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting see:

<http://www.goodcounselnet.co.uk/Prayer-and-Fasting-Days.html> Also, see Poster on Noticeboard.

Rosary 7pm on 14th August 2018 in Parish Hall

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF

Ian Fletcher, husband of Parishioner Letitia Fletcher. Ian's funeral took place on Friday 10th August 2018

And

Susan Coll, who died on 5th August. Her Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 16th August at 9.30am

followed by Interment at Henley Road Cemetery

CONFIRMATION

English Martyrs runs a 2 year programme to support our Young People who wish to be confirmed. The aim of the programme is to create disciples of Christ who participate fully in our parish community.

The next programme starts in October 2019 and runs until April 2021. There are 20-24 sessions usually of 2 hours, including Youth Alpha, prayer and retreats.

We hope that children and parents work together with catechists to make the programme fun and fulfilling.

If you want to find out more or get involved with the programme, please contact Chris Burton on

07768486465 or email EMconfirmation@outlook.com

CIRDIC (Churches in Reading Drop-In Centre)

Have asked whether we could provide tinned vegetables particularly potatoes, but also baked beans etc

Any donation of 'in-date' will be most gratefully received

Parish Questionnaire

Many thanks to all of you who took the trouble to complete our parish questionnaire over the last few weeks. Your responses provided a helpful indication of the wide ranging views about what we do well at English Martyrs and what we need to improve.

The questions were at the centre of our BIG Parish Get Together back in June, when all those present had the opportunity to express their thoughts about the different aspects of our parish. The questionnaire results broadly reflect these discussions and detailed notes are available on the parish noticeboard, the parish website or from the parish office. **STEP (Strategy Team of Evangelisation in our Parish)**

PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE E NEWS Keep up to date with what's happening in the diocese via our weekly E-news. It has details of Forthcoming events, photos of past events and videos of interest. Sign up now!

<http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews>

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION

1 year course at Douai Abbey beginning on Tue 25th Sept at 10.30am-4pm. The aim of the course is to support those who are willing to journey in faith with others and help them to a deeper level of faith. For further information please see the website: www.soulfriend.org.uk or email Susan Shepp at susan.sheppy@btinternet.com

See leaflet on Noticeboard. Also available from Parish Office

FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School has a vacancy for a Foundation Governor. Applications from committed Catholics are welcomed by 31 August 2018. For further information please speak to your parish

LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANTS REQUIRED -

September 2018 at Blessed Hugh Faringdon School 29.17 hours per week (8.40am – 3.00pm), term time only plus 1 INSET day £11,242 per annum See Notice board for more information

priest or go

to: www.hughfaringdon.org/information/governing-body.

The St Vincent de Paul Society - Vacancies

Young Vincentians Programme Manager £30k pa; full time permanent contract. Closing date: 15:00 on Thursday 23 August 2018. Interviews: Thursday 30 August 2018. Start date: ASAP.


Mini Vinnies Officer: £23k pro rata; 2 days/wk; one year contract. Closing date: 10:00 Monday 20 August 2018. Interviews: Friday 24 August. Start date: ASAP. See posters on Noticeboard

For more details & application pack, see the vacancies section of the SVP website: <https://www.svp.org.uk/>. Overton

VACANCY FOR SINGING TEACHER – September 2018

To work alongside the Music Department. Contact Karen Stiles, HR Officer for more details on 0118 918 3806 or k.stiles@hughfaringdon.org or see website www.hughfaringdon.org/information/vacancies

FUTURE EVENTS

<p>ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH</p> <p>OPEN DAY</p> <p>AUTUMN 2018</p> <p>when the refurbishment work is complete</p> <p>WATCH THIS SPACE FOR MORE DETAILS</p>	<p>Second Sunday every month DIVINE MERCY HOLY HOUR at Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi. All are welcome.</p> <p>TODAY</p> <p>2.30pm. Please join us!</p>	<p>FLAME CATHOLIC YOUTH EVENT 2nd March 2019</p> <p>at the SSE Arena, Wembley 12 noon – 5.30pm. For young people aged 14-21 years (YR10+) accompanied by parish youth leaders and priests. Tickets £20 pp. FREE coach from Reading (paid for by the parishes). Parents meeting in Feb. Booking forms available from the back of the church. Closing date 30.09.18. See website www.cymfed.org.uk/flame. or Poster on Notice Board for Details</p>
<p>CAFOD <i>Just one world</i></p> <p>You are invited to come to our Harvest fast day briefing meeting to hear about CAFOD's work on Wednesday 19th September at English Martyrs' Church 64 Liebenrood Road Reading RG30 2EB from 7:15pm to 9pm. Everyone is welcome. Please book your place by emailing portsmouth@cafod.org.uk or call Jo Lewry on 01252 329385</p>	<p>FIRST FRIDAY Each month EVENING OF Praise, Worship Exposition, Scripture reading & reflection, Intercessory prayers Benediction. From 7.30 – 9.00pm.</p> <p>Also Rosary from 7pm Please join us next on Friday 7th September</p>	<p></p> <p>Ride n Stride is a sponsored event that might appeal particularly to cyclists, who try to visit as many participating churches in Berkshire as they can This year we are appealing for riders or walkers to take part on September 8th 2018 and raise sponsorship which will be shared between Berkshire Churches Trust and the parish.</p> <p>We also need people to man the colonnade between 10 am and 6 pm to welcome riders and striders with refreshments, welcomers can also be sponsored.</p> <p>If this appeals to you please contact Ann Davis at the Bookstall after Sunday morning Mass or the Parish Office</p>
<p>BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON SCHOOL Dr Simon Uttley (Head Teacher) will speak at the end of 9.30am Mass & 11.30am Mass on Sunday 16th September. He will be pleased to meet with prospective parents after each Mass. We wish to ask all parents to consider selecting Blessed Hugh Faringdon as their first choice for Secondary school.</p>		

On admission to **Royal Berkshire Hospital** all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to have Communion or see a Priest. All arrangements in RBH are "Patient Led".

Hospital Chaplain - Fr JP Lyttle Mobile: 07391 896559 / RBH: 0118 322 7105

PARISH MASS TIMETABLE 11TH - 19TH AUGUST 2018

<u>DAYS</u>	<u>TIMES</u>	<u>MASS INTENTIONS</u>
Vigil Mass - Sat 11th August 2018 19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	Bernadette Connolly RIP
Sunday 12th August 2018. 19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Coffee Morning after 9.30 & 11.30 Masses)	9.30 am	Andrew Jones RIP
	11.30 am	Gerry Cantillon RIP
	5.00 pm	People of the Parish Edwin Cubilla RIP
Responsorial Psalm: <i>Taste and see that the Lord is good</i>		
Monday 13th August 2018	9.30am	Hugh Faringdon Burrett RIP
Tuesday 14th August 2018 Memorial : St Maximilian Kolbe	9.30 am	Holy Souls RIP
	7.30pm (Hall)	Gregory Nanayakkara Intention
Wednesday 15th August 2018 The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary (followed by Coffee Morning)	9.30 am (Hall)	Christine George RIP
	7.30pm (Church)	Intentions of the Parishioners of English Martyrs from Margaret Graham
Thursday 16th August 2018	9.30 am	Ian Fletcher RIP
		Requiem Funeral Mass for Susan Coll RIP 
	7.30 pm	Donal Crowley RIP
Friday 17th August 2018 (followed by Coffee Morning)	9.30 am	Sr. Mary Perpetua RIP
Saturday 18th August 2018	11.00am	Martin & Angela Intention
Vigil Mass - Sat 18th August 2018 20 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.30 pm	Rufilna Goes RIP
Sunday 19th August 2018 20 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	9.30 am	Luiza Maria Fernandes RIP
	11.30 am	Josephine Maria O'Farrell MBE RIP
	5.00 pm	People of the Parish
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Sat. 11.30am - 12.30pm, Sun. 8.00-9.00am, Mon-Fri. 8.25am - 9.25am, Confessions: Saturday 5.30 - 6.15pm and Sunday 4.00 - 4.45pm		

<u>COUNTERS</u>	<u>CHURCH CLEANING</u>	<u>WEEKLY COLLECTION</u>
12th August 2018 Pat & Gina Prime 19th August 2018 Anne Morris & Charlie McArthur	Wednesday 15th August 5PM All help welcome!!	05/08/2018 Envelopes £419.00 Plate £978.19



BAPTISM - A WARM WELCOME to Natalie Marie Pegg who will be baptised this Sunday at 11.30am Mass

MARRIAGE - Congratulations to Christopher Crimmins and Rupali Sharma who are getting married here at English Martyrs at 11.30am on Thursday 16th August 2018

