

ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

First Sunday of Lent (Year C)

9th/10th March 2019



OUR PARISH VISION

English Martyrs is a welcoming community, inviting, encouraging and supporting all to have an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus. We are inspired to show God's love to the world with joy and hope

THE ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH

64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB

PARISH CLERGY

PARISH PRIEST: CANON MICHAEL DENNEHY
mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

ASSISTANT PRIEST & HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

FR JP LYTTLE -Mobile: 07391 896559
RBH: 0118 322 7105

Sunday Mass 4.00pm at RBH Old Chapel
by London Road entrance.

All are welcome.

ASSISTING PRIEST: FR RICHARD MANIAK

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary: Barbara Poole

Tel: 0118 957 2149

Open Mon - Fri 9am -3.30pm

E: englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Website: www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 246871

SAFEGUARDING REP - CHARLIE MCARTHUR

Contact via the Parish Office

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Dee Road, Reading RG30 4BS

T: 0118 937 5466

www.englishmartyrs.reading.sch.uk

BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Fawley Road, Southcote Reading RG30 3EP

T: 0118 957 4730

<https://www.hughfaringdon.org/>

On Wednesday we began the Lenten season by putting ashes on our foreheads. This is a common biblical expression of mourning. We mourn the fact that while God is always faithful, we are unfaithful, and we mourn our sins and infidelities. It is a good time to take stock of one's life, to ask oneself some serious questions and go to confession. Confessions will be heard throughout the season of Lent after each Mass, as well as at the usual times. Make a priority of going to confession in this time of repentance.

The Ash Wednesday Gospel put three great spiritual disciplines before us, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Prayer is as vital to our faith as food is to our bodies. The body becomes weak and sickly without food, as with faith without prayer. Make a priority of prayer every day in Lent. Fasting or self-denial reminds us that we rely on more than material things. We rely on spiritual things. We rely on God. Deny yourself something that interferes with your relationship with God.

Almsgiving is the giving of gifts to the poor. Giving develops that wonderful quality of generosity in our lives and the Bible extols cheerfully giving. The Bible also reminds us that our generous giving will be richly rewarded, up to a hundredfold. God is generous to us and we are to receive his gifts gratefully, nurture them responsibly, share them charitably and return them to God abundantly. Practise generosity in Lent.

The Gospel reading on the First Sunday of Lent tells us of the temptations that Jesus faced. The devil tempts Jesus to pleasure, power and the avoidance of responsibility. We are similarly subjected to these temptations. The forty days of Lent are a time of trial and purification. "Call upon me, and I will answer," the Lord promises in today's Psalm. Let us call on the Lord in these days of Lent and let us listen attentively to the word of God as we confront temptation.

Behind each of the devil's temptations was a basic temptation to lose trust in God. How have you been tempted in this way? What helped you to hold on to trust in God?

Fr Michael

ENGLISH MARTYRS YOUTH FUNDRAISING EVENT SUNDAY 17th MARCH AFTER 9.30AM MASS

PLEASE SUPPORT US

The youth of our parish are holding a fundraising event **Selling cakes, biscuits and Teas or coffees for £1.**

This event will be opened to parish and the public, as this falls on the day of the Reading Half Marathon

We are looking for **volunteers to help with baking cakes & biscuits** (the Youth are baking on Saturday)




All donations of cakes, biscuits and/or funds are duly welcomed

Fundraising for the Parish and activities for our youth.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS FOR LENT 2019

“For the creation waits with eager longing
for the revealing of the children of God” (Rm 8:19)

For the full message please see https://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/lent/documents/papa-francesco_20181004_messaggio-quaresima2019.html. A hard copy is available from the Parish office

<p>SATURDAYS IN LENT 3PM DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS & CONFESSIONS Here at the English Martyrs Church</p>	<p>STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT These will be Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent: Mornings at 9.00am, and Evenings at 7.30pm</p>	<p>CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY FRIDAY 15TH MARCH CAFOD Lent family fast day is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters overseas who are in need. On Friday 15th March can you eat simple meal so that others can simply eat? Through CAFOD's global network your support can reach to the ends of the earth so please collect your fast day envelope with your Newsletter this week and give whatever you can or you can donate online at https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Fast-Day Thank you.</p>
<p>ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Beginning on Thursday March 7th and Friday March 8th there will be weekly Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10:00am until 9:00pm. We will continue the practice of having Adoration for an hour before morning Mass.</p>		
<p>6.30AM MASS EVERY FRIDAY IN LENT Followed by a light breakfast in Room1 All welcome!</p>		
<p>RITE OF ELECTION Janet Banks (mother of Millie Bakermault) is preparing to be Confirmed and received into full communion with the Catholic Church at our Easter Vigil. Next Saturday, she will go to the Rite of Election in Portsmouth Cathedral where she will be welcomed by Bishop Philip, along with all those in our diocese who are preparing for Baptism, Confirmation and Reception into the Church. Please pray for them and for Janet as they begin their final time of preparation during Lent. You are invited to add your promise to pray for Janet in the book which will be available in the church this weekend.</p>		<p> BAPTISM - - A WARM WELCOME to Ethan Michael Brennan who will be baptised on Saturday 10th March at 1pm</p>
<p>MONGOL 100 John Paul Matthews Successfully Ice Skated 100 over a frozen Mongolian Lake on 6th March 2019 in aid of The Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. John is the nephew of long time parishioner Mick McSoley who is receiving treatment at the Royal Marsden Please try and support this worthy cause. If you would like to donate, then go to https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/mickandthemarsden OR you can donate via the Parish Office. Please clearly mark your envelope “MARSDEN”</p> 		<p>EMMAUS GROUPS There are five Emmaus Groups here at English Martyrs to provide the opportunity for parishioners to get together in small groups to pray together and chat about the Sunday Bible readings. No expert knowledge required! Why not come along and see for yourself? This month's meetings are on Wednesday 13th March at 7.30pm in a member's house. Friday 15th March at 10.30am in Room 2 ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE, READING Seeks new Catholic Governors Ideally with experience in IT, Health, Safeguarding, Finance or HR. For more details contact David Halle. chair@sjcr.org.uk</p>
<p>ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL Has a Vacancy for a Classroom Teacher (Key Stage 1 or 2) Starting September 2019 (possibility of starting July 2019 for NQTs)</p>	<p>DAY PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM, National Shrine of Our Lady on Sat 15th June. Cost £15 2 coaches for 100 people. Led by Fr John O'Shea. Book via English Martyrs Parish Office.</p>	
<p> CALLED AND GIFTED WORKSHOP Saturday March 30th at English Martyrs. To book please see website http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/calledandgifted/book-now.php or hand in a completed blue form (find at back of the church) to the parish office</p>		<p>VOCATIONS "The priest shall receive the panner from you and shall set it in front of the altar of the Lord, your God." Are you considering a call from the Holy Spirit to become a priest in front of the altar of our Lord? To explore further, contact Fr. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869</p>

READING HALF MARATHON – SUNDAY 17TH MARCH - ROAD CLOSURES

These may affect you if you attend 9.30am and 11.30am Masses

Liebenrood Road, closed between Tilehurst Road and Bath Avenue from 9am to 2pm

Tilehurst Road, closed between Russell Street and Liebenrood Road from 9.30 to 1.15pm

Bath Road closed between Circuit Lane & Coley Avenue from 9.30am to 1.50pm

A33 (northbound), closed between Bennet Road and IDR from 9.30am to 3pm

THE HIBERNIAN SOCIETY

ST PATRICK'S SUPPER

At Reading Irish Centre
Food & Lively Irish Music

Friday 15th March 8pm – 11pm

Entrance by ticket only
£20 each from Anne Morris
(T: 07888 997293)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL OF

BRIDIE O'GORMAN who died on 19th February. Her Requiem funeral will take place here at English Martyrs Church at 11.30am on Thursday 14th March 2019 followed by committal at Reading Crematorium (South Chapel) at 1.00pm

BARBARA HUGHES who died on 19th February. Her funeral will take place at 1.45pm at Henley Road Cemetery (South Chapel) on Monday 11th March followed by interment at Henley Road Cemetery at 2.15pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	10 th -18 th March	Mill Hill Missionaries NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH. Mass at St Joseph's Church Maidenhead. See Noticeboard for more details on how you can be involved
	25 th March	Café Theologique – Jesus – The Lamb. Re-examining the imagery – starts 7.30pm at Zero Degrees Bar, Bridge Street RG1 2LR
	28 th March	Anointing of the Sick at St Joseph's at 1.30pm. Organised by SVP. Refreshments afterwards. If you require help with Transport contact Jack Ewins on 07734 499190
	6 th July	Significant Wedding Anniversaries - Mass of Celebration. Are you celebrating a 25 th , 30 th , 40 th , 50 th , 60 th or Anniversary over 60 years? at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke. Please see Noticeboard or Contact the Parish Office to register
	28 th July – 3 rd August	PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN. "DON BOSCO" BOYS CAMP 2019 at St. Cassian's, Kintbury, For more info, please contact Angela Mulkerns on 07764 761006 or email dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
	10 th August	Aylesford Pilgrimage for the deaf. See poster on Noticeboard for more details
	19 th -27 th September	CAMINO PILGRIMAGE. See poster on the Noticeboard for more details. Information sheet, booking form and flyer available from English Martyrs Parish Office. Closing date: 7th March 2019

CALLING ALL YOUTH – MASTER CHEF OR NOT BAKING COMPETITION

We are holding a baking session on Saturday 16th March from 12pm to 4pm in preparation for our CAKE SALE on Sunday 17th March. Please come along.

FIRST COMMUNION 2019

ALL SESSIONS ARE IN THE CHURCH
9.15AM (PROMPT) – 10.30AM

SAT 16TH MARCH SESSION 8
GOSPEL AND CREED

SAT 30TH MARCH SESSION 9
PRAYER

Details of future sessions to follow

CONFIRMATION 2019

Preparation continues for all those already enrolled.

SESSION 4 SUN 10TH MARCH 3.15 – 4.45PM – Word of God

SESSION 5 SUN 17TH MARCH 3.15 – 4.45PM – Eucharist/Mass

SESSION 6 SUN 24TH MARCH 3.15 - 4.45PM – Called & Gifted Youth

Then: 26-28th April (Retreat) More dates to follow

Contact Chris Burton EMconfirmation@outlook.com

GLOW 'let your light shine' Matthew: 5. 16

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP

7pm to 8.30pm in the Parish Hall

- **31st May: Feast of the Visitation – Mary**
- **28th June: Sports day in the Park (time : TBC)**

Plus much more to follow

ENGLISH MARTYRS YOUTH CHOIR

'Singing Together as One Voice'

Every Monday 4 – 5.15pm at English Martyr's Church.
Age 7+ (School Years 3-13) welcome.

Choir sings: Every Sunday

ELEVATE

Parish JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

"Exploring Faith Through Fun"

Next Meeting 15th March 4.30-5.30pm in the Parish Hall

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

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>

**PARISH MASS & SERVICES TIMETABLE
SAT 9TH MARCH TO SUNDAY 17TH MARCH 2019**

<u>DAYS</u>	<u>TIMES</u>	<u>MASS INTENTIONS</u>
Vigil Mass – Saturday 9th March FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	6.30 pm	Livingston Family and their Intentions
Sunday 10th March FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Responsorial Psalm: <i>Be with me, O Lord, in my distress</i>	9.30 am	Pam Maddock RIP
	11.30 am	People of the Parish
	5.00 pm	Bridget Mc Donald RIP
Monday 11th March Of the 1 st week of Lent	9.30am	Sr Elizabeth RIP
Tuesday 12th March Of the 1 st week of Lent	9.30am	John Finnerty Intentions
Wednesday 13th March Of the 1 st week of Lent	9.30 am	Martin & Eleanor Brennan Intentions
Thursday 14th March Of the 1 st week of Lent	9.30 am	Kathleen Brown RIP
	10.00am to 9.00pm	Continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament In the Baptistry
	11.30am	REQUIEM – Bridie O’Gorman RIP
	7.30 pm	James Francis MacMahon RIP
Friday 15th March Of the 1 st week of Lent (Lenten Fast Day) ** A light breakfast will be served after 6.30am Mass in Room 1	6.30am**	Cardinal Pell’s Intentions
	9.00am	Stations of the Cross
	9.30am	Regson Do Rego Intention
	10.00am to 9.00pm	Continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Baptistry
	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 16th March Of the 1 st week of Lent	11.00am	Jim & Tom Heneghan Intentions
	3.00pm	Divine Mercy Devotions and Confessions
Vigil Mass – Saturday 16th March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	6.30pm	Kay Rodgers RIP
Sunday 17th March SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	9.30 am	Juan Buhay RIP
	11.30 am	People of the Parish
	5.00 pm	Youngsters of Reading and their Parents
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Sat. 11.30–12.30pm, Sun. 8am–9am, Mon–Thurs. 8.25am–9.25am and Fri 8.00am – 8.55am Thursday & Friday 10.00am – 9.00pm (in the Baptistry) Confessions: Saturday 5.30 – 6.15pm and Sunday 4.00 – 4.45pm and after every Mass during Lent Rosary Saturday 10.30am		

COUNTERS 10 th March Maurice Fleming & Paula Garcia 17 th March Aidan & Jane Dalglish	CHURCH CLEANING Friday 15 th March Group 4 after morning Mass	WEEKLY COLLECTION 3RD MARCH 2019 Envelopes £320.20 /Plate £935.69
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PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2019

Thursday 25th July – Tuesday 30th July

Half board accommodation in 3* hotel close to the sanctuary. Costs approximately £460 (max).

Booking forms are available from the Parish Office.

Max 30 persons

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK – 17th March 2019 - CAFOD FAMILY FAST APPEAL