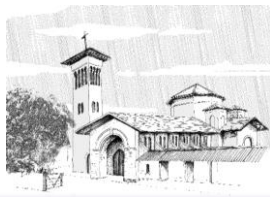




YEAR OF THE WORD – THE GOD WHO SPEAKS



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
Registered Charity No. 246871

PARISH CLERGY

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

ASSISTING PRIEST: FR RICHARD MANIAK

PARISH OFFICE

Secretary: Barbara Tel: 0118 957 2149
Open: Mon - Fri 9am-3.30pm

E: englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Website: www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk

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

**Want to keep on helping
Reading's homeless people?**

CIRDIC

THE READING CHURCHES' DROP IN CENTRE

In order to continue funding their work, CIRDIC Trustees are inviting people to get sponsorship to join the **"Big Sleep Out" on Saturday February 29th** – by sleeping all night outside Greyfriars Church in town.

One foolhardy parishioner has already signed up to join the Sleep Out and is hoping that some of you might kindly offer sponsorship after Mass this weekend. In case you feel tempted to get your sleeping bag out and join them, further information and sponsorship forms are also available after Mass or from the parish office or by contacting: enquiries@cirdic.org.uk or phone 07817 373773.

You can also donate through the CIRDIC website: www.cirdic.org.uk.

ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

22ND/23RD FEBRUARY 2020

Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

The season of Lent begins this Wednesday which is Ash Wednesday. I encourage you to attend Mass on Wednesday and receive the ashes as a sign of your desire to love and serve God more faithfully. Lent is a time when we seek through the disciplines of prayer, fasting and almsgiving to be freer from attachment to wealth, power, pleasure and honour. Let's live the forty days of Lent with great intensity and with the desire for that freedom to love and serve God. Bishop Philip will visit the parish on the Second Sunday of Lent, the weekend of March 7th/8th. He will preach at all Masses that weekend and there will be a 'Bring and Share' reception after each Mass so that there is time for conversation with him. The purpose of his visit is to find out how the parish is and to offer encouragement in all that we are doing to fulfil the mission entrusted to us by the Lord.

Fr Michael

ASH WEDNESDAY IS THE BEGINNING OF LENT WEDNESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2020

**MASS TIMES including the Distribution of Ashes
9.30am and 7.30pm**

**FRIDAYS DURING LENT
6.30am
Early Morning Mass**
Followed by a simple
breakfast for those
that are able to stay

**FRIDAYS DURING LENT
Stations of the Cross**
9.00am Led by Parishioners
~~~  
7.30pm Led by a Parish Group

YOUTH EVENT

### PANCAKE EVENING 2020

the launch of the Youth Lenten Campaign

**TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

**7pm - 8.30pm**

In the Parish Hall

*Preparing for Lent*

- 'Yummy' pancakes
- Homelessness Awareness talks
- Launching the Youth Lenten Campaign 2020
- Designing Posters for the Youth Lenten Campaign

**What are you giving up for LENT?**

*Give up indifference! Make a difference!*

**7<sup>th</sup> /8<sup>th</sup> March**

**TIMETABLE OF THE BISHOP PHILIP'S VISIT**

**Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>**

|        |                                                                            |
|--------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3.00pm | Bishop arrives and discussion with Fr Michael<br>Bishop meets Team Leaders |
| 4.30pm | Bishop meets Leadership Team                                               |
| 5.30pm | Bishop hears confessions                                                   |
| 6.30pm | Mass                                                                       |
| 7.30pm | Reception following Mass (bring & share)                                   |

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>**

|         |                                                 |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 9.30am  | Mass (followed by refreshments – bring & share) |
| 11.30am | Mass                                            |
| 12.30pm | Reception after Mass (bring & share)            |
| 1.30pm  | Lunch with Clergy                               |
| 3.00pm  | Adoration and prayers for vocations             |
| 4.00pm  | Meeting with youth of the parish                |
| 5.00pm  | Mass (followed by refreshments – bring & share) |
| 7.00pm  | Bishop departs                                  |

The regular **Craft Afternoon** will be on **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February** in Room 1. Come along any time between 2 and 5, bring your knitting, crochet or craft and enjoy the company.

**Altar Servers Meeting**  
**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February**  
at 2pm in the Church  
*In preparation for the Bishop's visit*

**VACANCY**  
**Principal**  
for St Joseph's Catholic Primary School,  
Thame, Oxfordshire  
See Noticeboard for more details

**Bishop Philip's Visit – 7/8 March 2020**

On his visit to English Martyrs Bishop Philip is very keen to meet as many of the parishioners as possible therefore a **'Bring and Share'** Reception will be held after each Mass that weekend for you to have the opportunity to meet with him. Buffet style finger foods will be served at each Bring and Share Reception and the food should reflect the diverse cultural elements of our community.

**6.30pm Mass** - savoury nibbles and some sweet dishes

**9.30am Mass** - *small croissants, brioche & small pastries*

**11.30am Mass** - Lunch dishes and some sweet dishes

**5.00pm Mass** - *Cakes and some savouries*

Thank you all very much for the offers of alcohol but as it is in the season of Lent we will abstain!!!



**RECENTLY DECEASED**

**Faith Buchan RIP** who died on 4<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Her requiem Mass will take place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 11.00am here at English Martyrs church, followed by cremation at West Berkshire Crematorium.

**Teresa Barneicott RIP** who died recently. Her requiem Mass will take place at St. William of York Church, Upper Redlands Road, Reading RG1 5JJ at 11.15am on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020, followed by burial at Reading Cemetery.

May they Rest in Peace. Please keep them and their loved ones in your prayers at this difficult time.



**Diocesan Day of Reparation  
for the Sins of Sexual Abuse.  
Sunday 1st March 2020**

Cathedral of St John the Evangelist, Portsmouth  
See the Noticeboard for a full programme of the day

**National Novena to St Joseph  
10<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

Takes place at St Josephs Church Maidenhead  
*See Poster for details.*

**Petition forms are available in the Colonnade**

A Novena booklet is available from  
St Josephs Missionary Society, Maidenhead (see poster)

**'Red Box' Thank You and Appeal**

Fr Vincent Oates MHM wishes to thank everyone in the parish for our welcome last weekend. If you did not get the chance to take a Red Box and you wish to do so, or you would like to find out more about Mission and the Mill Hill Missionaries, please speak to Anne Mullin or contact the Parish Office. You can also find more information or set up a direct Debit online at [mission.org.uk/about/apf](http://mission.org.uk/about/apf)



**WALKING THE ST JAMES WAY**

from Reading Abbey to Southampton in 6 stages on a Saturday **starting 21st March** at St James Church, Reading RG1 3FD. The route passes through beautiful countryside, past points of historic and religious interest, to a place where many pilgrims in former days will have set sail for Spain. Why not re-enact their journey by joining us this year?

Please email the St James parish office on [stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to register your interest. See poster in colonnade for full list of dates.

**"St John's Gospel – Going Deeper Into The Mystery"**

A talk by Fr Nick King SJ of Campion Hall, Oxford.

**MONDAY MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>**

7.30pm – 9.30pm

At English Martyrs Parish Hall



**EMMAUS GROUPS**

There are four 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? The next meeting is on

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30pm in Room 2**

Contact Richard Kennedy for more information  
T: 01189 416015 or E: [rk1500@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rk1500@hotmail.co.uk)

**YEAR OF THE WORD – THE GOD WHO SPEAKS  
READERS DAY**

**A Workshop especially for English Martyrs' Readers but open to other parishes in Reading**

Here at English Martyrs Parish Hall (in 2 sessions) on  
**2<sup>nd</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> May**

**10.00am – 1.00pm**

<https://www.godwhospeaks.org/readers>

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30am**

The **HEALTH AND SAFETY GROUP** will be meeting to review in "daylight" a number of small issues that have been raised. **We also would also like to invite all those involved in the welcome at the parish and anyone who has an interest in these issues to come along.** We will also include a short planning session for the Easter Services

## 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 at 5pm Mass**

**YOUNG MUSICIANS NEEDED**  
**If you play an instrument**  
**We would love to hear from you.**



## SUPERBOOK BIBLE app



<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=air.cbn.superbook.bible.app.android>

Aimed at young people app is also useful for adults.  
This could make for a perfect family time if watched together as a family.  
It is an easy and fun way to introduce young people to the Word of God.

## YOUTH

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY

**1<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

**9.30AM & 11.30AM MASSES**

**Children's newsletters available at the back of the church**

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

Parents Only Meeting  
7.30pm – 9.00pm in the Parish Hall

**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February**

Session 7 – Liturgy of the Word (Readings and psalm)  
Starts 9.15am (PROMPT) – 10.30am in the Church

## ELEVATE JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Meets every fortnight. The next session is

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

**4:30pm to 5:30pm** at English Martyrs Parish Hall.

The youth group is exciting and helps children  
of primary school age to grow in faith through fun based  
activities.

**New members are welcome**

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

### TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

Pancake Evening  
& Launch of Youth Lenten Campaign

### FRIDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

Teen Bible Timeline Session  
7pm – 8.30pm in the Parish Hall

### LEADERS WANTED

DO YOU LIKE YOUNG PEOPLE? ARE YOU ABLE TO OFFER YOUR TIME?

If you can help, please contact the Parish Office for more information

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

A WARM WELCOME to

**Ava Nnamdi- Maxwell** who will be baptised on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 1pm.

**Addison Catherine Rose Lennon** who will be baptised on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 2pm.

**Kal Constantine Silk** who will be baptised this Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February during the 11.30am Mass.

**Eddie John Maddock** who will be baptised on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February at 1pm.



Churches Together in Berkshire

### The Psalms

*In Study and Song*

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

10.30am – 4pm

Grange United Reform Church 139 Southcote Lane, RG30 3AJ

**See Noticeboard for more information**

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Parishioners Paula Wild & Gaynor Lloyd represent English  
Martyrs at Churches Together in West Reading

### St Paul's Catholic School's 50th

**Anniversary Open Afternoon**

**15th March 2020**

Obviously, there are so many past pupils and staff whose  
addresses we no longer have. Please take this as your  
official invitation to our Open Day. If you intend to come to  
visit us on that day please contact the office at

[office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)

**11th March 7.30pm:**

### PARISH LIFE AND WORSHIP IN MEDIEVAL READING.

An illustrated talk by a leading local  
historian, Joan Dils at Our Lady of  
Peace Church. Everyone welcome.

## DIOCESAN MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE DAY

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

**Open to all Married Couples**

10am – 4pm at English Martyrs Catholic Church, Reading

### 'Breakthrough'

A practical, solution-focused course for all stages of marriage. Drawing on  
contemporary research and Catholic theology, this course will arm you with the  
skills and insights to transform your relationship into the thriving,  
joy-filled encounter it is meant to be.

Differences of opinion or 'gridlock' in communication?

- this workshop can be helpful.

**If you would like to know more then**

**please contact the Parish Office**

### VOCATIONS

"Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am  
holy." Is your vocation to holiness to  
be lived out as a priest or in the  
consecrated life?

Contact Fr. John Cooke.

By phone 01329 318 869 or email

[vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)


Online resource: <https://www.wordonfire.org/> why not check it out?



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". Tel: 01183 225111


**Portsmouth Diocese Website**  
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>  
 You can sign up to receive the weekly ENews.

**PARISH MASS & SERVICES TIMETABLE**  
**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY TO SUNDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2020 (YEAR A)**

| <b>DAYS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                               | <b>TIMES</b> | <b>MASS INTENTIONS</b>                        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Vigil Mass – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b><br><b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>                                                                                                                           | 6.30pm       | Baptista Roque Dias RIP                       |
| <b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b><br><b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>                                                                                                                                          | 9.30 am      | John & Gertrude Burke RIP                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 11.30 am     | People of the Parish                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 5.00 pm      | Stanley Perera RIP                            |
| <b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    | 9.30am       | Fr. John Paul Lyttle Intention                |
| <b>Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b>                                                                                                                                                                                   | 9.30am       | Valencia Victoria De Araujo, Thanksgiving     |
|  <b>Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b><br>(A Day of Fasting & Abstinence)                                     | 9.30am       | Groucott family, Thanksgiving                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 7.30pm       | Lilian Anyacho and family, Thanksgiving       |
| <b>Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  | 9.30am       | Birthday Blessings for Diney & Chad           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 10am to 9pm  | Continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 7.30pm       | Aidan Farrelly RIP                            |
| <b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>                                                                                                                                                                                    | 6.30am       | Billy Ridge RIP                               |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 8.00 -8.55am | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 9.00am       | Stations of the Cross                         |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 9.30am       | P. J. Togher RIP                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 10am to 9pm  | Continuous Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 11.00am      | <b>Requiem for Faith Buchan RIP</b>           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 7.30pm       | Stations of the Cross                         |
| <b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>                                                                                                                                                   | 11.00am      | Private Intention                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3pm - 4pm    | <b>Divine Mercy Devotions</b>                 |
| <b>Vigil Mass – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February</b><br><b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>                                                                                                                                      | 6.30pm       | John Forbes RIP                               |
| <b>Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b><br><b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>                                                                                                                                                         | 9.30am       | McMahon Family RIP                            |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 11.30 am     | Tom Murray RIP                                |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 5.00 pm      | People of the Parish                          |
| <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:</b> Sat. 11.30–12.30pm, Sun. 8am–9am, Mon-Thurs. 8.25am–9.25am, Fri 8.00am–8.55am<br>Thurs 10.00am – 9.00pm, Fri 10.00am – 9pm then 9.30pm – 6.30am Sat. Vigil (in the Baptistry) |              |                                               |
| <b>Confessions: Saturday 5.30 – 6.15pm and Sunday 4.00 – 4.45pm</b>                                                                                                                                                       |              |                                               |

|                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>COUNTERS</b><br>23 <sup>rd</sup> February: Anthea Carroll,<br>Gwen Price & Anna Rosario<br>1 <sup>st</sup> March: Teresa Ennis, Pauline Xavier<br>& Alice Mascarenhas | <b>CHURCH CLEANING</b><br>Friday: 21 <sup>st</sup> February<br>Team 4: Liz & Hermina,<br><b>MORE CLEANERS NEEDED.</b><br>Contact the Parish Office | <b>WEEKLY COLLECTION: 16th February</b><br>Envelopes: £194.75<br>Loose: £866.11 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

|                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Weds 4<sup>th</sup> March</b>                     | Fairtrade LECTURE by the CEO of Café Direct, John Steel. Free but booking is required at <a href="https://www.reading.ac.uk/news-and-events/about-eventlist.aspx">https://www.reading.ac.uk/news-and-events/about-eventlist.aspx</a> |
| <b>7<sup>th</sup> March</b>                          | <b>DIOCESAN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE DAY</b> – 11.00am – 5pm. See Noticeboard for more details                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>12<sup>th</sup> March</b>                         | <b>SACRAMENT FOR THE SICK</b> at St Joseph's Tilehurst 2 p.m. (followed by tea & biscuits)                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> March</b>         | Loving for Life RETREAT at Douai Abbey – See Noticeboard for more details                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Sun. 28<sup>th</sup> June</b>                     |  <b>DIOCESAN DAY OF CELEBRATION</b> of the Word of God - More information to follow                                                               |
| <b>26<sup>th</sup> July to 1<sup>st</sup> August</b> | 'Don Bosco' Boys Camp at St Cassian's Kintbury. Run by Portsmouth Diocese. Cost £210 (part bursaries may be available). <a href="mailto:dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a>                       |

\* Please can the parishioner who offered to help with painting Room 3 of the parish centre contact the Parish Office \*