



# YEAR OF THE WORD – THE GOD WHO SPEAKS

## ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

25<sup>TH</sup>/26<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2020

3rd Sunday of Easter

## 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.



In these strangest of times we continue what has become known as 'lockdown'. I am sure that we all recognise the need for this measure to counteract the spread of the coronavirus and the need for us all to play our part in social distancing. We can only hope and pray that it will not last too much longer and, more importantly, that the coronavirus will be brought under control and a vaccine found.

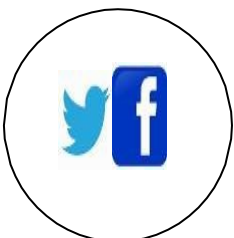
I am conscious that lockdown is putting many individuals and families under considerable pressure. I live in splendid isolation at 64 Liebenrood Road where I have no one to argue with other than myself. What I have been enjoying is an early morning walk in Prospect Park as well as the regular pattern of prayer each day that we have been live streaming on the parish website. But I know that for many this time of lockdown has led to loneliness and anxiety, and the loss of the usual routines for families has led to an increase in stress and conflict.

It seems to me that God is speaking to us very profoundly at the present time. It seems that we are being reminded about what is important in life, and what is of less importance. We are being encouraged to use this time to deepen our relationship with God and to pray more. We are being challenged to reach out in love to those in most need and to build a great human solidarity. Perhaps there is a lesson to learn about living life at a less frenetic pace and to making more time for what is important.

Two disciples, in the gospel this Sunday, leave Jerusalem confused and downcast because they believe the death of Jesus on the cross has been a terrible failure. Their dreams are shattered. But then Jesus walks by their side, explains the Scriptures to them and their hearts burn within them. Then they recognise him at the breaking of bread but he had vanished from their sight.

We are confused and downcast at the present time not knowing quite what the future holds. But this can be a time of encounter with the person of Jesus as it was for those disciples leaving Jerusalem. Be sure to keep an eye on our parish website for all that is on offer to help us to grow spiritually. Allow Jesus into your heart in a profoundly new way.

Fr Michael



All the latest information about the Parish is updated regularly on the website so do check in regularly if you can: [www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk](http://www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk)

We also have a livestream on You Tube.

**If you are using a smartphone to access the livestream, you can again just click on a link on the front page of the website and you will be taken straight in.**

# Online updates—opportunities for people to connect

## Calendar

There is now a parish calendar available at <https://www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk/calendar> which will have all that is happening in the Parish across the variety of platforms (Zoom, Livestream, Teams etc). Do keep checking back as information will be updated daily.

## Prayer and Adoration

We are putting aside an hour each day for prayer and adoration on our Livestream and invite people to be part of this at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4L3g7Z\\_ads](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q4L3g7Z_ads).

### Monday to Saturday

**9.00am** Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Office of Readings, 9.30am silent prayer and reflection before the Blessed Sacrament, 9.40am Morning Prayer and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

### Sunday

**5.00pm** Exposition of Blessed Sacrament and Evening Prayer, 5.30pm silent prayer and reflection before the Blessed Sacrament, 5.50pm Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

## Spiritual Connections

Building on what we have had over the last couple of weeks with James and Fr John we are expanding this to cover each day at 11am. These will be held over Zoom (details will be on the parish calendar <https://www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk/calendar>) and are open for anyone to come who wishes to get involved. They cover a variety of themes so do log in and join us.

The plan for next week:

- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April – [A Biblical Walk Through Mass](#)
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April – [Mary Magdalen: an encounter with the Risen Christ](#)
- Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April – [Praying the Holy Rosary together; The Glorious Mysteries](#)
- Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April – [A session with Fr John looking at the Eucharist \(John 6\)](#)
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May – [The Stations of the Resurrection](#)

**Young People’s Virtual ‘Hang Out’—Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April**, the young people will have a virtual hang out at 11am. These sessions will continue each week.

## Praise and Worship

[Friday 1st May](#), starting at 7.30pm after Mass and then finishing with night prayer at 9pm.

## An extra Sunday Mass

Starting this weekend, there will be an evening Mass at 7pm on Sundays.

## Daily Mass on Saturday morning

Adoration will be followed by daily Mass at **10am**.

## PARISH OUTREACH



We all have our own network of friends, families and neighbours. Please take the time to check that they are well and if they need support during this period of enforced isolation. The parish can arrange for a 'befriender' to call them. Contact: [onarowberry@hotmail.com](mailto:onarowberry@hotmail.com) if you would like to be part of the team connecting with the wider community or if you know somebody in need of support.

If it is YOU who are in need of some telephone support then please do just let us know.

### HAVE YOU SIGNED UP TO OUR PARISH REGISTER YET?

This would help us to reach the maximum number of people.

<https://p1.pamis.co.uk/cwreading/onlinee16cb5>

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



Thank you to those Parishioners who normally, very kindly, donate to our Parish using the envelopes when they attend Mass. The new envelopes have arrived and will be distributed once the church has reopened. For now, you are able to pay electronically if you wish, using the following back details:

Bank: Lloyds  
Account No. 00885666  
Sort code 30 -93-04  
Name PRCDTR English Martyrs Reading

OR

You can donate using the following link which is available on the parish website

[DONATE NOW](#)

OR

You can set up a regular Direct Debit or Standing Order payment. Either do it online or download forms from our website  
**IF YOU ARE A TAXPAYER THEN YOU CAN GIFT AID YOUR DONATION AND INCREASE ITS VALUE BY 25% AT NO ADDITIONAL COST TO YOURSELF.**

## Going into Hospital



Anointing of the sick

If you or a loved one is taken into hospital, you or your family are the only people who can let the Catholic Chaplaincy know that you would like the priest to be called in an emergency. Hospital staff are not allowed to ask you.

As family access to the hospital may be restricted at the moment, it is suggested that you prepare a note asking for a priest to be called in an emergency situation. This should be taken with you when you go to hospital and given to hospital staff on arrival.

It would be helpful for the family to follow this up by ringing the hospital and making the same request: 0118 322 7105

Priests are still willing and able to go into hospital to minister to patients in emergency situations.

Write your note now when you hope that you won't need it and put it in an easy place to find.



**YOU MAY RECEIVE AN EMAIL IN THE COMING WEEKS FROM [EMartyrsreading@Gmail.com](mailto:EMartyrsreading@Gmail.com) THESE ARE GENUINE!**

## Additional Masses



On Sundays, there will now be a Mass at 7pm in addition to the morning one at 10am.

On Saturday mornings, there will be an hour of adoration starting at 9am (including Office of Readings and Morning Prayer) and Mass will follow at 10am.

We will still have one less Mass on a Sunday so some Mass intentions have been moved to a new date but all Masses that have been requested already will be said at some point.

No New Mass Intentions are being taken just at the moment but we will let you know when you can request an intention again.

<b>Mass Intentions: Monday 20th April to Sunday 3rd May</b>		
<b><i>Third Sunday of Easter</i></b>		
<b>Saturday 25th April (Vigil Mass for Sunday)</b>	<b>7pm</b>	Krystyna Jasinska RIP
<b>Sunday 26th April</b>	<b>10am</b>	Kathleen Gaughan RIP & Kevin Commins RIP
	<b>7pm New Mass</b>	Anthony Joseph RIP
Monday 27th April	7pm	Annamarie Herbert Intentions
Tuesday 28th April	7pm	Bill McMahon Intentions
Wednesday 29th April	7pm	Paul William Knight RIP
Thursday 30th April	7pm	SVP Mass for John Howard RIP
Friday 1st May	7pm	John & Marjory Lee RIP
Saturday 2nd May	10am New Mass	John Cassey RIP
<b><i>Fourth Sunday of Easter</i></b>		
<b>Saturday 2nd May (Vigil Mass for Sunday)</b>	<b>7pm</b>	Sue Ferreira RIP
<b>Sunday 3rd May</b>	<b>10am</b>	Stephen Leonard RIP
	<b>7pm New Mass</b>	People of the parish

## **ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH, READING**

64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB

Registered Charity No. 246871

**Parish Priest:** Canon Michael Dennehy  [mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Assisting Priest:** Fr Richard Maniak

**Parish Office:** closed until further notice but phone and e-mail still monitored.

 0118 957 2149  [englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Safeguarding Officer:** Charlie McArthur. Contact through parish office number.

**Schools:** **English Martyrs Catholic Primary School**, Dee Road, Reading RG30 4BE

Head: Mrs Doberska  0118 937 5466

**Bl. Hugh Faringdon School**, Fawley Road, Reading RG30 3EP

Head: Dr Simon Uttley  0118 957 4730