

ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

6th Sunday of Easter

16th/17th MAY 2020



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 recent weeks we have lived and experienced what feels like a new reality. The global coronavirus pandemic has led to lockdown and a restriction of our freedoms that we would have never anticipated in a free society. It appears that we will have to live with some form of restriction for some time.

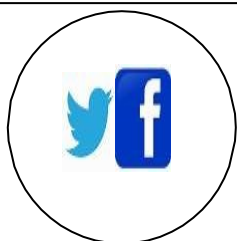
It is perhaps an insight into the new reality experienced by the early Christians following the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Pentecost experience of the coming of the Holy Spirit transformed the disciples of Jesus into passion-filled and on-fire witnesses to the Risen Lord. They went on to proclaim the Good News to the ends of the earth.

As we prepare for the Feast of Pentecost on May 31, I invite you to join with me in praying a Novena to the Holy Spirit. For nine days, beginning on Friday 22 at 6:30am we will use Zoom to come together as a people praying for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on our Parish. We have already received the gift of the Spirit in Baptism and in Confirmation we were sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Novena gives us an opportunity to nurture the gift of the Spirit within us and to pray for a renewal of that wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit.

I invite you to pray with courage and conviction that the Holy Spirit will indeed renew us and renew the face of the earth. We need to pray as if we really believed in what we are asking for. It is not that God tires of giving us what we need, it is we who tire of asking God. Let us pray therefore with great faith and insistence because what we are seeking is to become more fully that which God created us to be and in turn to set the world on fire with the fire of God's love.

If we pray in this way, we need to prepare our minds and hearts to be ready to receive with great joy that which God is going to give us. You will find the Zoom link on the front page of the parish website englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk and click on this between 6:20 am and 6:30 am on each of the nine mornings. Please spread the word to friends and family about this and let our Parish be transformed through a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

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

We also have a livestream on You Tube.

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

Online updates—opportunities to connect and grow spiritually

◆ 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.

| Sunday 17th | Mon 18th | Tues 19th | Wed 20th | Thurs 21st | Fri 22nd | Sat 23rd |
|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| 10 am Mass | 9am Adoration & morning prayer | 9am Adoration & morning prayer | 9am Adoration & morning prayer | 9am Adoration & morning prayer | 6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom | 9am Adoration & morning prayer |
| 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet | 11am Spiritual connection: A Biblical Walk Through Mass | 11am Spiritual connection: "The Bible: an encounter with Scripture" | 10am Emmaus group | 11am Spiritual connection: Fr John examines the life and faith of Mary (zoom) | Meeting ID: 934 7853 3466 Password: 123456 To dial on call: 0203 481 5240 and follow instructions using the meeting ID and Password. | 2.30—4 Craft and chat room on Zoom. Email cath_harrington@compuserve.com for invite. |
| 3pm Under fives liturgy on Zoom Join Zoom Meeting | 3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link . | 3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link . | 11am Spiritual connection: Praying the Holy Rosary together; The Glorious Mysteries | 3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link . | 9am Adoration & morning prayer | 3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link . |
| Bring your Teddy Bear and share your week with us. | 4.30pm Youth Choir. Contact Sr Vivian for details | 6.30 Rosary | 3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link . | 3.30 Thursday Emmaus Group | 11am Spiritual connection: The Stations of the Resurrection | 4.15-5.15 Youth hangout 12-15yrs Contact via Sr Vivian |
| 5pm Adoration and Benediction | 6.30 Rosary | 7pm Journey in Faith | 6.30 Rosary | 6.30 Rosary | 3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom | 6.30 Rosary |
| 6.30pm Rosary | 7pm Monday Emmaus Group | 7pm Mass | 7pm Glow | 7pm Mass | 4.30 Elevate on zoom | 7pm Mass |
| 7pm Mass led by English Martyrs School | 7pm Mass | 9pm Night prayer | 7pm Mass | 9pm Night prayer | 5.30 A prayerful journey through Acts(Acts 8v4-8) Open to all; on Zoom , just click here . | 9pm Night prayer |
| 9pm Night prayer | 9pm Night prayer | | 9pm Night prayer | | 6.30 Rosary | |
| | | | | | 7pm Mass led by BHF school | |
| | | | | | 9pm Night prayer | |

You can get to all the activities underlined and in blue by hovering over them and holding CTRL until the arrow changes into a hand. When you can see a little hand, click once and you will be taken to the right place.

Using an i-pad/tablet or computer to get livestreamed Mass

- At the bottom of the screen, click once on whatever you use to get onto the internet.
- Type **English Martyrs parish Reading** into the box in the middle of the screen and push the enter button on your keyboard. You should see English Martyrs Parish: HOME on the page that opens.
- Move the arrow over English Martyrs Parish: HOME until the arrow changes to a little hand. When you can see the little hand, click once.
- You will now see the parish website and will see a picture labelled 'English Martyrs Reading—Livestream. There is a shape in the middle with a triangle in it. Sliding the arrow over it changes the arrow to a hand and the rectangle turns red. When you can see the hand, click once.
- You may get straight in to the livestream, or you may see video unavailable. Don't panic :-)
- Move the arrow over the words watch this video on YouTube until it turns into a hand and click.




www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk

English Martyrs Parish: HOME

The English Martyrs' Roman Catholic Church Part of the Re...

Martyrs is a welcoming community, inviting, encouraging and...

processed in accordance with the Diocese's Privacy Notice.



Video unavailable
[Watch this video on YouTube.](#)
 Playback on other websites has been disabled by the video owner.

The livestream is running all day so you can practice whenever you like. If Mass is not on, you will see a series of notices rotating with a picture of the church in the corner. Have a go :-)

Dear Parishioners

I am writing to you with an update on parish finances. At the end of March, we had £86,000 in our Parish bank accounts, a healthy position to be in during this period of uncertainty from coronavirus. However, since the closure of our church due to the virus, our current reduced income is insufficient to cover our running costs by approximately £1,500 a month. This is income that ordinarily we would receive in the weekend collections. I understand that these are challenging and uncertain times financially for many parishioners and I ask only that anyone who is able to afford to, to consider signing up to start a new standing order or a direct debit or increase an existing commitment. If 75 parishioners each signed up to contribute £20 a month, this would cover the shortfall.



We would also like to use some of the money in our bank account to purchase some new IT equipment. Clearly Covid-19 has impacted our daily lives, including the celebration of Mass. It is a key focus to make sure we continue offering Mass via the internet and, as and when lockdown lifts, we are keen to continue this as a great way to reach out to those unable to attend Mass. To do this, we need more stable IT equipment and that comes at a cost of £4000 approximately. **I am very grateful for donations received already amounting to £2156.25 including Gift Aid.** We are therefore hoping that by either starting a direct debit, or increasing an existing one, we will be able to purchase new equipment to ensure this happens (and in some cases hopefully improve the broadcasting quality!)

It has been so positive to see the increase in numbers joining our online Mass, faith formation and prayer. Knowing that I am able to provide this support to you all at home during this time of coronavirus is very important to me.

We also need to carry out the much-needed repairs of the hall roof if we have sufficient reserves to do this. We hope to have indicative costs shortly.

Details of how to sign up can be found on our parish website at englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk

Thank you for your support.

Fr. Michael.

A video thumbnail for 'Pentecost Novena'. The background is a golden sunburst with a white dove in the center. Text on the left reads: 'Pentecost Novena', 'Starting on Friday 22nd May', '6.30 - 7.00 am Via Zoom', and 'You can access this by clicking the link on the front page of the church website or on the church calendar'. There are 'Watch later' and 'Share' icons at the top right, and a play button icon in the center.

Find out more about the Pentecost Novena in this video which is on the parish website. Then invite people to join in. We can accommodate 1000 people in our zoom thanks to a generous parishioner.. Let's fill it.

Going into Hospital



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
THESE ARE GENUINE!**

**Mass Intentions:
Saturday 16th -Sunday 24th May**

| | | |
|---|-------------|---|
| <i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i> | | |
| Saturday 16th May (Vigil Mass for Sunday) | 7pm | Stephen Leonard RIP |
| Sunday 17th May | 10am | Theotonia Goes RIP |
| | 7pm | People of the parish |
| Monday 18 th May | 7pm | Mick Burke RIP |
| Tuesday 19 th May | 7pm | Stephen Leonard RIP (moved from 28th March) |
| Wednesday 20 th May | 7pm | Thomas Knight Intention |
| Thursday 21 st May <i>Ascension, solemnity</i> | 7pm | Fr. Gregory Moore RIP |
| Friday 22 nd May | 7pm | Lucy Hope RIP (moved from 29th March) |
| Saturday 23 rd May | 10am | Dave Renshaw RIP |
| <i>Seventh Sunday of Easter</i> | | |
| Saturday 23rd May (Vigil Mass for Sunday) | 7pm | Blessings Received |
| Sunday 24th May | 10am | Kathleen Gaughan RIP & Kevin Commins RIP |
| | 7pm | 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

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

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