

ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

7th Sunday of Easter

23rd/24th 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.

This Sunday comes between the great Feasts of Ascension and Pentecost. Following the Ascension of Jesus into heaven, we are told in the Acts of the Apostles this Sunday, that when the disciples reached Jerusalem they went to the Upper Room where they were staying. They were joined by several women including Mary, the mother of Jesus.

The disciples as well as the mother of Jesus, would have been feeling great sadness at the departure of Jesus from them. They would have been feeling fear at the thought of what might happen to them, anxiety at what might be expected of them as well as feeling abandoned. Out of these feelings they prayed with great fervour to God. We are told that they prayed continuously until the Holy Spirit descended upon them in the form of tongues of fire and they were given the gift of languages.

Perhaps we are feeling some of the emotions felt by the disciples and Our Lady as they prayed. Feelings of isolation and abandonment are common at this time of coronavirus lockdown, fear and anxiety, worry as to what the future holds and feelings of abandonment. But it is important to pray from the reality of who we are and from what we are experiencing and feeling, rather than pretending we are somebody other than who we are or feeling something other than what we are truly feeling.

I invite you to participate in the Novena to the Holy Spirit which began on Friday in our parish. It is an opportunity to pray through this experience of lockdown and the ongoing global coronavirus pandemic. It is an amazing experience together with other Christians from Reading, and beyond, to pray with great intensity for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

You can join the Novena simply by going to the front page of the parish website and with one click you are through. Please invite others to join in this important period of prayer for our parish. In a wonderful way, through the darkness of the present time, our parish is hosting this transforming experience of prayer to the Holy Spirit. Please join us at 6:30 am each morning until Saturday 30th. We will then be prepared to celebrate the great Feast of Pentecost, with minds and hearts renewed and ready to bear abundant fruit for the Lord. Come, 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 24th	Mon 25th	Tues 26th	Wed 27th	Thurs 28th	Fri 29th	Sat 30th
6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom	6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom	6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom	6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom	6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom	6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom	6.30am Pentecost Novena on zoom
10 am Mass	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer	Meeting ID: 934 7853 3466 Password: 123456 To dial on call: 0203 481 5240 and follow instructions using the meeting ID and Password.	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: Praying the Holy Rosary together; The Glorious Mysteries	9am Adoration & morning prayer	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 .	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: The Stations of the Resurrection	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	6.30 Rosary	6.30 Rosary	3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom	4.15-5.15 Youth hangout 12-15yrs Contact via Sr Vivian
5pm Adoration and Benediction	6.30 Rosary	7pm Journey in Faith	7pm Mass	7pm Mass	5.30 A prayerful journey through Acts(Acts 8v4-8) Open to all; on Zoom , just click here .	6.30 Rosary
6.30pm Rosary	7pm Monday Emmaus Group	7pm Mass	9pm Night prayer	9pm Night prayer	7pm Mass led by BHF school	7pm Mass
7pm Mass led by English Martyrs School	9pm Night prayer	9pm Night prayer			9pm Night prayer	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.



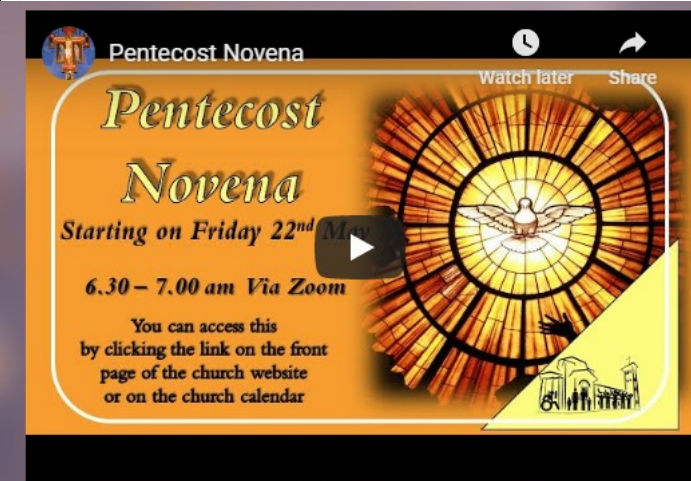
www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk
English Martyrs Parish: HOME
 The English Martyrs' Roman Catholic Church Part of the Real Martyrs is a welcoming community, inviting, encouraging and processed in accordance with the Diocese's Privacy Notice.



Video unavailable
 Watch this video on YouTube.
 Playback on other websites has been removed by the 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 :-)

In this Pentecost Novena (nine days of prayer) we are intentionally calling on the Holy Spirit to renew and revitalise our faith today just as the apostles were strengthened at the first Pentecost. With the Holy Spirit burning within us we too will be transformed. We will renew our parish and go out to tell people about Jesus. Come Holy Spirit.



More than 100 people prayed together on the first two mornings. If you didn't make it then, join when you can. You can come to all nine or just one. 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.

CAFOD Coronavirus Emergency Appeal

CAFOD's first response to coronavirus has been to change its entire programme of work in the 40 countries where it is working. With everything stacked against them, our brothers and sisters have never needed our prayers, love and support so much. CAFOD is therefore asking us to support its Coronavirus Emergency Appeal which was launched on 30th April. We can donate to this as individuals on line at

cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal.

MFL Teacher vacancy at Bl Hugh Faringdon

We are seeking to appoint a Teacher of MFL (French and Spanish) to work alongside a forward thinking and supportive team. The successful candidate will demonstrate passion for their subject as well as a commitment to improving student outcomes across the age and ability range.

For further details and an application form contact Karyn Stiles, HR Officer on 0118 918 3806 or k.stiles@hughfaringdon.org

Alternatively, an application form can be downloaded from our website www.hughfaringdon.org/us/vacancies

Closing Date – 12pm, Wednesday 3 June 2020

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children and young people and expects all staff to share this commitment. This post is subject to a satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service enhanced disclosure certificate.

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.

Mass Intentions: Seventh Week of Easter

<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
Monday 25 th May	7pm	Ella Bartolome, Thanksgiving (moved from 12th April)
Tuesday 26 th May	7pm	Stephen Leonard RIP from <i>Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus</i> (moved from 2nd April)
Wednesday 27 th May	7pm	Reg Singleton RIP
Thursday 28 th May	7pm	John Ryce RIP (50th Anniversary)
Friday 29 th May	7pm	Marian Hickey RIP (moved from 12th April)
Saturday 30 th May	10am	Kazimierz Wiewowska RIP
<i>Pentecost</i>		
Saturday 30th May (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	7pm	Bridie Isaacs RIP
Sunday 31st May	10am	Peter Sheppard 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



SAVE THE DATE:

31st May: Solemnity of Pentecost

7th June: Trinity Sunday

**9th June: 30th anniversary of
Fr Michael's ordination**

11th June: Corpus Christi

