

ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

Solemnity of Pentecost

30th/31st MAY 2020

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.



We celebrate this Sunday the great Feast of Pentecost. Throughout Lent and Eastertide, we have adjusted to the new reality of the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions imposed to combat the spread of coronavirus. We now celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, renewed in the power of the Holy Spirit and strengthened to embrace the changed reality ahead of us.

We have felt the pain of Catholics not being able to physically attend and participate in the celebration of the Mass and the other sacraments. Our faith is expressed powerfully and beautifully through 'seeing, touching and tasting.' It has been difficult for people not being able to pray in church and receive the sacraments. The plight of bereaved families who have not been able to have the funeral for their loved one they would have hoped for has also been painful. Weddings too have had to be postponed. At least now, though we have no fixed date, we are doing detailed planning for a return to church in a manner that adheres to government rules.

I encourage us all to take great strength, solace and courage from the celebration of the Feast of Pentecost. As the disciples of Jesus had experienced the terrible events of the crucifixion and death of Our Lord, they were slow to believe that he had risen. Following his ascension, they prayed, with Our Lady in the Upper Room. Frightened and traumatised, they prayed with great fervour and faith. The Holy Spirit descended upon them in the form of tongues of fire and they received the gift of tongues. Uninhibited by all that had gone before, they boldly went everywhere proclaiming the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ.

We have been praying our Novena to the Holy Spirit. As we have prayed, now let us be ready to receive. Let us open our hearts and our minds to the guidance and prompting of the Holy Spirit. Let us embrace, not reluctantly, but enthusiastically where the Holy Spirit is guiding us. In this way the experience of death and darkness can, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, become an experience of life and light. If we can fully embrace that which the Holy Spirit is offering, then the face of the earth will truly be renewed.

On this Feast of Pentecost, let us not be afraid. Renewed and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, I pray that the Parish of the English Martyrs will embrace in a new way the commission of Jesus to his disciples that we heard on Ascension Thursday. "Go, make disciples of all the nations." This mission is now entrusted to us. May the Holy Spirit enable us to be faithful in fulfilling the mission we have received.

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 31st	Mon 1st June	Tues 2nd June	Wed 3rd June	Thurs 4th June	Fri 5th June	Sat 6th June
10 am Mass	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer	9am Adoration & morning prayer
1pm Pentecost lunch on zoom	11am Spiritual connection:	11am Spiritual connection:	10am Emmaus group	11am Spiritual connection:	11am Spiritual connection:	2.30—4 Craft and chat room on Zoom. Email cath_harrington@compuserve.com for invite.
3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet	A Biblical Walk Through Mass	“The Bible: an encounter with Scripture”	11am Spiritual connection:	Fr John examines the lives of the prophets (zoom)	The Stations of the Resurrection	
3pm Under fives liturgy on Zoom	3pm Divine Mercy	3pm Divine Mercy	Praying the Holy Rosary together; The Glorious Mysteries	3pm Divine Mercy	3pm Divine Mercy	3pm Divine Mercy
Join Zoom Meeting	Join us on Zoom just click on the link .	Join us on Zoom just click on the link .	Join us on Zoom just click on the link .	Join us on Zoom just click on the link .	Join us on Zoom	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	7pm Journey in Faith	3pm Divine Mercy	3.30 Thursday Emmaus Group	4.30pm Elevate Youth on zoom	4.15-5.15 Youth hangout 12-15yrs Contact via Sr Vivian
5pm Adoration and Benediction	7pm Monday Emmaus Group	7pm Mass	Join us on Zoom just click on the link .	7pm Mass	5.30 A prayerful journey through Acts(Acts 8v4-8) Open to all; on Zoom , just click here .	7pm Mass
7pm Mass led by English Martyrs School	7pm Mass	9pm Night prayer	7pm Mass	9pm Night prayer	7pm Mass	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 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 :-)



Dial-a-Mass

Struggling to get Mass on the internet?

You can now ring 0800 4702477 to listen to a recording of the last Sunday Mass from English Martyrs parish.

It won't cost you anything, just dial the number and you will hear the Mass start.

Do you know somebody who would like to hear Mass on the phone?

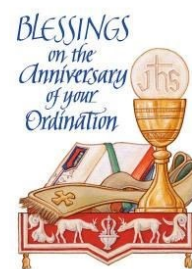
Spread the word.



As we cannot gather in person to celebrate Pentecost this year, we will have a

[zoom gathering](#) from 1-2pm. Children from the youth choir will be singing. Wear your national clothing, have a chat.

Fr Michael's Ordination Anniversary



On 9th June Fr Michael celebrates his ordination anniversary and this year marks 30 years as a priest.

The readings and music for the 7pm Mass that evening will be arranged by members of Fr Michael's family and friends.

National Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life

On Tuesday 23rd June, the Vigil of the Feast of St John the Baptist, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia.

Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed.

Poster on the website.

Leaving lockdown

There is no date given for opening the churches again yet. Background planning is going on to work out how EM can be opened up in a socially distanced way. When the plans are ready, it is really important to be able to contact people by e-mail. Please make sure that you register electronically on the parish database to be included in emails at:

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

How you can make a financial contribution to English Martyrs Parish?

Standing order*: the advantage of a standing order is that you can stop it, restart it, increase it or decrease it any time to suit you. You can download the form from our website which we can send to your bank or you can set this up yourself.

Direct debit: this scheme is administered by the Diocese in Portsmouth. You can download the form from EM website.

Envelopes: these are for each week of the year and you can contribute each week what is right for you. We would ask at this time that you do not include coins. Notes or cheques are fine.

Cheques: you can post or drop of a cheque through the letterbox at the Presbytery. Please make cheques payable to 'PRCDTR Reading English Martyrs Church'. Cheques are being banked every couple of weeks.

Cash: you can drop off cash in an envelope through the letterbox at the Presbytery or post it to us. We would ask that you do not include coins at this time.

Donate button: you can click on the donate button on our website, this does include an option to gift aid your contribution. Includes a transaction fee of 4.8%.

***standing orders are our preferred method of receiving contributions.**

Gift aid

We would ask that you complete a gift aid declaration for any of the above options if you are a UK tax payer as this enables us to claim an additional 25% from the government on top of what you have donated. You can download a gift aid declaration form from the parish website. This can be signed and dated and scanned back to englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or posted or dropped through the letterbox at the presbytery.

Bank account details

Bank account name: PRCDTR Reading English Martyrs

Account number: 00885666 Sort code: 30-93-04

Parish address

Parish Office, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading. RG30 2EB

How much to contribute

This is up to each individual and should be what you can afford. Our current average planned giving contribution is £30 and range from £2 to over £100 a month. Some parishioners do increase their planned contributions each year and if we ask that you consider this if you are able to.

Copies of forms

If you would like any of the printed forms printed off and posted or dropped off to you, please email englishmartyrs@wycomeabbey.com and we can organise this. Thank you for your support.



Fr. Michael.

**Mass Intentions:
Ninth week of Ordinary Time**

<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
Monday 1st June	7pm	Stephen Leonard RIP (moved from 3 rd April)
Tuesday 2nd June	7pm	Kate Knollys RIP
Wednesday 3rd June	7pm	Kathleen Maughan RIP
Thursday 4th June	7pm	Bill Canning RIP
Friday 5th June	7pm	Aidan Farrelly RIP (moved from 5 th April)
Saturday 6th June	10am	Brigid Ita Guidera RIP
<i>The Most Holy Trinity</i>		
Saturday 6th June (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	7pm	Kathleen Soares RIP
Sunday 7th June	10am	Krystyna Pietrzyk 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
Zoom 'Pentecost lunch'
1-2pm.

7th June: Trinity Sunday

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

11th June: Corpus Christi

