



ENGLISH MARTYRS' NEWSLETTER

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1-2 August 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 have all been through a challenging time since the beginning of lockdown in March. Anxiety about Covid-19 has had an impact on all of us. However, now that the school holidays are upon us, I hope that we can all take a time of rest and relaxation. With that in mind there will be fewer opportunities for prayer and formation on offer in the coming weeks.

In September and throughout the autumn our focus in the Parish will be on Alpha. Alpha is a series of interactive sessions that explore different aspects of the Christian faith. It is for Catholics who want to deepen their faith as well as for non-Catholics and non-Christians who seek faith in the living God and in his Son Jesus Christ.

Alpha helps people to grow in love of Jesus and to grow in relationship with others. It provides a great chance for people to explore their faith, to ask questions, to talk about their beliefs and tell their stories. By engaging with the Christian faith in a way that connects with our everyday lives Alpha creates the space for people to experience a transformational encounter with Jesus. It is a great opportunity to make new friends. It is a beginning for many people of a spiritual journey.

Due to Covid-19 Alpha will be online. If we needed a demonstration of how effective an online experience can be, then we had it with the Novena to the Holy Spirit in the lead up to Pentecost. By the end of the Novena 200 people from all over the world were praying in an intentional way for a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It has been a blessing of lockdown that technology has been so useful in bringing people together and enabling them to pray and share in this way.

Alpha will start in mid-September and continue until the end of November. It will take place weekly. There will be Alpha Groups where everyone can feel they belong including teenagers, young adults, older adults, and people of all faith backgrounds and none. Each Alpha session will last approximately one hour and fifteen minutes and will consist of welcome, prayer, twenty-five minute high-quality video about a particular aspect of the Gospel message and twenty-five minutes of listening, sharing and discussing in small groups with the guidance of a host.

Catholic parishes all over the world are now running Alpha. It is invitational and welcoming. It encourages, equips, and supports new people to become leaders. It is informative in helping people to appreciate the nature of God and the power of the Holy Spirit.

I invite everyone to think about participating in Alpha in the autumn. You can be part of the prayer team, the technical team, the welcoming team, the hosting team or as a participant. There is a place for everyone. I pray that by the grace of God we as a parish can offer a truly transformational experience of faith to as many people as possible that will enable us all to embrace a deeper relationship

Fr Michael



All the latest information about the Parish is updated regularly on the website so do check in regularly if you can: www.englishmartyrsg.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.

ENGLISH MARTYRS EVANGELISATION AND DISCIPLESHIP DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Part time: 35 hours per week, with weekend and evening work required

Based at: English Martyrs, 64 Liebenrood Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG30 2EB

Salary commensurate with skills and experience

We are seeking an Evangelisation and Discipleship Development Officer to move and grow towards our parish vision of 'English Martyrs is a welcoming community, inviting, encouraging and supporting all to have an ever-deepening relationship with Jesus'.

Values: The post holder will be required to work within and represent the principles, ethos and values of the Diocese of Portsmouth and the Parish of English Martyrs in all aspects of their work.

Policies and procedures: The post-holder will work in line with the Policies & Procedures of the Diocese of Portsmouth. They will also be required to ensure that service users/clients, staff and volunteers are treated in accordance with the Equal Opportunities policy of the Diocese of Portsmouth with particular emphasis on anti-discriminatory practice and the promotion of the rights of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Safeguarding: The post-holder will be required to ensure that children, young people and vulnerable adults are safeguarded, and must be aware that everyone has a safeguarding responsibility and a duty to refer any safeguarding concerns they may have to their line manager.

Please see Job Description and Person Specification for the role [here](#)

If you would like a confidential discussion about the role please contact:

Rev Canon Michael Dennehy VG

mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Tel: 0118 957 2149

Please apply by sending in your CV and a covering letter explaining the reasons for your application and how you meet the person specification. No more than 2 sides of A4 in Arial 11 point.

Applications to recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 5th August 2020 at 1300 hrs

Notes to candidates

1. Interviews: all shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend a face-to-face interview.
2. Unsuccessful applications: if you have not been contacted within 3 weeks of your application, we regret that you will not have been offered an interview on this occasion.
3. General: this post will be subject to review under the relevant Diocesan Terms and Conditions of Service.
4. New employees to the Diocese will be subject to a probationary period of six months.

Could you help English Martyrs open more often for public Mass?

There are still spaces to volunteer as a steward. If you think this might be for you, contact: emartyrsreading@gmail.com for more information.

Each public Mass is organised superbly by a small, dedicated team of stewards who welcome and reassure people as they arrive. They are available throughout Mass to answer any questions and to guide people through new routines.

Thank you to those who have come forward already to help grow the team. With a larger team, more weekday Masses could be open to people.

Would you like to offer your services as a steward?

- ◆ **Are you under 70 years old?** (a change of age)
- ◆ **Are you fit and well, with no underlying health conditions?**



With a big enough team, the aim would be to be on duty once a fortnight.

Public Masses this week

Public weekday Masses that you can book this week are:

- ♦ Tuesday 4th August at 7pm, <https://englishmartyrs-august-4th.eventbrite.co.uk>
- ♦ Friday 7th Aug at 7pm, <https://englishmartyrs-august-7th.eventbrite.co.uk>

Next Sunday Masses are:

- ♦ Saturday 8th August, evening vigil Mass at 6pm
- ♦ Sunday 9th August, at 8am (not streamed)
- ♦ Sunday 9th August, at 11.30am
- ♦ Sunday 9th August at 5pm

Whichever Sunday Mass you want to book (this includes Saturday evening at 6pm), go to the [parish website](#) and book there.

The Sunday Mass booking will go live from mid-day on Monday 3rd August. There are plenty of spaces available so do book whenever you would like to come.

*******If you book a Mass and are not able to come, please ring the office and leave a message. There are several empty seats at Masses at the moment which could be filled by others keen to come to Mass but were told it was full.*******

If you are not able to access Eventbrite for any reason, ring 0118 957 2149 **between 2-4pm on Monday 3rd August** and somebody will book for you. Masses will continue to be livestreamed for those who are unable to come to the church building (except the 8am Sunday Mass).

Helping you to stay in touch with what is happening in the parish.

For the parish to contact you it is important for the parish to be GDPR compliant. You must have registered with the parish since **March of this year so the office has the most up to date details**. Most registration happened before this.

If you are not sure when you registered, please go to the home page of the [website](#) and register again electronically. You will see the turquoise box, just click and follow the instructions. Then we will know how you would like us to contact you about the exciting new things happening in the parish. Receiving an email does not mean that you are registered. That is separate. This is really important.

If you registered a long time ago, or can't remember if you are registered or not please go to the website and register again. It only takes a few moments.



Online updates—opportunities to connect and grow spiritually

♦ **Parish Calendar** [also available at <https://www.englishmartyrsrdg.org.uk/calendar>]

Sunday 2nd Aug	Mon 3rd Aug	Tues 4th Aug	Wed 5th Aug	Thurs 6th Aug	Fri 7th Aug	Sat 8th Aug
8am Mass—not streamed	11am Spiritual connection: A Biblical Walk Through Mass	3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link .	10am Emmaus group Details available on the parish calendar	10am Thursday Emmaus Group	3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom	2.30—4 Craft and chat room on Zoom. Email cath_harrington@compuserve.com for invite.
11.30 am Mass	3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link .	4pm pray the rosary. To join 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 .	4pm pray the rosary. To join click on the link .	3pm Divine Mercy Join us on Zoom just click on the link .
3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet (zoom)	4pm pray the rosary. To join click on the link .	7pm Mass (booking available via this link)	4pm pray the rosary. To join click on the link .	4pm pray the rosary. To join click on the link .	4pm pray the rosary. To join click on the link .	4.15-5.15 Youth hangout 12-15yrs Contact via Sr Vivian
3pm Under fives liturgy on Zoom Join Zoom Meeting	7pm Monday Emmaus Group	9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)	7pm Mass	7pm Mass	7pm Mass (booking available via this link)	9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)
Bring your Teddy Bear and share your week with us.	7pm Mass	9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)	9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)	9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)	9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)	6pm Mass
5pm Mass	9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)					9pm Night prayer (now on zoom)

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Because 15th August falls on a weekend, this feast will be celebrated during the Sunday Masses. There is no separate Mass for the feast on Saturday morning.

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. Hospital staff are not allowed to ask **you**.

Ring the hospital on **0118 322 7105** to let them know that your loved one needs a visit from a priest. Priests are still willing and able to go into hospital to minister to patients.



Would you like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

A priest is available for socially distanced confessions at **5pm** on Saturdays or **4pm** on Sundays.

You don't need to be booked into Mass to come to confession then and no appointment is needed. Just turn up at the church (the door into the corridor between the church and the priest's house) and stewards are there to guide you.



If you can't make the times above for confession, contact the office and leave a message. An alternative time could be arranged for you.

Mass Intentions: Eighteenth week in Ordinary Time

<i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>		
Saturday 1st August (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6pm	Fr Gerald Flood RIP
Sunday 2nd August	8am	Aidan Farrelly RIP
	11.30am	Fr Edmund Hartley RIP
	5pm	People of the parish
Monday 3rd August	7pm	Ann Bartley RIP
Tuesday 4th August St John Vianney (public Mass—book online)	7pm	McCormack Family intentions
Wednesday 5th August	7pm	Eileen Adams RIP
Thursday 6th August Feast of Transfiguration of the Lord	7pm	Canon John O' Shea intentions
Friday 7th August (public Mass—book online)	7pm	O'Callaghan Family RIP
Saturday 8th August St Dominic	10am	Mary Walshe RIP
<i>19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (all Masses available to book online)</i>		
Saturday 8th August (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6pm	Prabath Perrera intentions
Sunday 9th August	8am	John Dunne RIP
	11.30am	People of the Parish
	5pm	Niroshan Chandra RIP



ENGLISH MARTYRS CATHOLIC CHURCH, READING

64 Liebenrood Road, Reading RG30 2EB

Registered Charity No. 246871



Parish Priest: Canon Michael Dennehy
mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Schools: **English Martyrs Catholic Primary School,**
Dee Road, Reading RG30 4BE
Head: Mrs Doberska 0118 937 5466

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

Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School,
Fawley Road, Reading RG30 3EP
Head: Dr Simon Uttley 0118 957 4730

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