



Our Vision of the parish we would like to become ..

... 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.

The Sunday Mass readings this Sunday deal with the slightly tricky topic known as fraternal correction. This is the responsibility we have towards our brothers and sisters in the Church for their eternal salvation.

We might well decide that we are responsible for ourselves alone, adopt a 'live and let live' policy, a non-judgemental approach and conclude that everybody does what feels right for them. While this is very much the attitude of the modern world, it is not what we find in the Bible. The word of God this Sunday makes clear that by virtue of our baptism we have a prophetic role which involves speaking the truth in love.

In the Gospel Jesus is addressing his disciples. He puts in place procedures for dealing with sin and breaches of the faith, building on rules of discipline prescribed by Moses for Israel. The disciples are given extraordinary powers, similar to those given to Peter. They have the power to bind and loose, to forgive sins and to reconcile sinners.

The procedure given by Jesus to the disciples involves a few stages. Firstly, if someone does something wrong, the advice is to go and have it out with them alone. If they listen there is the success of having won them back. If they do not listen the advice is to take one or two others along with you because the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. If they do not listen the next step is to report it to the community, the Church. And finally, a complete refusal to listen to the community involves the person being treated as a pagan or a tax collector, in other words being separated from the community.

Both the Gospel and the reading from Ezekiel presume that believers have a duty to correct sinners in our midst. Ezekiel is even told that he will be held accountable for their souls if he fails to speak out and try to correct them. This is the love that St Paul says we owe our neighbour. To love our neighbour as ourselves is to be vitally concerned for their salvation. We must make every effort, as Jesus says, to win our brothers and sisters back.

Fraternal correction is all quite challenging to our modern, Western culture but it is presented as an imperative in the word of God this Sunday.

Fr Michael





Alpha online @ English Martyrs



We all have **questions**

Every day we ask so many questions. What shall we wear? What is the weather? How am I going to fit everything in my day?

*But what about the **deeper** questions?*

What is my purpose...? What happens when I die...? Why is there suffering...?

Alpha gives us the chance to ask these 'big' questions and to explore faith in a welcoming, encouraging environment. It offers us the chance to build relationships— with Jesus and each other.

Alpha will be starting in the week beginning September 28th. There are 4 timings that we are offering for Alpha to help you find the one that best suits your life.

These are:

Tuesday evenings starting Tuesday 29th September

Wednesday evenings starting Wednesday 30th September at 8.00pm

Thursday afternoons starting Thursday 1st October

Thursday evenings starting Thursday 1st October at 8.00pm

We would love you to join us on this adventure! If you are interested in finding out more, Email alphaatem@gmail.com and somebody from the team will contact you and answer any questions you may have.

Why not give it a go? Find out if it is what you are looking for.

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 at these times 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.

Public Masses this week

Public weekday Masses that you can book this week are:

- ♦ Tuesday 8th Sept at 7pm, <https://englishmartyrs-september-8th.eventbrite.co.uk>
- ♦ Friday 11th Sept at 7pm, <https://englishmartyrs-september-11th.eventbrite.co.uk>

Next Sunday Masses are:

- ♦ Saturday 12th September, evening vigil Mass at 6pm (**not streamed**)
- ♦ Sunday 13th Sept, 7.30am (not streamed)
- ♦ Sunday 13th Sept, 9.30am (not streamed)
- ♦ Sunday 13th Sept, 11.30am (**streamed**)
- ♦ Sunday 13th Sept, 5pm (not streamed)
- ♦ Sunday 13th Sept, 7pm (not streamed)

Whichever Sunday Mass you want to book (this includes Saturday evening at 6pm) , go to the parish website and follow the link. 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 6th September** and somebody will book for you.



Plant Sale at English Martyrs Church Sunday 20th September— after 9.30am, 11.30am and 5.00pm Masses.

Looking to brighten up your environment? Why not buy some plants ready to go to a new home? All proceeds to English Martyrs parish.

If you have plants to contribute or would like to help with running the sale please contact the parish office. More details next week.

All arrangements will be COVID compliant.



Dial-a-Mass change of number to 0118 9070117

If you have a weekend package or free local calls, this will still be free. Otherwise it will be charged at your provider's local rate.



Mass Intentions: Twenty-third week in Ordinary Time

<i>Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>		
Saturday 5th September (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6pm	Deceased members of the Nanayakkara family
Sunday 6th September	7.30am	People of the Parish
	9.30am	Mick Mc Soley RIP
	11.30am	Thomas Mansell RIP
	5pm	Fr. Anthony Quinn RIP
	7pm	Fr. Christopher Sexton RIP
Monday 7th September	No Mass	
Tuesday 8th September Feast of the Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7pm (book online)	James Connolly RIP
Wednesday 9th September	7pm	Terry Gilfedder RIP
Thursday 10th September	7pm	Denise Arthur RIP
Friday 11th September	7pm (book online)	Tommy Donaghue RIP
Saturday 12 th September	No morning Mass	
<i>Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> <i>(all Masses available to book online)</i>		
Saturday 12th September (Vigil Mass for Sunday)	6pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 13th September	7.30am	Fr. Douglas Perkins RIP
	9.30am	Bonifacio Sisan Jr RIP
	11.30am	Terence Morse RIP
	5pm	Fr. John Healy RIP
	7pm	Fr. Charles Briggs 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.