**The English Martyrs Catholic Church**

A church with a bell tower

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**Parish Priest: Fr Linu Thankachan**

**240 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6BJ**

**Tel.no: 01708 507020**

**email:** [**hornchurchem@brcdt.org**](mailto:hornchurchem@brcdt.org)

**Founded 1955 Diocese of Brentwood Registered Charity No. 23409**

**PRAYER FOR OUR DIOCESE**

Lord Jesus Christ

Son of the Living God.

Teach us to walk in your ways more trustfully

To accept your truth more faithfully

And to share your life more lovingly

Inspire us by the power of the Holy Spirit

for mission within our Diocese

so that your name may be made known

and that all may come as one family

to the Kingdom of the Father

where you live for ever and ever. Amen

**TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**Ezekiel 18:25-28 Philippians 2:1-11 Matthew 21:28-32**

Today’s parable from Matthew is part of Jesus’ response to the religious establishment’s question about his authority. In many ways, the parable repeats a consistent emphasis throughout Matthew. The difference between the two sons in the parable is that one fails to do what he says and the other ends up doing what he fails to say. What matters is not what you hear and say but what you do ( see Mt 7:21-24). Note also how Matthew’s Jesus ends this parable with not only a mention of how prostitutes and tax collectors will enter the kingdom before the religious establishment but also multiple references to belief. Belief for Matthew is not something merely in one’s head; a change of mind must involve a change in actions.

We find this emphasis on doing right not only in the mouth of Matthew’s Jesus but also in the actions of Christ, as indicated in the well-known hymn in Philippians. Christ is praised for his coming in human form and dying on the cross, but the significance of these is set in the context of his deference to God and his generosity toward humanity – or what we do with and for others (see Mt 25:31-46). This hymn’s emphasis on humility is also seen in Psalm 25; to be able to take instructions to change, one has to be humble and teachable. This is also what the religious leaders lack; hence, they accept the authority of neither John nor Jesus.

Ezekiel 18 is an affirmation of God’s justice and a call to responsibility, repentance and right actions toward others. With a humble and teachable mind, one is not limited by the past but can change interactions with others and one’s relationship with God.

**RIP:** We are very sad to announce the sudden passing on Thursday of Kathy Driver (daughter of Anne Keys, sister of Marie Browne). Kathy had been a dedicated parishioner of English Martyrs and had numerous roles within our Parish, she will be very sadly missed. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

**2nd COLLECTION:** Next week’s second collection will be for CAFOD Family Fast Day. Please help yourself to an envelope from the back of the church or donate online. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME:** An update will follow in the next few weeks.

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY:** Our Children’s Liturgy Group resumed last Sunday and is open to all children of reception age to year 2. The Group is run by our Catechists who are all DBS checked. Father will announce when the children are to leave with the catechists and will be taken to the hall for related activities and then return to the church thereafter.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) COURSE:** Please contact Fr Linu or the office for further details. There is a sheet at the back of the church for you to add your contact details should this be of interest to you.

**FR LINU HOLIDAY:** Please note that Father Linu will be away from Monday 9th October to Friday 10th November incl. During his absence Fr Frank Jackson will say Sunday morning mass. The feast of All Saints and All Souls will also be covered by a supply priest for the morning mass at 9.30am and 9am respectively.

**MOBILE PHONES:** Polite notice, prior to entering the Church, kindly either switch off your mobile phone or keep it on silent please.

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE:** Any items you are able to donate i.e. cakes/biscuits would be much appreciated. Please put in the box at the back of the Church.

**FAREWELL:** We would like to welcome Fr Britto back to say a proper farewell on Saturday 21st October from 7pm, children welcome to come along. In order for us to first get an idea of possible attendance, could you please put your name and number of attendees on the sheet at the back of the Church if you are able to attend. Many thanks.

**HELP NEEDED:** We have a parishioner who lives near Coopers School, who is unable to get to Sunday mass due to the expansion of the ULEZ. If there is anyone or maybe a couple of parishioners able to help and possibly take it in turns, would you please contact the office. You would need to be in possession of a recent DBS. Many thanks.

**UPMINSTER PARISH MISSION:** St Joseph's Upminster is holding a parish mission led by the Sion Community from 30th September to 8th October, coinciding with the centenary of the parish. The programme for each weekday includes Mass at 6.15pm followed by a free supper and a talk or service from 7.45pm. All welcome. For more information visit stjosephschurchupminster.com

**LOVE THE STRANGER - THE CATHOLIC POSITION ON THE REFUGEE CRISIS:** On Saturday 7th October at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal Priest there will be a study day in the hall beginning at 11 am, with coffee available from 10.30. Liam Allmark, the Head of Communications, Fundraising and Advocacy at the Jesuit Refugee Service, will present the document ‘Love the Stranger: a Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees’, which was produced by the Bishops of England and Wales earlier this year. This will be an opportunity to explore our Catholic response to the crisis which is being played out across the world at this time, and to understand the statements of Pope Francis about the Christian call of love for all our brothers and sisters. This study day is also available online by going to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org).

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY (BCCS):** Theyoffer therapeutic support directly to children, young people, families and parents through their Child and Family Counselling Service (CFCS) located in their centre in Billericay. Their CFCS team consists of several experienced and highly qualified therapists working in specially adapted therapy rooms. Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Donna Booth [dbooth@bccs.org.uk](mailto:dbooth@bccs.org.uk) who will outline the type of support that will be provided for them or their child.  There is a charge for this service, but they urge any families needing support to contact them.  More information is available on their website: [www.bccs.org.uk](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.bccs.org.uk&c=E,1,FUcpL-JxzZqAk2Cx5NBR-HEwKVVxynLDJTWTOKCgnSH6oA8XLZnJYpVWOaXUn3TlHxgGDC--yJY7sDdMYLAXdaaiJsWb1HyrJpWK5Fa8CEg,&typo=1)

**CATECHIST TRAINING AND RESOURCES DAY:** Saturday 4th November at Sacred Heart of Mary Girls School in Upminster. This training and resources day is open to all First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists, as well as those who look after the children’s liturgy in the Diocese of Brentwood. It will be an opportunity to hear about fresh resources, as well as receiving input to assist you in your First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND IN OUR PARISH:**

Theresa Camilleri, Maureen Chaliss, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Colin Johns, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Margaret, Eileen McCaffery, Sheila McCurdy, Doris Mizzi, Sheila Murphy, Sheila Nugent, Mary O’Hagan, Rachel, Pradeepan Ragunathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Voni Tesi, Denise Woodfin, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court.

**ANNIVERSARIES OCCURRING AT THIS TIME – OCTOBER/NOVEMBER:**

David Calder, Iris Canning, Marie Coxell, Johni Deely, Phil Fowley, Tommy Goggin, Evelyn Golding, Paul Hogan, Bridie Long, Paul McAvoy, Patrick Markey, Sidney Meadway, Don Muscat, Ann O’Connor, Geraldine Patterson, Charles Poddington, Judith Salisbury, Eamon Shanahan, Peter Soares, Rose Soares, Denis Sullivan, Monsignor Van Meenan, Carlos Vieira, Dr Michael Wright

**PARISH FINANCE:**

**Offertory Collection:** The weekly collection for 24.09.23 was as follows:

Main Collection: £289.18 (Envelopes: £34, LP: £255.18)

Candles: £5.10

Hall Bookings: £200

Total: 494.28

We would like to encourage you to make your contributions using a Standing Order rather than cash. There are Standing Order forms at the back of the Church. Our bank details are: HSBC Account Name: Catholic Church Hornchurch English Martyrs. Account No. 11019198 Sort code 4013 22.

**Sunday 1st October – Sunday 8th October**

Sunday 1st October Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

10.00 am Marie Coxell – RIP/Anniversary

Monday 2nd October The Holy Guardian Angels

9.00 am

Tuesday 3rd October Feria

9.00 am

Wednesday 4th October St Francis of Assisi, Religious

9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Thursday 5th October Feria

9.00 am

Friday 6th October Feria

9.00 am

Saturday 7th October Our Lady of the Rosary

No Mass No Mass

Sunday 8th October Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time(A)

10.00 am St Michael Mass (Catholic Police Guild)

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| Parish Priest: Fr Linu Thankachan (01708 507020) |
| Parish Administrator: Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri (10am-1pm) (01708 507020)  Pastoral Team Leader: Graham Daniels (07542 588763)  Steward of the Gospel: Mandy Meadway (07801 470516)  Parish Finance: Mrs Stephanie Mallen (07983 962465)  Diocesan Safeguarding Representative: Katie Nash (07825 293308)  Hall & Lounge Bookings: English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)  Church & Hall Caretaker: Mike Dineen (07415 727926)  Legion of Mary: Michael Okafor (07956 586370) |

Sunday Mass 10.00 am

Weekday Mass 9.00 am (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri)

Holy Days of Obligation 9.30 am

Confession on Friday 9.30 am – 10.00 am

Legion of Mary After Sunday morning mass (11.30 am onwards)

Baptisms By Appointment (Saturdays 12.00 pm - 12.30 pm)