



TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 10th SEPTEMBER 2023 (A)

“Love....cannot hurt your neighbour”

Ezekiel 22 presents God’s people as sentinels: they have responsibilities to guard Israel’s safety by sharing God’s words so others will have a chance to make their own decisions. Psalm 95 pleads that god’s people would not harden their hearts and repeat their ancestors’ mistakes in Meribah and Massah (see Ex17 and Nm 20), where they complained about not having water during their wilderness wandering and as a result missed their entry into Canaan.

Matthew 18 is known as Jesus’ “community discourse”, where Jesus teaches how his followers should treat each other. Matthew’s Christianity is not individualistic; it requires patience and understanding toward those who have committed an offense or sin against a person. Matthew suggests multiple attempts be made to address grievances within the Church. He also expresses great faith in the Christ-following community, which is blessed with Christ’s presence and spirit.

Paul’s focus after Romans 12:1-2 is also relational. Note that when Paul cites the Old Testament commandments, he does not cite those that concern our relationship with God but only those that concern our relationships with others.

What fulfils “the law” for Paul is an excessive love or generosity toward one’s neighbour”. “Love does no evil to the neighbour”, Paul writes (Rom 13:10), but Paul has given a more positive and more demanding imperative in Romans 12:17-18. Love, as Jesus shows and as Paul argues, may take one vulnerable, but that is what we are called to be. The reasonable response to God’s generosity is to love, share and welcome others.



Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 10th September 2023 (A)

Parish Diary

Sunday Mass	10.00 am
Weekday Masses	9.00 am
Wednesdays	9.00 am – Eucharistic Service – Office Closed
Friday	Adoration following 9.00 am Mass and Confessions
Holy Days of Obligation	9.30am
Legion of Mary	After Sunday morning mass (11.30 am onwards)
Baptisms	By Appointment (Saturdays 12.00 pm - 12.30 pm)

Liturgical Calendar

Sunday 10 th September	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) (Education Day)
Wednesday 13 th September	St John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
Thursday 14 th September	Exaltation (Triumph) of the Holy Cross, Feast
Friday 15 th September	Our Lady of Sorrows
Saturday 16 th September	Ss Cornelius, Priest, and Cyprian, Bishop, (Martyrs)
Sunday 17 th September	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) (Evangelii Gaudium Day)

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 10 th September	10.00 am	Confirmation Candidates Visitation of Bishop Alan
Monday 11 th September	9.00 am	Audrey Eileen Pollard – RIP
Tuesday 12 th September	9.00 am	
Wednesday 13 th September	9.00 am	
Thursday 14 th September	9.00 am	
Friday 15 th September	9.00 am	
Sunday 17 th September	10.00 am	

Parish Notice Board

Welcome - Bishop Alan's visit to English Martyrs

Today we welcome Bishop Alan who joins us for his pastoral visit to the parish and also the Confirmation of our youth.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE OF OUR PARISH COMMUNITY WHO HAVE
RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

Ruby Aldis
Alice Brosnan
Max Eadon
Andre-Raphael Hernandez
James Keenan
Phelim Murphy Goodwin
Isla Perry
Rachel Scully
Sarah Scully

Welcome

We would like to welcome our new priest, Fr Linu Thankachan, who moved into the parish during the week and will be hosting the Bishop and concelebrating at the confirmation mass today on his first Sunday.

We look forward to getting to know you better in the coming weeks and hope you will be very happy here in our parish of English Martyrs.

Congratulations

We congratulate Hansone and Pradeepan who were married here at English Martyrs on Saturday 2nd September. As you know Hansone is one of our altar servers. We wish them future happiness.

2nd Collection

Our second collection today 10th September will be for the Catholic Education Service. Thank you as always for your kind contribution.

Our second collection next week 17th September will be for Evangelii Gaudium Day.

First Holy Communion Programme : Autumn 2023 - Summer 2024 – FINAL NOTICE

The above First Holy Communion Programme will commence this coming Autumn. Would parents of children who are parishioners of English Martyrs, and who will be Year 3 and above in September 2023, please take an application form for completion from the back of the Church and return to the Presbytery/Office with a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate as soon as possible as our course is due to commence.

English Martyrs Changes

There have been a few changes to the 'Parish Diary' in light of the appointment of our new Priest Fr Linu.

Parish Newsletter and Liturgy of the Word

Please would you kindly make use of the Newsletter and Liturgy of the Word at the back of the Church and take them home with you. Thanks.

Parish Finance

Weekly Collection

The weekly collection for 03.09.23 for the newsletter was as follows:

Main Collection: £361.68 (Envelopes: £74, LP: £287.68)

Candles: £16.30

Newspapers: £1

Hall bookings: £150 (cheque)

Total: £528.98

Communication Desk

Love The Stranger: Earlier this year the Bishops of England and Wales produced a document on Migrants and Refugees, entitled 'Love the Stranger: A Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees'. Liam Allmark, who works at the Bishops' Conference, will present the document at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) on Saturday 7th October from 11 a.m. Refreshments will be available from 10.30. Ample parking available and local eateries. Five minutes' walk from the Elizabeth Line. This free event is both in-person and live-stream. Please go to www.whatgoodnews.org for details. A recording of the study day will be made available on the website.

BCYS – Forthcoming Events

- **BCYS YEAR 13 RETREATS – Midweek, Weds 13th – Fri 15th September OR Weekend, Fri 22nd – Sun 24th September at Walsingham House at Abbotswick**
 - **You are made for a purpose.** Going into year 13, you may be about to make big or tough decisions about your future, wonder what God may have planned for you or where to go next. This retreat is time to think, pray, chat with those in your year from across Essex and East London, and get a good focus for the future, right at the start of Year 13 and will take place in our beautiful Diocesan youth retreat house Walsingham House at Abbotswick, just outside Brentwood. For just £35, the cost will include meals, accommodation and youth-led formation.
 - Last few places are remaining so **APPLY NOW AT** www.bcys.net/events/year13weekday/
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- **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. A particular welcome is extended to any young catechists or young people (16+) who may be interested in working as or with catechists, and wish to develop their faith further post-confirmation. Reserve your place now at www.bcys.net/events/catechistday23/

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 – August/September

Sergio Biagioni, David Calder, Chris Cummins, Molly Cummins, Eileen Woodstock, Brendan Murphy

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)

The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)
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