**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 EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**Isaiah 25:6-10 Philippians 4:12-14 Matthew 22:1-14**

Today’s parable from Matthew compares the kingdom of heaven to a king and his lavish feast for his son’s wedding. This king’s behaviours are rather disturbing. Since some of his original guests declined his invitation to attend to their farm or business, they are people with resources, and the banquet is not meant to provide for the needy. The subsequent filling of the banquet hall with people off the street reads like a face-saving move, given how the king gets upset with a replacement guest who does not dress right. How could he expect all to have the proper attire when they were just gathered off the streets? His burning the cities harms more than those who arrested, attacked, or killed his slaves.

Note that the parable never indicates who is making this comparison and that it is part of Jesus’ response to the religious leaders, who questions his authority after his celebrated entry into Jerusalem and his cleansing of the Temple. The closing statement, “Many are invited, but few are chosen” (Mc 22:14), may conclude Jesus’ series of three parables instead of merely this parable. In fact, this statement hardly fits the parable since the king kicks out only one guest. Those chosen may refer to people who reject this parable’s comparison.

Psalm 23 and Isaiah 25 also present God as one who provides abundant food and drink, but they present a different picture of God. In these passages, God is a provider and a protector rather than a temperamental tyrant.

We see a similar expression of faith by Paul in Philippians 4. Because Paul has experienced both prosperity and paucity, he has learned the secret that Christ is sufficient and can strengthen him to face any situation. God, for Paul, is one who will meet our every need.

**WELCOME:** Today we welcome Fr Frank Jackson who will be standing in for Fr Linu and saying all our Sunday masses until Father returns.

**2nd COLLECTION - SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER - PRISONER’S SUNDAY:** Our second collection today is for Prisoners’ Sunday, a National Day of Prayer and action for prisoners and their dependants marked by the Catholic Church. It launches a weeklong ecumenical campaign of prayer for all those affected by imprisonment, a time to reflect on how we - as individuals, as a Church and as an ecumenical community - can serve those whose lives are entwined with the Criminal Justice System.

**2nd COLLECTION – SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER – WORLD MISSION SUNDAY:** Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church’s mission to share God’s love with all people. Please take an envelope from the back of the Church and return it next week.

**CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023-2024:** Any of our young Catholics currently in school years 9 and 10 are invited to register their interest in joining the 2023/24 Confirmation Programme. Please add your name and details on the form at the back of the Church. Thank you. *Candidates are obliged to attend the Catholic obligation of weekly Sunday worship*

**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. For any emergencies outside of Parish hours, please contact our local Parishes of St Joseph, Upminister (Fr Matthew 01708 222432), St Mary Mother of God, Hornchurch (Fr Mark Reilly 01708 447761), St Alban, Elm Park (Canon Maurice 01708 451449), Our Lady of La Salette, Rainham (Fr Mariusz 01708 552897)

**MASS INTENTIONS:** There has been a very significant shortage of mass intentions. There are several available spaces throughout October, November, and December. Please feel free to take a mass offerings envelope from the back of the Church and write your intention, we will always try to accommodate your chosen date but if this is not possible, we will let you know if you have provided a mobile number on your envelope or we will book the nearest possible alternative. Please pop through the presbytery letterbox or hand it to Fr Linu.

**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. There is also a list of food items, please feel free to put your name against any items you would like to make/bring along, please also bring your own beverages. Many thanks.

“**AWAKE LONDON**”: A Catholic Bible convention and Healing ministry on Saturday 21st October 2023 from 2 pm to 5 pm led By Fr. David Waller and Anointing Fire Catholic Ministry UK at Catholic Parish of Christ The King, 455 Chingford Road London,E4 8SP. Convention includes: Praise and Worship, Holy Mass, confession, Healing service and Eucharistic Adoration, spiritual sharing, sessions for children  ([www.sehionuk.org/www.sehion.net](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.sehionuk.org%2fwww.sehion.net&c=E,1,6aIjeAHvbWuUqaysf-vBOO2SJteKRL1ODjzc2Gr4lLCfRU8erVPL2P4c2sgdVo_lOJ0zJ7pJvFswjBHPNyXvdqQDsdV4HZdJqRv2u44k9k0GYcRdkgfGvQ,,&typo=1)). Free car parking available.

**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 8.10.23 was as follows:

Main Collection: £369.18 (Envelopes: £160, LP: £209.18)

Harvest Fast Day: £424.71 (Envelopes: £95, LP: £329.71)

Candles: £17.60

Total: £811.49

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

**Sunday 15th October – Sunday 22nd October**

Sunday 15th October Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

10.00 am Mrs Elenor Tierney – RIP (donor – Mary Fant)

Monday 16th October Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Tuesday 17th October St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr

9.00 am No Mass

Wednesday 18th October St Luke, Evangelist – Feast

9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Thursday 19th October Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Friday 20th October Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Saturday 21st October Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Sunday 22nd October Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

(World Mission Day)

10.00 am Patrick Markey – RIP/Anni

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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)

Saturday Mass No Mass

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)