

The English Martyrs Catholic Church

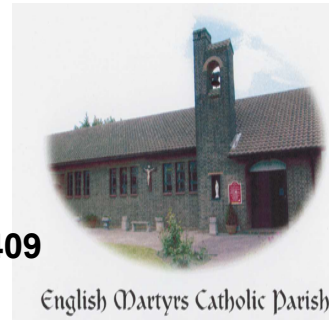
<http://www.englishmartyrshx.com/>

Parish Priest: Fr Linu Thankachan

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English Martyrs Catholic Parish

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 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Ecclesiasticus 27:30 – 27:7 Romans 14:7-9 Matthew 18:21-35

Starting in Romans 12, Paul has outlined our proper or “reasonable” response to God’s generosity by emphasizing a new messianic community of love and welcome. At the end of Romans 13, Paul asks his recipients to “put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh” (Rom 13:14). We should remember that Jesus is identifiable by his vulnerability and that “flesh” for Paul refers to a humanity that is calculating and competitive.

In Romans 14, Paul explains that love and welcome are not judgmental but accepting of difference, so a messianic community will not choose between what Paul calls a “weak” (rigid vegetarianism) and a “strong” (indiscriminate) eating practice; instead, each person should practice as his or her conscience dictates. Why? Because God has welcomed all, each belongs to and is accountable to God. Instead of being judgmental of others, Paul recommends the attitude of gratitude to God, who has welcomed us despite our unworthiness.

In this context, Paul reinforces his point that we belong to God even with the ultimate difference and divider: life and death. Since Christ has demolished the dividing difference between the living and the dead, we should no longer let other differences divide us. The messianic community lives in solidarity with and in commitment to others. We put aside our privileges to serve and care for each other, especially those who are weak.

Offense can create division and enmity between persons. The parable of the unforgiving servant in Matthew 18 reminds us that we should do for one another what God has done for us. Today’s readings from Sirach and from the Psalms also remind us that God is forgiving and does not judge or repay us with anger. We need to remember, be grateful and be gracious to one another.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM – Preparing for the Jubilee Year in Faith and Prayer

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday calls us to be joyous in proclaiming our faith. “Evangelii Gaudium” is Latin for “Joy of the Gospel”. The day supports the work carried out by the Mission Directorate on behalf of the Bishops’ Conference.

A key focus of work for the next few years is responding to Pope Francis’ calling of a Jubilee Year in 2025 with the theme Pilgrims of Hope. The Holy Father has invited the whole Church to prepare for the Jubilee in the two years prior through:

- Reflecting on the four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council in 2023.
- Deepening our prayer life, with a special focus on the Lord’s Prayer, in 2024.

To support the Church in England and Wales in this important initiative the Mission Directorate has produced a series of videos on the four Constitutions which reflect on the Liturgy, the Word of God, the Church and on its role in the modern world.

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/evangelii-gaudium-sunday>

Please support the Mission Directorate through prayer and giving to the second collection. However much you give, big or small, it will go directly to support this important work to bring the joy of the Gospel to all. 2nd Collection - 17th September - Evangelii Gaudium Day

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME – FINAL NOTICE: The 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.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSION 2024: To obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice, Fr Linu will be available to see parents on Monday 18th September 6.30 pm - 7.30 pm. Parents will be seen on a first come, first served basis. Please wait in the Church. Thank you.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA) COURSE: Jesus said, “Come, follow me.” If you would like to explore the Catholic faith, deepen your relationship with the Lord, and enter into full Communion with the Church, join us on a Journey of Faith. Please contact Fr Linu or the office for further details.

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.

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.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY (BCCS): They offer 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 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

BCYS YEAR 13 RETREATS: Midweek, Weds 13th – Fri 15th September OR Weekend, Fri 22nd – Sun 24th September at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. Please see noticeboard for further details.

CATHEDRAL LUNCHTIME RECITAL: After our recent summer break, we are much looking forward to next Wednesday's Lunchtime Piano Recital to be given by David Silkoff. David has a wonderful Programme lined up for us including pieces by Beethoven, Schubert, Schumann, Ravel and Chopin. Do hope you can join us – there will be some refreshments afterwards in the Song School.

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 Rangunathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Vonni 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 FINANCE:

Offertory Collection: The collection for 10.09.23 was as follows:

Main Collection: £348.18 (Envelopes: £89, LP: £259.18)

Catholic Education Service : £158.50 (Envelopes: £45, LP: £113.50)

We would 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 17th September – Sunday 24th September

Sunday 17 th September	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) (Evangelii Gaudium Day)
10am	Chris Cummins – RIP/Anni (Michelle Taplin)
Monday 18 th September	Feria
9.00 am	For Parishioners
Tuesday 19 th September	Feria
9.00 am	Greta Street (Wellbeing - Michelle Taplin)
Wednesday 20 th September	St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, Priest & Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companions, Martyrs
9.00 am	Eucharistic Service – (Office Closed)
Thursday 21 st September	St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist - Feast
9.00 am	Doug Taplin – RIP/Birthday (Michelle Taplin)
Friday 22 nd September	Feria
9.00 am	Patricia Church – RIP (Maria Poddington) Followed by Adoration and Confession
Saturday 23 rd September	St Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest (Padre Pio)
9.00 am	No Mass
Sunday 24 th September	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
10am	Jonathan & Erin Street – Wedding Anniversary (Michelle Taplin)

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	10am
Weekday Mass	9am (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri)
Holy Days of Obligation	9.30am
Confession on Friday	9.30am – 10am
Legion of Mary	After Sunday morning mass (11.30 am onwards)
Baptisms	By Appointment (Saturdays 12.00 pm - 12.30 pm)