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

**Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 Thessalonians 1:1-5 Matthew 22:15-21**

Today’s passage in Matthew uses a Greek rhetorical technique that employs a deductive logic but has an unstated premise. Jesus wins the argument without being trapped because the text assumes that everyone agrees with a principle: namely, having your image on something signifies possession. From that principle, one has to agree that coins bearing Caesar’s image belong to Caesar. The second deduction that leaves Jesus’ opponents speechless is that humans, bearing the image of God, belong to God.

While these deductions are derived from the same premise, they represent a contrast. As Psalm 96 declares, “families of nations” should glorify and worship this God (96:7), who, according to Isaiah 45, is more powerful than earthly kings and emperors, including the Persian King Cyrus, whom God uses to defeat Babylon’s empire and to deliver Israel.

What does that mean for imperial claims being made on people who belong to God? What does it mean regarding Caesar’s coins, which Jesus’ imperative says to “repay” or “give back”? Does it imply an abandonment of an imperial economic system? Or does it suggest something else? In any case, the first chapter of 1 Thessalonians shows not only the importance of God’s choice but also the need for human work or response. How should we think about and respond to this passage?

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**WELCOME:** Welcome once again to Fr Frank Jackson and thank you for your help in providing us with continuity of our Sunday worship.

**RIP:** We were very sad to hear of the death of Martin O’Hagan the husband of Mary O’Hagan, one of our parishioners. Please remember Martin, Mary and the family in your prayers.

**BAPTISM:** We welcome into the family of our Parish Amalia Horvat, who was baptised on Saturday, and we congratulate her parents Ionut and Ana.

**SUNDAY 22ND OCTOBER – TODAY IS WORLD MISSION SUNDAY:** World Mission Sunday is being celebrated in every Catholic parish around the world today! It supports missionaries who work alongside communities that are poor or in need regardless of their background or belief. By supporting Missio, the Pope’s charity for world mission, you will help missionaries like Sr Mary who has given her whole life to bring the love and hope of Jesus to situations of extreme poverty and injustice. Please pray for the mission of the Church throughout the world and give what you can to this very important collection which will sustain the future of our Church. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio’s website to give a single give, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible:mission.org.uk

**CONFIRMATION:** If your child is in Year 9 or above and they would like to make their Confirmation in 2024, please email St Mary Mother of God Parish on [hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org](mailto:hornchurchstmmg@brcdt.org)  to register your interest by Sunday 29th October at the latest. After this date, a register will be in place for Mass attendance (English Martyrs) from the weekend of 4th/5th November. A preparatory meeting for parents and young people will take place on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 7pm in the Parish Hall (St Marys) and the course will begin in January. Only those who sign up by 29th October and are present at weekly Mass (English Martyrs) from then will be eligible for the course. The maximum number of young people that we can have on the course is 90 and if applications exceed that number, we will prioritise those in Year 10 or above. When registering your interest, please include your child’s full name, a contact number and a picture of their Baptism & First Holy Communion certificates. We will then be in contact with you directly once full programme details become available.

**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 until 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 on Wednesday 1st November and 9am Thursday 2nd November 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.

**NOVEMBER ENVELOPES**: Mass is celebrated every day during the month of November for our deceased families and friends. We remember our dead and traditionally write their names on a ‘dead list’ to be prayed for during all Masses for their eternal rest and peace. It is a beautiful tradition, rich in religious and human symbolism. All are welcome to send in the names of their deceased loved ones by using the brown envelopes available at the back of the church. Please place the envelopes into the wooden box in front of the Altar from next Sunday 29th October. Thank you**.**

**CATHOLIC TEACHING ON MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES:**  Earlier this year the Bishops of England and Wales issued a document on Migrants and Refugees. A talk on this document, *Love the Stranger,* was given by Liam Allmark of the Jesuit Refugee Service on 7th October at Gidea Park parish. Please visit [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) to see the edited recording.

**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.

**THANK YOU:** Many thanks for your generosity towards Fr Britto’s ‘farewell collection’. We managed to raise the sum of £756.25 which will be paid into Father’s account.

**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 15.10.23 was as follows:

Main Collection: £239.94 (Envelopes: £45, LP: £194.94)

Prisoners' Sunday: £143.10 (Envelopes: £30, LP: £113.10)

Total: **£383.04**

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 22nd October – Sunday 29th October**

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

(World Mission Day)

10.00 am Patrick Markey – RIP/Anni

Monday 23rd October Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Tuesday 24th October Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Wednesday 25th October Feria

9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Thursday 26th October St Cedd Bishop, Secondary Co-Patron of the Diocese

9.00 am No Mass

Friday 27th October Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Saturday 28th October Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles – Feast

9.00 am No Mass

Sunday 29th October Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

10.00 am Kathy Driver RIP (Georgina Nestle)

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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)