**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**

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**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

**SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

**Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 Matthew 25:31-46**

Today’s Old Testament passages present God’s people as sheep. Matthew’s parable’s setting is similar to the one in 1 Corinthians 15. There, Paul assures the Corinthians of the resurrection and that, just as God raised Jesus, God through Christ will raise us from the dead and give Christ a place of supremacy.

Although the sheep are accepted and the goats rejected before the supreme Christ in Matthew’s parable, they share two things in common. First, both call Jesus “Lord”. Matthew’s Jesus has made it clear that “not everyone who says . . . ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven” (Mt 7:21). Our actions are more important than our words, and God desires that our actions are expressions of mercy for the weak and vulnerable. In fact, that is how today’s Old Testament passages describe God’s attitude and actions toward us as our shepherd: God cares for us with goodness and mercy, even or especially when we are lost, astray or injured.

Second, both the sheep and the goats express that they have never seen Jesus in a needy condition. Neither group knows or understands the reasons or implications of their actions, but one chose to act with mercy while the other chose to ignore the needs of people they encountered. The point here is not that ignorance is bliss, as Matthew’s Jesus spends a lot of time teaching (such as the Sermon on the Mount in chaps. 5-7), and he tells people to learn and practice the teachings of the religious leaders (see Mt 23:2-3). Rather, the significance is that while our understandings can be limited, the most important thing is how we treat “these least ones” (Mt 25:40, 45).

**FUNERAL:** The funeral for Pat Lark will take place here at English Martyrs on Thursday 30th November at 11.30am.

**WELCOME:** We welcome into the family of our Parish Archibald Cornwell and Ackerley Camilleri, who were baptised on Saturday, and we congratulate their parents Peter Cornwell and Adria Penilla, and Sebastian and Nouria Camilleri.

**SECOND COLLECTION:** Today’s second collection is for World Youth Day.

**WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY – 26th November 2023: World Youth Day is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church**, along with the global Church, and is celebrated each year on the feast of Christ the King.There will be a second collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, and any money raised will go towards supporting those in need of financial support to go on pilgrimages and to events, as well as allowing the BCYS to continue running events. Two of our youth will be speaking today about this.

**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.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024:** To obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice, Fr Linu will be available to see parents on Thursday 7th December, between 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm. Parents will be seen on a first come first served basis. Please wait in the Church. Thank you.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023/2024 CHILDREN:** The first session for the children will commence this Sunday 26th November at 10am.

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE:** Raffle tickets will be sold after every Sunday mass, with the draw taking place on Sunday 3rd December. Any donations of cakes/biscuits most welcome. Please leave in the box at the back of the church.

**BCYS YOUTH MASS: – *Thursday 7th December 2023, 6pm at Brentwood Cathedral***

Beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, and an Advent Reconciliation service in the Cathedral before Mass. Youth Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! No need to book, but do let us know if you have a group coming – just email [info@bcys.net](mailto:info@bcys.net)

**DONATION:** One of our parishioners has a moses basket she would like to donate. If anyone is interested, please contact the office.

**THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY:** True to its mission of being “a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it” Keeping Catholics informed about their faith and bringing them ever closer to God. To keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly catholic voice at a time when it is such needed in the world. The newspaper will be available during the first week of December for £3.50. Please put in the box marked ‘Catholic papers/books’. Many thanks.

**ADVENT TALK ON THE PROPHET ISAIAH:** In preparation for the beginning of Advent Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and Scripture scholar, will be giving a talk on the Prophet Isaiah at 7pm on Wednesday 29th November in the parish hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. The talk is free and is in person, and it will also be live-streamed on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org). No booking necessary. A recording of the talk will be made available subsequently on the same website.

**BISHOP’S CERTIFICATE IN CATECHESIS AND YOUTH MINISTRY:** is an online course is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation (First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation) or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. For more information or to register your interest please email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org) or see the website <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/>

**CAMPION SENIOR CITIZENS’ PARTY :** The Campion School will once again host their annual Senior Citizen’s Party on Sunday 17th December 2023 between 12.30 pm and 5.00 pm, with lunch served at 1.30pm. Please add your name to the form at the back of the church should you be interested. The list is due to be sent to Campion this coming week, so don’t forget to add your details.

**DIOCESAN DIRECORY:** We have copies at the back of the church of our Diocesan Directory. The price this year is £2.95.

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

Theresa Camilleri, Maureen Chaliss, Fergal Clerkin, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Colin Johns, 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, 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 the 19.11.23 was as follows:

Main Collection: £294.89 (Envelopes: £95, LP: £199.89)

Newspapers: £3.84

Candles: £23.29

Total: £322.02

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 40 13 22.

**Sunday 26th November – Sunday 3rd December**

Sunday 26th November Our Lord Jesus Christ The King (A) Solemnity

(Youth Day)

10.00 am Sidney Meadway – RIP/Anni (Mandy Meadway)

Paul Hogan – RIP/2nd Anni (Eileen Hogan)

Monday 27th November Feria

9.00 am

Tuesday 28th November Feria

9.00 am Rose Soares – RIP/Anni (Scully/Soares Family)

Wednesday 29th November Feria

9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Thursday 30th November St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland – Feast

9.00 am Cheryl Carey & Oliver Carey – RIP/Anni (Joan)

11.30 am Funeral – Pat Lark

Friday 1st December Feria

9.00 am For Parishioners

Saturday 2nd December Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Sunday 3rd December First Sunday of Advent (B)

10.00 am Kathy Driver – RIP (Maria Poddington)

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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), Marie Browne (07443 362654)  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)