**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

**THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

**Malachi 1:14 – 2:2. 8-10 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9. 13 Matthew 23:1-12**

Today’s readings present two portraits of pastoral leadership. The prophet Malachi conveys God’s message to errant priests. They have not cared for their people but have “caused many to falter” by their instruction (Mal 2:8). They have not listened to or sincerely obeyed God. God is clearly disgusted. In the Gospel, Jesus has a similar quarrel with the scribes and Pharisees. They “love places of honour” (Mt 23:6) lay burdens on the people’s shoulders and do not practice what they preach. While acknowledging that their rules must be followed, Jesus warns the people not to imitate them and gives his own vision of leadership in the Christian community: “the greatest among you must be your servant” (23:11); “you have but one teacher and you are all brothers” (23:8). This community of learners looks to Christ and the Father.

In the second reading, Paul describes Christian leadership at Thessaloniki. His affection for his flock is genuine; his efforts to serve them have been heartfelt and strenuous. He has focused on relaying God’s words, not establishing a reputation for himself.

We can well imagine Paul praying today’s responsorial psalm and recommending it to his congregation. It is saturated with the Christian Character – humility and receptivity to God’s Word. It is as relevant for us today as it was thousands of years ago. How often do we busy ourselves with what we think are “great things”, when the time could be spent on things that bring more peace instead of anxiety? How often do we accept too many responsibilities, taking time and energy away from our home and our families? How often do we convince ourselves that we are too busy to help others?

**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.

**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 the Parish until Friday 10th November incl. During his absence Fr Frank Jackson will say Sunday morning mass. 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 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.

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE:** Please continue to donate any cakes/biscuits for our Sunday coffee mornings. Many thanks.

**BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL:** Next Wednesday 8 November at 1pm we are thrilled to welcome Joshua Furtado-Mendes Operatic Tenor from the Royal College of Music and Stefan Weidner Pianist from Trinity Laban Conservatoire who will be performing Schumann’s wonderful song cycle ‘Dichterliebe.’ Do hope you can join us.

**MEMORIAL MASS AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK:** the Friends of Abbotswick Memorial Mass for those with loved ones remembered within the grounds at Abbotswick will be held at 3pm on Sunday 12th November. If you wish to attend please email Claire at [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org) or phone 01277 373959.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH:** The first Black History Month took place in the UK in the 1980’s.

This year the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales take a close look at five Black Catholic figures who inspire us in our faith today. Feel free to download and read at your leisure.

[**https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/blessed-michael-iwene-tansi/**](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/blessed-michael-iwene-tansi/)

[**https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/sister-thea-bowman/**](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/sister-thea-bowman/)

[**https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/matthew-ayariga/**](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/matthew-ayariga/)

[**https://www.cbcew.org.uk/saint-josephine-bakhita/**](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/saint-josephine-bakhita/)

[**https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/venerable-pierre-toussaint/**](https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/black-history-month/venerable-pierre-toussaint/)

**THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY (BCCS) CHRISTMAS CRAFT AND GIFT FAIR**: Will be held at The Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh SS6 7ED on Sunday 5th November from 10.30am - 4pm. There is free parking at the venue and admission is only £1.50 for adults and free for children under 14. There will be over 40 stalls selling many unique crafts, gifts and handmade fare so come along and pick up some early Christmas presents. BCCS will have its own stall selling donated gifts, crafts, books, puzzles and sweets and there will be a fundraising raffle during the event.

**BCCS:** This November, Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society is pleased to re-launch their virtual **Tree of Angels** which will allow you to light up a symbolic angel on a virtual Christmas tree in memory of a loved one who has died while making a donation to the work of BCCS.  Please visit [www.bccs.org.uk](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=http%3a%2f%2fwww.bccs.org.uk&c=E,1,9bd13yW2efRO_FmFGAbQEkNEFTu2ON-qWRAIQ57q1d1lDN0KX3mhz_lbFRGvwK7mmvpgQB8jjyscUxwqNqDA-hrKmKaJGtUYJ8MmqjyFtU6GABz6oh3n&typo=1) and click on the Christmas tab where you will see ‘Tree of Angels’.  You can read more about this initiative and can click onto the Tree of Angels portal to make your dedication and secure donation.  If you have any questions about lighting an angel, please contact Damian [ddillon@bccs.org.uk](mailto:ddillon@bccs.org.uk).

**ST ALBANS PARISH:** Christmas Bazaar 2023: The Christmas Bazaar will take place this year on 25th of November 2023 in the Parish Hall at 12-3pm. More information will follow later.

**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 29.10.23 was as follows:

Main Collection: £251.84 (Envelopes: £105, LP: £146.84)

Candles: £14.10

Papers: £1.50

Total: **£267.44**

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 5th November – Sunday 12th November**

Sunday 5th November Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

10.00 am Audrey Eileen Pollard – RIP

Monday 6th November Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Tuesday 7th November Feria

9.00 am No Mass

Wednesday 8th November Feria

9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Thursday 9th November Dedication of the Lateran Basilica – Feast

9.00 am No Mass

Friday 10th November St Leo the Great, Priest, Doctor of the Church

9.00 am No Mass

Saturday 11th November St Martin of Tours, Bishop

9.00 am No Mass

Sunday 12th November Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

(Remembrance Sunday)

10.00 am Rt Rev Mons Van Meenen – RIP

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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)