A church with a bell tower

Description automatically generated**English Martyrs Catholic Church**

[**http://www.englishmartyrshx.com/**](http://www.englishmartyrshx.com/)

**Parish Priest: Fr Linu Thankachan**

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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

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)**

**(DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) (OCTAVE OF EASTER)**

**SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2024**

**Acts 4:32-35 1 John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31**

On this Second Sunday of Easter, the Liturgy of the Word begins with a most beautiful and idealistic text from Acts. Of special significance is the description that the Jerusalem community “was of one heart and mind”, with “everything in common.” How many of us struggle daily to live for the common good!

The reading from the First Letter of John, like our responsorial psalm, invites us to reflect on the incomprehensible love of God. God’s commandments are not intended to be a burden for us; rather, they have been given to us as guides for living faith-filled lives.

While locked behind closed doors, Jesus appears to the disciples and offers them peace. Upon recognizing Jesus, the disciples rejoice. Jesus extends peace to them a second time, then bestows the holy Spirit on them. In yet another encounter behind locked doors, Jesus appears again. This time, after extending peace to the disciples, Jesus invites Thomas to touch him and to believe in him. This scene concludes with reference to other signs that Jesus performed so that we might have life in Jesus’ name.



**THANK YOU:** I extend my heartfelt thanks to you all for making my first Holy Week and Easter Sunday such a success for the glory of God. I would like to offer my gratitude to you all for your very kind Easter donations, cards, gifts and well wishes. You will remain in my thoughts and prayers throughout Easter. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who give their time so generously to help our Parish of English Martyrs.

**RCIA:** Let us keep in our prayers Alan Driver, Antonio Moafi-Jozani, Veronika Urszin and Martin Deme, who were received into the full Communion of Catholic Faith at the Easter Vigil at St Albans, Elm Park. They will be officially welcomed to our Parish community today, Divine Mercy Sunday.

**SUGGESTIONS/IDEAS:** We have a suggestion box at the back of the Church for anyone who would like to put forward suggestions/ideas on forthcoming social events.

**SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL:** If anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is vitally important to let Fr Linu know so that the sick person may receive the spiritual help of the sacraments. Relatives or friends should also inform the Catholic Chaplain of the hospital concerned.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY:** Today, we will have a special blessing of our new Divine Mercy image.

**VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD:** The next “Enquirers’ Evening” for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 9 April at Brentwood Cathedral. The speaker will be Fr Joseph Rodrigues. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires: [vocprom@brcdt.org](mailto:vocprom@brcdt.org). or see our noticeboard.

**CONCERT FOR ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN’S CAMP:** The camp is restarting in 2024, under the umbrella of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood. The fundraising concert is on **Saturday 13th April 2024 - New Windmill Hall, Upminster. 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Wine and refreshments included.** Adult tickets £10; children £5. Bookings by phone: 07957382592. Online bookings and more details: [www.boscocamp.co.uk/events](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk/events)

**LEGION OF MARY:** Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Legion of Mary of our Parish will be going on their Annual Pilgrimage to Aylesford in Kent on the 4th May 2024, in honour of Venerable Edel Quinn. The coach will be leaving our parish car park by 9 am and returning before 7 pm the same day. Coach fare: £18 for each person. Contact Michael Okafor on 07956586370 if you are interested.

**YOUTH 2000 LONDON RETREAT DAY: COME AND SEE:** Youth 2000 are running a retreat day for young adults (16-35) on 11th May at Sacred Heart Parish in Wimbledon. It is jam-packed one day event, where people come together as a community of young adults in prayer and friendship. The retreat is an invitation to come as you are, and to come and see who Jesus is and what He can do in your life. The cost £25 and more information can be found at: <https://www.youth2000.org/events/london2024>

**A DAY WITH MARY:** Please see noticeboard for full details.

**THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY (BCCS)**: are looking for thrill seekers with a passion for fundraising to take part in Harlow Tye Rotary’s annual Harlow Water Tower Abseil on Saturday 18th May 2024. For all details, please visit our Harlow Water Tower Abseil webpage here: [https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.bccs.org.uk%2fget-involved%2fevents%2f&c=E,1,AQdQT8p6ASNWeLzKa8-qbS3ifB9U_U31Iyg6ITHRuOJm433YA5hXl0yZamlXs5OxJudP2n0eL35iY7ueAjpJgI2xYtFUFhPscoJf-zRwZN1ugLdgd27djBIzIUVD&typo=1)

To secure your spot, a £35 entry fee will be paid to the Harlow Tye Rotary Club, with all funds raised through your efforts being donated to BCCS. Please reach out to Charlotte: [cwalker@bccs.org.uk](mailto:cwalker@bccs.org.uk) / 07986841178 to sign up!

**CATHOLIC PARISH SUMMIT:** The Catholic Parish Summit is taking place in Harrogate from the 12th to the 14th of June with over 1,000 parish leaders from across the country. Our diocese has booked some places for the Summit which are available to anyone who is interested in attending. These places are free but they are limited and you will need to make arrangements for accommodation while you are in Harrogate. For more information about the Summit please visit their website: [https://catholicparishsummit.com/](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fcatholicparishsummit.com%2f&c=E,1,nZv5IZdmYcKovzL8Q_oC5p2ObsvhUyg58w_FtiOd8wH-FuSElGr_QfrUsFMZ6KdPG9Y_RdaGl4JwMjrpc6YF6DITZenmrzFpsZZkhypnMrZPUglQOBVG0Q,,&typo=1) If you would like to find out more please email Father Dan Mason, the Episcopal Vicar for Parish Renewal at [billericay@brcdt.org](mailto:billericay@brcdt.org)

**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 2024 CARITAS BRENTWOOD NETWORKING DAY, SATURDAY 27TH APRIL, 10AM – 2.30PM, AT THE ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR CHURCH HALL, ROMFORD:** If you are interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, the Cost of Living Crisis, mental health and well-being, welcoming refugees and migrants or the causes and effects of climate change, then this is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and free registration are at [www.caritasbrentwood.org/network](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/network)

**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, Sheila McCurdy, 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 – APRIL:** V Alexander, Holly Bethell, Francis Connolly, Victor De Silva, Patsy Guidera, Anne Headd, Margaret Thomas.

**PARISH FINANCE:**

**Offertory Collection:** The collection for the week ending 31.03.24 was as follows:

Holy Places: £165.37 (Envelopes: £85, LP: £80.37)

Hall Bookings: £450

**Total: £615.37**

**Masses and Intentions**

**Sunday 7th April – Sunday 14th April**

Sunday 7th April Second Sunday of Easter (B)

(Divine Mercy Sunday) (Octave of Easter)

10.00 am Alan Driver, Antonio Moafi-Jozani, Veronika Urszin and Martin Deme - Intentions

Blessing of Picture

Monday 8th April The Annunciation of the Lord – Solemnity

9.00 am V Alexander – RIP (Helen Henry)

Tuesday 9th April Tuesday after the Second Sunday of Easter

9.00 am Kathleen Keanely – RIP/Anni (Maria Poddington)

Wednesday 10th April Wednesday after the Second Sunday of Easter

9.00 am Eucharistic Service

Thursday 11th April St Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr

9.00 am Peter-Paul Schweitzer – RIP (Michael Jenkins)

Friday 12th April Friday after the Second Sunday of Easter

9.00 am A T Philip – RIP

Saturday 13th April Saturday after the Second Sunday of Easter

No Mass

Sunday 14th April Third Sunday of Easter (B)

10.00 am Marjie Phelan – RIP (Peter Guidera & Family)

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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)  Parish Finance: Mrs Stephanie Mallen (07983 962465), Marie Browne (07443 362654)  Diocesan Safeguarding Representative: TBC  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)

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 - 12.30 pm)