



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2023

Love your neighbour as yourself”

“Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy” (Lv 19:2). These words challenge us to imitate God in our actions. The word “holy” embraces the concept of wholeness, as opposed to being divided. Leviticus illustrates this meaning: “You shall not bear hatred for your brother or sister in your heart” (19:17). Instead, follow the command: “Love your neighbour as yourself” (19:18).

In Matthew’s account of the Gospel, Jesus clearly builds on this passage from Leviticus. “Be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect” (5:48). To “be perfect” is the same as to “be holy”. Such holiness would mean that the individual is undivided in their interior and exterior lives. Jesus offers three succinct scenarios of humiliation that reflect Mediterranean culture: being struck on the right cheek by a backhanded slap is an insult; being sued in court where one is humiliated by losing property or dignity and being forced to carry something by Roman soldiers (see Simon of Cyrene carrying Jesus’ cross [Mt 27:32]). All of these cultural situations required action to defend one’s honour. Instead, Jesus advises a different approach: Find another way to respond that avoids violence. Rise above these insults. Jesus is abrogating a basic law of the Middle East, enduring to the present, known as the Law of Talion, the law of retaliation: “*An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth*” (Mt 5:38) Jesus invites his followers to find a third way that rises above humiliation and avoids retaliating in the same way. Use your imagination to discover how best to overcome the insult in ways that rise above it and beyond violence.



Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 19th February (Cycle A)

Parish Diary

Sunday Masses	10.00 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Masses	9.00 am
Wednesdays	9.00 am – Eucharistic Service
Friday	Adoration following 9.00 am Mass
Holy Days of Obligation	9.30am & 7.30pm
Confessions	Saturdays 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)

Liturgical Calendar

Sunday 19 th February	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) (Day for the unemployed)
Wednesday 22 nd February	Ash Wednesday – Today is a day for fasting & abstinence
Sunday 26 th February	First Sunday of Lent (A)

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 19 th February	10.00 am	Rosaleen Grimwood – RIP (donor – Frances & Terry Bethell) For Parishioners
	6.30 pm	
Monday 20 th February	9.00 am	
	1.30 pm	Funeral – Jean Narayna RIP
Tuesday 21 st February	11.00 am	Funeral – Rosaleen Grimwood RIP
Wednesday 22 nd February	9.30 am	Ash Wednesday
Thursday 23 rd February	9.00 am	
Friday 24 th February	9.00 am	Mick Scholes – RIP & Family (donor – Evelyn Townsend)
Saturday 25 th February	9.00 am	
Sunday 26 th February	10.00 am	Rosaleen Grimwood RIP (donor – Pauline Guidera)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners

Let us pray together for the people of Turkey and Syria who have been hard hit by the earthquakes. May we continue to pray for those who have lost their lives, as well as the injured, family members and rescuers. May our concrete aid sustain them in the midst of this appalling tragedy. Amen

Parish Notice Board

RIP - Funerals

The forthcoming funerals for our recently Deceased: -

Mr Jean Narayna RIP	Monday 20 th February 1.30pm
Rosaleen Grimwood RIP	Tuesday 21 st February 11am
Mary Thurgood RIP	Friday 3 rd March 11am

Eternal rest grant unto them Oh Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen

Painting of the Church Ceiling – Financial Help Needed

Following on from the voluntary help we received to paint the church, we would now like to complete the painting of the ceiling professionally. We would therefore ask for your kind help to contribute to the cost (£4,500-£5,000). Kindly meet Father personally to discuss your donation.

CAFOD Turkey-Syria Earthquake Appeal

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Turkey Syria Earthquake Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

Children's Liturgy

The Children's Liturgy is now up and running during 10am mass every Sunday. Please encourage your children to join this group which is open to children aged 4 and above. It is a very relaxed and fun group to help your child along their path of faith.

The Catholic Post

We have at the back of the church some copies of the Catholic Post. Please feel free to take a copy which is £1, please put in the usual place. In order for this subscription to be kept active depends solely on your uptake. If in the future we feel it is not financially viable to continue, we may have to cancel our order. Thank you.

Parish Finance:

Weekly Collection

The collections for 12.02.23 were as follows:

Main collection: (Gift Aid: £115, Loose plate: £265.72). Total: £380.72

Second collections:

Lourdes Sick & Helpers Pilgrimage Fund: £151.43 (GA: £38, LP: £113.43)

Crib Offerings: £8.90 (GA: £2, LP: £6.90)

Total banked: £541.05

Communication Desk

Lent Mass Readings

All the readings for the Masses of Lent, with a short commentary by Fr Adrian Graffy, can be found on www.whatgoodnews.org Click on 'Scripture Readings' and then 'Lent Readings'.

Brentwood Cathedral Lent Lecture

"The pain, passion and privilege of supporting Christians who are suffering persecution" to be given by Baroness Caroline Cox at Brentwood Cathedral on Wednesday 1st March at 7.00 p.m. Free Entry. No need to book. All welcome.

CYMFed Flame, Saturday 4th March at OVO Arena, Wembley

With incredible speakers Cardinal Tagle, Salesian Archbishop of Melbourne, Tim Costelloe, SDB, Robert Billot, an American lawyer who is the main character in the film Dark Waters; Jenny Garzón Saavedra a young advocate from the Amazon rainforest and David Wells, musicians including MOBO and Urban Music Award winner Guvna B, rising star Faith Child, Catholic band One Hope Project and soloist Adenike – a Finalist on The Voice, as well as Brenden Thompson and Georgia Clarke from Catholic Voices introducing Adoration, led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols this promises to be an incredible and inspiring day for young people! Passes cost just £24/person if you book before 31st January, and the BCYS has a limited number left so please email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org to reserve yours! All information at www.bcys.net/events

Essex Recusant Society

Please see noticeboard at the back of the church for details of their forthcoming meeting.

Retreat Manager Job Vacancy

Walsingham House at Abbotswick are seeking to appoint a new Retreat Manager. If you have experience and a passion for Youth Ministry, and would like to help shape the retreat work of Walsingham House at Abbotswick then please see the website for more information (www.bcys.net/retreat-manager/) or email Claire Bailey, Director of Youth Ministry (clairebailey@dioceseofbrentwood.org) Closing date for applications is Monday 13th March 2023.

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:

John Buckley, Maureen Chaliss, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Margaret, Eileen McCaffery, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Sheila Nugent, Mary O'Hagan, Rachel, Pradeepan Rangunathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Voni Tesi, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court.

Anniversaries Occurring at this time – February/March

Michael Butler, Pauline Carroll, May Coleman, Nancy Cronin, Oliver Fant, Kathy Forsythe, Donal Hayes, Sue Jones, Kathleen Keanely, Pat Kivneen, Agatha Linton, Maura Meadway, James Medlin, Peter Murray, Margaret O'Connell, Ann O'Leary, Bridget O'Leary, John Passet, Ann Russell, Eamonn Shanahan, James Smith, Anthony Soares, Grace Walsh, David Ward, Vincent Wright

Parish Priest: Fr Britto Belevendran, (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)

The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)
Parish address: 240 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6BJ
Parish Tel.no: 01708 507020
Parish website: <http://www.englishmartyrshx.com/>
email: hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org