



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)
SUNDAY 7TH MAY 2023

A Chosen Race and a Royal Priesthood

The nature of the Church's ministry emerges in the first reading from Acts. In response to the continued growth of the early Church, the apostles choose seven men, filled with the Holy Spirit, to share their ministry of service. The role of deacon (from the Greek word *diakonein*, "to serve") emerges. Preaching (leading people in worship of God) and service (caring for the poor) are the two foundational pillars of ministry.

In his first letter, Peter identifies the risen Lord as "a living stone" (2:4), chosen by God the Father, as the cornerstone of a spiritual house where we, his followers, become "living stones." In spiritual unity with the risen Christ, we are "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own" (2:9).

The context for the Gospel reading is Jesus' discourse with his followers at the Last Supper. Jesus refers to himself as "the way and the truth and the life" (Jn 14:6). We are followers of the Way (Jesus) that leads us to the Father. Jesus reveals his intimate relationship with the Father: he is in the Father, as the Father is in him. Jesus' words are the Father's words and Jesus' works are the Father's works. United with him, Jesus promises his followers that they too will do great works.

From these readings emerge a deeper understanding of Jesus and of our identity. Jesus is the human face of God, as Pope Benedict XVI described him in his encyclicals *Saved in Hope and Charity in Truth*. As God's chosen race, we follow Jesus, the Way, to our eternal home.



Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)
Sunday 7th May 2023

Parish Diary

Sunday Masses	10.00 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Masses	9.00 am
Wednesdays	9.00 am – Eucharistic Service – Office Closed
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 6 th May	Fifth Sunday of Easter (A)
Tuesday 9 th May	(Survivors of Sexual Abuse)
Friday 12 th May	St John Houghton, Priest, Martyr
Saturday 13 th May	St Erconwald, Bishop
	Secondary Co-Patron of the Diocese
Sunday 14 th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter (A)

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 7 th May	10.00 am	Pedro Goncalves – Ints (donor – Frances & Terry Bethell) For Parishioners
	6.30 pm	
Monday 8 th May	9.00 am	
Tuesday 9 th May	9.00 am	Tony Gummet – RIP
Wednesday 10 th May	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 11 th May	9.00 am	Janet Barrow – RIP
Friday 12 th May	9.00 am	John Buckley – RIP (donor – Bridget Fowley)
Saturday 13 th May	9.00 am	Mary Brennan – Sick (donor – Bridget Fowley)
Sunday 14 th May	10.00 am	Kathy Lucas – RIP/10 th Anni (donor – Maggie Brennan)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners

Parish Notice Board

RIP

Please continue to pray for the families of John Buckley and Holly Bethell. Eternal rest grant unto them Oh Lord and let the perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace, Amen, and also remember the sick of the Parish.

Celebration of - Coronation of King Charles III and the Feast of English Martyrs

Please join us after mass for a celebration to mark yesterday's coronation of King Charles III as well as the Feast of the parish that occurred this week (4th May)

Change of Email Address

This is to advise you that on **Monday 8th May 2023**, our primary email address will be changing from hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org to hornchurchem@brcdt.org

Parish Finance:

Weekly Collection

The collection for 30.04.23 was as follows:

Main collection: £346.31 (Envelopes: £99, LP: £247.31)

Second collection (Vocations): £120.22 (Envelopes: £46.25, LP: £73.97)

Repository: £2

Hall bookings (The Riverside Women's Club): £250.

Communication Desk

St Mary's Upminster-Urgent Help Needed

"A staff member is looking for some temporary accommodation for June/July due to eviction. If anyone has a room to let or is aware of some alternative accommodation that would help a member of the school community, it would be greatly appreciated. Please use the following contact details in order to get in touch if you know of anything suitable: vqurrey@mary.havering.sch.uk / 01708 222660"

The Thresholds Of Hope Easter Talks

Will explore what it means to have an intimate friendship with Christ. They will take place on Wednesdays 10th, 17th and 24th of May at St Francis of Assisi, Stratford, E15 1NS from 7.30 - 9.00 p.m. The first talk, "*Calling on the name of Jesus*," will be given by Fr Martin Boland, the Dean of Brentwood Cathedral. All very welcome.

Gidea Park Study Day On Pope Benedict And The Liturgy

On Saturday 20th May, from 11.00 to 13.00 BST, Fr Vincent Twomey SVD, student and friend of Pope Benedict XVI, will speak on 'The Liturgical Vision of Pope Benedict'. The event will not be in person but live streamed from Ireland on www.whatgoodnews.org. Fr Twomey has recently produced 'The Dynamics of Liturgy: Joseph Ratzinger's Theology of Liturgy', published by Ignatius Press. Further details of the event are to be found on the attached flyer and on the website www.whatgoodnews.org A recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on the website.

Permanent Diaconate

'Come and See' event on the Permanent Diaconate with Bishop Alan, for all those wishing to learn more about the ministry of deacons in the Church and in the Diocese. Of particular interest to men considering a call to serve as deacons, and to parish priests seeking to promote vocations within their parishes. For further information please contact kencarleton@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Sion Community Charismatic Teaching Weekend

From 6pm Friday 19th May to 2pm Sunday 21st May 2023. Theme: 'Living the Prophetic Lifestyle' (part of the 'Moving in the Anointing' series). This weekend is a great follow-up to 'Life in the Spirit' seminars and an opportunity to grow in the Gifts and Charisms of the Holy Spirit. Guest Speaker: Dominic McDermott. Cost: £120 residential, £80 non-residential. Book early as we have limited spaces. To book a place or for more info, visit <https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/f8v3emks>

Sion Community

"We would like to invite you to come and pray with us from 22nd to 27th May during a time of continuous prayer in the Chapel at the Sion Community House in Brentwood. Teresa Carvalho, one of the Sion Community Leaders has arranged for the Chapel to be open for prayer day and night in the 6 days leading up to Pentecost. There will be some times of

community prayer, ecumenical praise and worship with other Christian Traditions, creative prayer and opportunity for silent prayer. All are welcome, however if you are able to book beforehand, it would help us to ensure someone is praying throughout the six days. You can contact us either by emailing us on TKCCatholicEngagement@t-time.uk, scan the QR code on the leaflet displayed at the back of the Church, or send your name and email address/contact no. to 24/6 Prayer, SENT, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, Essex CM15 9BX with the details.”

The Campion School Open Evening

For the admission of boys (in current Year 5) in September 2024 will be held at the school on Thursday, 29th June 2023 from 4.30 pm to 7 pm. Talks from the Headteacher will be at 5.15 pm and 6.30 pm. Admissions forms, including The Supplementary Information Form (SIF) will be available online.

Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about ‘Retrouvaille’ or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:

Alice Briody, 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, Vonni Tesi, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court.

Anniversaries Occurring at this time – April/May

V. Alexander, Primuse Bernard, Finbar Buckley, Tommy Higgins, Kathy Lucas, Annie Medlin, Patrick Medlin, Anne Melia, Bernard Mithen, Padaer Phelan, Jim Shanahan, Nell Sullivan, Margaret Thomas.

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

Founded 1955

Diocese of Brentwood

Registered Charity No. 23409