

**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**SUNDAY 13<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022**

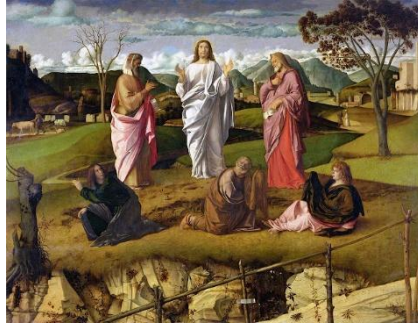
**Divine Reassurance**

Today's first reading opens with a contradiction. Abram initially expresses complete faith in God's promises but soon appears to waver, asking how he can be certain they will be fulfilled. In earlier chapters, the Lord assured Abram that he would be the father of many descendants, who would possess the land of Canaan. But Abram's wife Sarai is barren, rendering God's promise questionable.

God responds to Abram's uncertainty with assurance by founding the promise on a covenant. In ancient Israel, covenants created familial bonds between two parties and often stipulated mutual privileges and responsibilities. But the covenant sealed here names responsibilities only for God, not Abram. The promise is unconditional; God swears it through the strange ritual described here. Animals for sacrifice were cut in half; the blood shed indicated the covenant partners would henceforth treat each other like blood relatives.

Each party to the covenant would pass between the halves, as if to say, "May the same be done to me if I break this covenant" (see Jer 34:18). God moves between the severed animals in the form of fire, a common Old Testament symbol for his presence. The Lord thus assures Abram that despite appearances to the contrary, the promises rest on the firmest foundation: God's unconditional promise, which deepens their relationship.

In the Gospel, Jesus' disciples also need reassurance. Shortly before this passage, Jesus, who was to be "saviour" of all (Lk 2:11), has told his followers that he will suffer rejection and execution (Lk 9:11). On the mountain, a traditional place of revelation, the disciples receive their assurance: a dazzling vision of the glory that will follow Jesus' passion and a glimpse of the divine essence Jesus shares with the Father.



**Second Sunday in Lent**  
**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2022 (Cycle C)**

**Liturgical Calendar**

Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Second Sunday of Lent (C)

Saint Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland – National Feast

St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Solemnity

Third Sunday of Lent (C)

**A Prayer for Ukraine**

Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world  
that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways  
so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world.

Amen.

**The Season of Lent**

**Fridays in Lent**

During the Season of Lent, we will have Friday morning mass at 9am and evening mass with Stations of the Cross beginning at 7.30pm. All are warmly encouraged to participate in this traditional practise.

**Masses & Intentions This Week**

Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am	May Shanahan – Recovery
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am	Fr Britto – Birthday Intentions (donor – Parishioners of EM)
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am	Sheridan Family – Ints (donor – Pauline Sheridan)
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service

Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am	Oliver Carey – RIP (donor – Joan Carey)
Saturday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	9.00 am	
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	10.00 am	Crawley & Guidera Families (donor – Pauline Guidera)
	6.30pm	For Parishioners

## Parish Notice Board

### RIP – Bridget O’Leary

We were very sorry to hear of the recent death of Bridget O’Leary, (Katie Nash’s grandmother). Her cremation will take place on Tuesday at South Essex Crematorium. Please remember Bridget and her family in your prayers.

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – 13<sup>th</sup> March - CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal

Every child should grow big and strong. Family Fast Day is Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March, a day when we eat simply and give generously to support mums around the world, like Amie in Sierra Leone, with expert training in growing and making healthy food.

Your small act of love this Lent will make a big difference to many communities affected by extreme hunger and children suffering from malnutrition. You can donate in church using a CAFOD envelope or by visiting the CAFOD website ([cafod.org.uk/lent](http://cafod.org.uk/lent)).

Our second collection today is for the Family Fast Day/Lent Appeal. We welcome Rosie (10am) and Sean (6.30pm) who will speak at each mass about the important work Cafod undertake during this time. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity.

### Welcome

We welcome into the family of our Parish Joshua James McDonnell, who was baptised on Saturday, and we congratulate his parents Matthew and Sarah.

### Urgent Request

We have a family within our parish in need of a 3 bedroom house for rental. If anyone knows of one or equally has one, please can you contact the office. Many thanks.

### Parish Finance: 06.03.22

Gift Aid:	£ 135.00
Loose Plate:	£ 246.00
Total:	<u>£ 381.00</u>

### Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:

Kathleen Clifford, Anna Heneghan, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Rachel, Mary Scully, Mary Thurgood, Mary Wright, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court and John Buckley.

## Communication Desk

### Lent Readings

The Scripture readings for Lent are particularly rich and a major source of help in living a good Lent. Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest, Scripture scholar, and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has prepared commentaries on all the readings in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass throughout Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday. The full text of the biblical readings and commentary are accessible from the home page of [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

#### Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea)

On the one-year anniversary of the Ever Given ship getting stuck in the Suez Canal, Catholic charity Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea) is hosting a webinar about modernisation in the shipping industry. It will look at the history of the container ship, the rise of the ultra-large container vessels, and explore what impact modernisation of the shipping industry has had on seafarers around the world. Please register now at [www.stellamaris.org.uk/modernisation](http://www.stellamaris.org.uk/modernisation) to join online on 23 March at 7.30pm to hear how shipping has changed in the last century, the impact this is having on seafarers today, and the important role Stella Maris has in supporting them.

#### Beginning Experience Weekend

If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8th to 10th April 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com)

#### Pilgrimage to Aylesford

Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Legion of Mary of this parish will be going to Aylesford for a day pilgrimage in honour of Edel Quinn on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2022. Everybody is invited and the cost for the coach is £15 each person. The coach will be leaving from our car park by 9 a.m. Please contact Michael Okafor on 07956586370 and pay immediately as the seats are going quickly.

#### Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage:

Bp Alan, supported by our Youth Service, will lead a pilgrimage to Lourdes from 26 - 31 July, flying from Southend Airport. This is a wonderful opportunity, including for the frail and those with needs, to pray at the Grotto, grow in faith, and enjoy the company of fellow pilgrims. Some brochures and booking forms are available at the back of the church or you can contact the tour operator, Tangney Tours, directly: [www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood](http://www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood) or 01732 886885

#### Caritas

“Caritas Diocese of Brentwood are inviting people of all ages to collect items throughout Lent, by following our Lenten Giving Calendar. All the items you collect can be placed into a box or container, topped with an Easter Egg, and then donated to your local foodbank just in time for Easter week. All information, including the calendar itself, can be found at [www.caritasbrentwood.org/lent](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/lent) or by emailing [sianthomas@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:sianthomas@dioceseofbrentwood.org)”

Please see the noticeboard for Job Vacancies within the Diocese.

<b>Parish Priest: Fr Britto Belevendran, (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Parish Administrator: Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs &amp; Fri (10am-1pm) (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Pastoral Team Leader: Graham Daniels (07542 588763)</b>
<b>Steward of the Gospel: Mandy Meadway (07801 470516)</b>
<b>Parish Finance: Mrs Stephanie Mallen (07983 962465)</b>

<b>Diocesan Safeguarding Representative: Katie Nash (07825 293308)</b>
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<b>Hall &amp; Lounge Bookings: English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)</b>
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<b>Church &amp; Hall Caretaker; Mike Dineen (07415 727926)</b>
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**The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)**

**Parish address: 240 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6BJ**

**Parish tel no: 01708 507020**

**Parish email: [hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org) Parish website:**

**<http://englishmartyrshx.weebly.com/>**

**Founded 1955**

**Diocese of Brentwood**

**Registered Charity No. 23409**