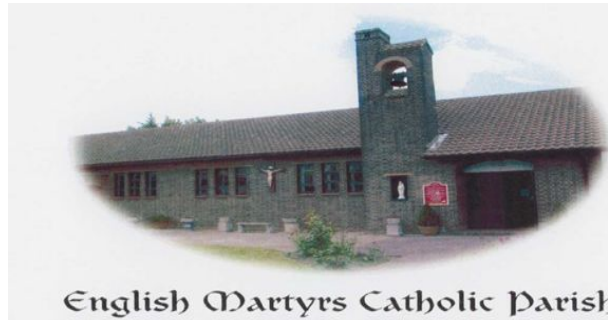


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English Martyrs Catholic Parish

**SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**SUNDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**

**“Moved With Pity”**

For lepers, the law of Leviticus must have seemed very harsh. They could not live in the camp with anyone. They had to warn people that they were coming. Actually, any skin disease was concerned leprosy unless proven otherwise. The Book of Leviticus devotes two chapters (13 and 14) to laws requiring a period of separation and examination before anyone with a skin lesion is allowed back into the camp. Leprosy was worse than other ailments because the opening on the skin often exposed blood, the source of life and any contact with blood made a person unclean.

Every Jew reading Mark’s account of the Gospel would have been familiar with the laws regarding leprosy. When Jesus touched the leper to heal him, Jews collectively gasped. Not even the prophet Elisha (2 Kings 5) cured a leper this way. Touching the leper made Jesus unclean, yet neither he nor Mark seem concerned. The encounter with the leper again shows Jesus confronting the conditions that separate people from each other. The possessed man was disturbed and frightening; Peter’s mother-in-law could not fulfil her place in the family; The leper is alienated by the unclean nature of his disease. In each case, by word or touch, Jesus restores the person to the family and the community.

Mark adds two interesting details to this story. First, Jesus is “moved with pity” for the man. Mark, who tells the story of Jesus more simply than the other Gospels, describes Jesus’ emotional state. This makes Mark’s portrayal of Jesus, very human. But he also emphasizes the healing power of Jesus to show his divine identity. Second, as he did with the demons, Jesus urges the leper to tell no one. Jesus did not want followers based solely on his ability to heal. If we were to hear all of verse 45 in this reading, we would understand what Jesus feared. He is no longer able to move about openly because people flock to him seeking healing. In the face of their preoccupation with physical healing, his message may well be lost.



**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

**Liturgical Calendar**

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) (World Day for the Unemployed)
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	Shrove Tuesday
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b> <i>Today is a day of fasting and abstinence</i>
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	First Sunday of Lent (B)

**Masses & Intentions This Week**

Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	May Cummins – RIP/Anni (donor – Michelle Taplin)
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	Maura Meadway – RIP (donor – Miriam Della)
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	The Deceased Members of the Cummins Family (donor – Michelle Taplin)
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	Deceased Members of the Taplin Family (donor – Michelle Taplin)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	Deceased Members of the O'Connor Fam (donor – Michelle Taplin)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	John Fuller – RIP (donor – Margo Fuller)
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	10.00 am	Ann & Gavin Turner – Intentions (donor – Michelle Turner)



## *The Season of Lent Begins*

The 2021 Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, for Latin-rite Catholics with Easter Sunday on April 4<sup>th</sup>.

During Lent, we are asked to devote ourselves to seeking the Lord in [prayer](#) and reading Scripture, to service by [giving alms](#), and to practice self-control through [fasting](#). Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446).

Lent is a favourable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ."-- Pope Francis

**Ash Wednesday Mass will be at 10am Livestream and 12pm in church**

### **Sunday Masses During Lent In Church**

Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)

***'Please see the attached 'Pope Francis' Message for Lent'***

#### **RIP – Andrew Shanahan**

We were very saddened to hear of the tragic accident of Andrew Shanahan (aged 29), grandson of one of our parishioners Greta Shanahan. Please keep the family in your prayers.

#### **RIP – Kath Irvine**

We also pray for Lesley Tynan and her family for the sad loss of her mother Kath Irvine.

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let the perpetuate light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen*

#### **Learning From Covid**

Sr Gemma Simmonds CJ of Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge, will lead a livestreamed study day on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 11 am, on the topic 'Learning from Covid: church, state and a better future'. The study day is organised by Gidea Park parish. Free access to the live event will be available on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and a recording subsequently on the same website.

#### **Austen Ivereigh Event**

I am pleased to be able to report that the recording of the sessions from Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January with Austen Ivereigh is still available on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

You may also be interested in the recordings of the individual sessions of the Halki Summit, inspired by Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, now available on the [Halki Summit IV webpage](#) . It is Bartholomew who inspired Pope Francis to produce *Laudato si*.

### A Note from English Martyrs Parish Secretary

Please note that I am only physically in the office on Mondays and Fridays now as I am working from home. However, should you need anything urgent or to book mass intentions etc, please do not hesitate to call me on 07956 473389 during the hours of 11am – 2pm or please feel free to email me. Many thanks.

### Financial Support for your Parish

We wish to thank those who have been most generous in your contributions to the parish finance. Those who have not yet thought about giving, you have the option of either donating on line, information below or simply pop your envelope through the Presbytery letterbox. <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=hornchurch-2>. We appreciate your help and understanding.

### USEFUL WEBSITES

For those who have access to a computer, you may find the following websites of help in keeping up to date with developments:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net>

<http://walsingham.org.uk> (For Live stream masses)

### Parish Notice Board

#### Brentwood Diocesan Directory – 2021

The Brentwood Diocesan Directory is now on sale at the back of the church for £2.80.

### COMMUNICATIONS DESK

#### Liturgy Of The Word

Apps to access readings for Mass: Daily Readings for Catholics, and Laudate. You can also access the readings by going to the website [www.universalis.com](http://www.universalis.com)

#### Marriage And Family Life

Marriage is not just a relationship but a vocation and a means of holiness. Please pray for married couples, those preparing for marriage (especially those who have had to defer weddings), and those who have been widowed especially in the past year. In the run up to St Valentine's Day the Brentwood Marriage and Family Life Facebook page (BrentwoodMandFL) will include interviews with couples from around the diocese. If you are experiencing difficulties in your marriage, or would like to deepen your understanding of this vocation and each other, a number of organisations are able to help remotely during the lockdown, such as Retrouvaille, Marriage Care and Smart Loving. Search for these organisations online, or look out for information on the noticeboard [adapt as appropriate]. Retrouvaille is running its first virtual weekend for couples in difficulty this month, 25th - 28th February (0788 729 6983 / 0797 338 0443 / [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com)).

### Vacancy

#### St Elizabeth's Centre in Much Hadham

Are looking to recruit a Lay Chaplain to play a pivotal role, ensuring the Catholic identity of the centre is celebrated and developed. Further information on St Elizabeth's and the very

important work we do supporting Adults and Children with epilepsy and other complex learning needs and disabilities can be found on our website: <https://www.stelizabeths.org.uk>

Should you have any questions regarding the role itself, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

**St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay**

Are seeking to appoint a highly motivated and inspiring SENCO to join our team, with a passion for working with vulnerable children to ensure they receive the education they deserve. You will be able to bring an innovative and creative approach to supporting the strategic direction and development of SEN provision across our school, whilst effectively managing and developing the progress and achievement of our SEND pupils. You will be a strong practitioner with a degree and a teaching qualification. Ideally, you will hold the National SENCO qualification.

For more information can be found on Essex Jobs via this link

<http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=62538>

**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:** David Calder, Kathleen Clifford, Evelyn Golding, Anna Heneghan, Paul Hogan, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Don Muscat, Rachel, Mary Scully, Mary Thurgood, Mary Wright. Rose Yates in Emerson Court.

<b>Parish Priest : Fr Britto Belevendran, (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Parish Administrator : Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs &amp; Fri (11am-2pm) (07956 473389)</b>
<b>Diocesan Safeguarding Representative : Katie Nash (07825293308)</b>
<b>Finance &amp; Maintenance : Mr Graham Daniels (01708 452406)</b>
<b>Parish Gift Aid Organiser : Dr Steve Pinder (01708 445443)</b>
<b>Hall &amp; Lounge Bookings : English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)</b>

**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**