



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2022**

**Fully Human Fully Divine**

Joseph's dilemma regarding Mary's pregnancy is resolved when in a dream an angel reveals that the child is conceived "through the Holy Spirit" (Mt 1:18). The child to be born is the Son of God and the son of Mary. This is Jesus' identity: fully divine and fully human. Matthew supports this by quoting from Isaiah's prophecy: "*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel*" (Mt 1:23).

This is the same Gospel message that St. Paul hands on so clearly in the beginning of his Letter of the Romans (today's second reading). The message of the good News of our salvation centres on the person of Jesus: fully human, as a descendant of David and foretold by the prophets and fully divine as the Son of God and demonstrated by the resurrection.

Jesus' identity has significant implications for us. We are called to "belong to Jesus Christ" (Rom 1:6) by being transformed in holiness through the grace and peace that comes through Jesus' resurrection. This our faith. This is our inheritance: "We belong to Jesus Christ" as God's beloved children called to be saints. As such, like St Paul, we are called to witness to this message by our lives.



**Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2022 (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 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Fourth Sunday of Advent (A) (Expectant Mothers)
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December (Evening)	The Nativity of the Lord – Solemnity
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Day – Solemnity Holyday of Obligation

**Masses & Intentions This Week**

Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00 am	Tom Guidera – RIP/Anni (donor – Pauline Guidera)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00 am	Bernie Galvin – Well Being (donor – Michelle Taplin)
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	9.00 am	Mrs Marie Baret – RIP (donor – Mary Fant)
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	9.00 am	Larry Farrell – RIP (donor – Mary Byrne)
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December	9.00 am	Mr and Mrs Dani – RIP (donor – Maria Poddington)
Saturday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	5.30 pm	Family Mass
	9.30 pm	Carols & Readings: Followed by
	10.00 pm	Midnight Mass
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00 am	Nicholas Medlin – RIP/Anni (donor – Mary Wright)
		Lazar Theresa – RIP/1 <sup>st</sup> Anni
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners

**Parish Notice Board**

**Welcome**

We welcome into the family of our Parish Florence Salter and Charlie Salter, who were baptised on Saturday, and we congratulate their parents Bill and Kylie Salter.

### Coffee Morning

There will be a Christmas coffee morning this Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December after the 10am mass. We are also requesting for festive food donations for this occasion so we can share to everyone. All are welcome. Many thanks.

### Children's Liturgy

We are now able to resume our Children's Liturgy at the Sunday masses. This will hopefully begin in January 2023 during 10am mass. Date to be confirmed. All young children up to year 2 are welcome to join.

### School Admissions – Primary

If you missed the Primary Admissions School signing in October, Father will be signing forms on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6.30pm. Parents will be seen on a first come first served basis. Please wait in the Church. Thank you.

### Parish Finance:

#### Last week's collection: 11.12.22

Gift Aid: £ 117    Loose Plate: £ 163.87    Total: £ 280.87

2<sup>nd</sup> Collection - £102.50

#### The October/November Standing Orders and Hall bookings were as follows:

GA: £663.40; Non-GA - £592; Total: £1,255.40

Hall bookings: £1,690.

Total: £2,945.40

### The Christmas Gospels

From 17<sup>th</sup> December we read the stories of Christmas from the Gospels of Matthew and Luke at Mass. Fr Adrian Graffy has prepared a three-part video recording on these 'Christmas Gospels'. Simply visit [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and go to 'Faith Talks'.

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

John Buckley, Maureen Chaliss, Shirley De Silva, Rosaleen Grimwood, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Margaret, Eileen McCaffery, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Sheila Nugent, Mary O'Hagan, Rachel, Pradeepan Ragunathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Voni Tesi, Mary Thurgood, Mary Wright, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court and John Buckley.

### Christmas and New Year Mass Timetable 2022/23

<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	<b><i>The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas Eve)</i></b>
<i>Family Mass:</i>	<i>5.30 pm</i>
<i>Carols &amp; Readings:</i>	<i>9.30 pm followed by</i>
<i>Midnight Mass</i>	<i>10.00 pm</i>
<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	<b><i>Christmas Day</i></b>
<i>Mass:</i>	<i>10.00 am</i>
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December:</b>	<b><i>Feast of the Holy Family</i></b>

**Mass:** 10.00 am  
**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> December:** **St John, The Evangelist**  
**Mass:** 10.00 am  
**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> December:** **The Holy Innocents**  
**Mass:** 10.00 am  
**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December:** **St. Thomas of Canterbury**  
**(National Feast)**  
**Mass:** 10.00 am  
**Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December:** **Sixth Day within the Octave of**  
**Christmas**  
**Mass:** 10.00 am  
**Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December:** **Seventh Day within the of**  
**Octave of Christmas**  
**(New Year's Eve)**  
**Mass:** 10.00 am  
**Thanksgiving Adoration** 11.30 pm  
**followed by**  
**New Year Mass:** 12.00 am  
**2023**  
**Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January:** **Mary, Mother of God (Octave of**  
**Christmas)**  
**Mass:** 10.00 am  
6.30 pm  
**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> January:** **The Epiphany of the Lord – Holy**  
**Day of Obligation**  
**Mass:** 9.30 am and 7.30 pm

<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>
<b>Hall &amp; Lounge Bookings: English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)</b>
<b>Church &amp; Hall Caretaker: Mike Dineen (07415 727926)</b>
<b>Legion of Mary: Michael Okafor (07956 586370)</b>

**The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)**  
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**<http://englishmartyrshx.weebly.com/>**

**Founded 1955**

**Diocese of Brentwood**

**Registered Charity No. 23409**