



English Martyrs Catholic Parish

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY 20th MARCH 2022

True Repentance Requires Action

Exodus indicates that despite any appearances to the contrary Israel's God continues to act in the people's lives. In last Sunday's Scriptures, God's promises to Abram (that his descendants would become a great nation and inherit the promise land) seemed threatened. The Israelites were enslaved in Egypt, after all. But a faithful God established a covenant to fulfil those promises.

God assures Moses that the divine plan will continue to unfold, asserting, "I have come down to rescue them" (Ex 3:8). In revealing the divine name, "I AM," God offers a relationship of intimacy to Moses and the Israelites (3:14). By identifying this self-revelation with "the God of your fathers" (3:15), THE Lord once again takes the initiative, offering mercy and protection and promising Israel that God's promises will never fail them.

The second reading and Gospel point out that God expects the proper response from a covenant people. Paul, recalling the desert journey of his ancestors, remarks that some of them did not rely on God with confidence. Even after deliverance from slavery, they expected complete and immediate fulfilment, doubting and grumbling. As a result, they did not reach the promise land. "These things," the apostle warns, "happened as examples for us" (1 Cor 10:6).

Luke also focuses on the need for human cooperation with a saving God, in the form of repentance. In the Bible, "to repent" calls for much more than words of regret or sorrow for sin. True repentance requires action, a complete turning away from sin and returning to God. Jesus indicates that the God who offers new life demonstrates great patience in waiting for and aiding our return. But ultimately, no response yields no fruit: God cannot bring us to resurrection unless we cooperate with acts of true repentance.



Third Sunday of Lent
Sunday 20th March 2022 (Cycle C)

Liturgical Calendar

Sunday 20th March

Friday 25th March

Sunday 27th March

Third Sunday of Lent (C)

The Annunciation of the Lord – Solemnity

Fourth Sunday of Lent (C)

(‘Laetare’ Sunday)

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

The Season of Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter. The Liturgy prepares the catechumens for the celebration of the paschal mystery by the several stages of Christian Initiation. It also prepares the faithful who recall their baptism and do penance in preparation for Easter.

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 20 th March	10.00 am	Crawley & Guidera Families (donor – Pauline Guidera)
	6.30pm	For Parishioners
Monday 21 st March	9.00 am	Jo Bergin-Pitt (donor – M Fant)
Tuesday 22 nd March	9.00 am	
Wednesday 23 rd March	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 24 th March	9.00 am	Vincent Wright – RIP/anni (donor – Mary Wright)
Friday 25 th March	9.00 am	Anthony Soares – RIP/anni (donor – Scully/Soares Families)
Saturday 26 th March	9.00 am	
Sunday 27 th March	10.00 am	Kathleen Keanelly – RIP/anni (donor – Maria Poddington)

Parish Notice Board

Easter Flowers

Our 2nd collection on 27th March will go towards our Easter Flowers to have the church looking at its best. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Reconciliation Service

Our Lenten Reconciliation Service will take place here at English Martyrs on Monday 4th April at 7.30pm. There will be a short service after which several priests will be available for individual confession. A great way of preparing for a fruitful celebration of Easter.

Maundy Thursday – Washing of Feet

We would like 12 volunteers for the 'Washing of Feet' on Maundy Thursday. Please leave your details on the sheet at the back of the church if you feel you would like to volunteer.

Social Committee Request

Our social committee are requesting for volunteers to help organise our Easter lunch/activity on Sunday 17th April as this will also be Father's last Sunday before he leaves for his sabbatical. Kindly either contact the office or leave your name and telephone number on the sheet at the back of the church. Many thanks.

Parish Finance: 13.03.22

Gift Aid:	£ 117.00
Loose Plate:	£ 216.77
Total:	£ 333.77
<u>Cafod Lent Appeal</u>	<u>£ 278.20</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

Thresholds Of Hope Question

What does it mean to talk about Christ as our Redeemer? Input will be given by Mgr John Armitage on Sunday 20th March 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. via Zoom. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

The Hornchurch Passion Play

The last days of Christ's life on earth will be played out in our community over the Easter weekend. Those attending will become part of the crowd in Jerusalem, witnessing Jesus and his disciples marching triumphantly into Jerusalem, healing the sick, challenging the priests and sharing the last supper, as well as witness Jesus's emotional last moments with His Father in Gethsemane, before the horrors of His crucifixion and of the joy of His resurrection!

Please see noticeboard for the return of the above play which will take place from Friday 15th April to Sunday 17th at 7.30pm.

We have a webpage dedicated to ways that people can help – through prayer, financial donations, and donations of food, medical supplies and clothing and all the information is at: www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine

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

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

Havering Singers 75th Anniversary Concert -

The Messiah with a Baroque Orchestra and four soloists.

Saturday 2nd April 2022 @ 7.30pm

St Peter's Church, Gubbins Lane, Harold Wood ,RM3 0QA

Tickets priced at £15 for Adults / £6 for Children (5-17 years)

We would love you to join us for our 75th Anniversary Concert.

See www.haveringsingers.org.uk - Upcoming Performances - Messiah and click on Buy Tickets to make your reservation

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 14th 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 or 01732 886885

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)

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