

## SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2022

## **Loving one's Enemies**

Many consider mercy to be the same as pity and that being merciful can make one feel superior to the offender. Today's Scripture readings, though, invite us to a more nuanced understanding of mercy that we must aspire to if our lives are to be holy.

In the first reading, we hear a story about King Saul, who, with his army, was seeking to kill David, because Saul was jealous of David's popularity among the people. In a strange turn of events, Saul and his commanders make camp very near where David and his troops are hiding. Thus, David and Abishai enter Saul's camp and even his tent in the middle of the night. Abishai suggests that they should kill Saul on the spot, but choose not to do so. Because, as David says, Saul is God's anointed. Only God can raise a hand against him.

Today's Gospel, which is part of Luke's sermon on the plain, is a teaching on loving one's enemies. From a practical point of view, we are told to be merciful like our heavenly Father, who is kind to everyone, even the ungrateful and the wicked. The Greek word translated here as "kind" (Lk 6:35) is *chréstos*, meaning "useful" or "kindly". Ironically, it was a common name for slaves in the ancient world.



# <u>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time</u> <u>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022 (Cycle C)</u>

## <u>Liturgical Calendar</u>

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> February Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) The Chair of St Peter, Apostle – Feast St Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) (Day for the Unemployed)

### Season of the Year before Lent

This season does not celebrate any particular aspect of the mysteries of the Christ, but rather the mystery of Christ himself in his fullness is recalled especially on Sundays. During this ordinary time (winter), i.e., up to the Lent, we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on Earth; Openness to the word of God; Christian unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them; Victims of Trafficking and Those who work to Combat it; The Unemployed.

#### **Masses & Intentions This Week**

Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	Sally & John Farragher (donor – Mary Fant)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	9.00 am	May Shanahan – Recovery
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	9.00 am	Celia Hession – RIP/90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00 am	Michael Butler – RIP/Anni (donor – Miriam Della)
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00 am	,
Saturday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	9.00 am	May Shanahan – Recovery
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00 am	•
-	6.30 pm	Pauline Carroll – RIP/Anni (donor – Richard Carroll)

## **Parish Notice Board**

#### Parish Finance:

TBC

#### 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 is new about the new evangelisation? Input will be given by Fr Pachal Uche, assistant priest at St James the Less, Colchester, today, Sunday 20th February, 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. via Zoom. To join this Zoom meeting simply forward a contact email to

<u>adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org</u>. For more information go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

<u>Vocations to the Priesthood</u> The next "Enquirers' Evening" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 1 March at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Fr Maurice Gordon. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires <a href="mailto:vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org">vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org</a> The Passage

A Catholic Charity, working with people who are homeless, is holding a St David's Day concert on Thursday 3 March at 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square with The London Welsh Male Voice Choir and soloist tenor Ryan Vaughan Davies. All tickets are £20. Please support the work of this excellent charity. Tickets at passage.org.uk/st-davids-day-concert or telephone 020 75921856.

## **BCYS**

Youth Mass Thursday 3rd March, Brentwood cathedral

Come along from 6pm for pizza, followed by Sophie from the Walsingham House team and CAFOD, who will talk about her experiences, inspiring us to get involved and how we can take action!

Mass will begin in the cathedral from 7:30pm, joined by Fr Gary Dench who will preach the Gospel.

Open to all those in years 9 and above, no booking necessary.

(YOUTH MASS takes place on the First Thursday of EVERY MONTH and groups are always welcome! Please let us know in advance if you wish to bring a group, if you are able, so that we can have an idea how much pizza to order! Any groups are always welcome!) Please see noticeboard for all BCYS events.

#### **Faith Lift Day**

At the Sion Community on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March. The programme begins with Mass at 12.00, followed by lunch (please bring your own) 2.00 praise and worship, 2.45 Talk followed by Adoration until 4.30 during which time Confession and prayer ministry will be available. Please feel welcome to join the day at any time, no booking is required. Tea and coffee will be available. Please share with anyone you think may be interested.

#### Sponsored Sleepout

"Caritas Diocese of Brentwood are inviting people from the night of April 8<sup>th</sup> to the morning of April 9<sup>th</sup>, to join the 2022 Sponsored Sleepout; Raising awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All information can be found at <a href="https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout">www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout</a> or by emailing <a href="mailto:sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org">sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org</a>"

### BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage, 23rd - 30th July 2022

Join the Youth pilgrimage to Lourdes this Summer, assisting pilgrims to Masses, services, shops and cafes of the beautiful French town, take part in retreats and a youth led reconciliation service, visit the baths and the stunning mountain town of Gavarnie, experience the amazing Lourdes processions, as well as social nights, party and so much more! The cost is £625 for the week, and is open to all those in school year 11 and above. (funding and grant opportunities are available!)

You can email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org or visit www.bcys.net/events/sl22 to find out more and apply now! The deadline for applications is Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February. Be part of the Walsingham House Team 2022/23

If you are 18+ and looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be for you. Spend a year as a volunteer in a thriving young Catholic Community, working with thousands of young people from Essex and East

London. We are looking for inspiring individuals who want to share their faith with other young people and are also looking to learn new skills, grow deeper in their own faith and enjoy a challenge. For more information, please contact Joseph Beattie, manager of Walsingham House, by emailing josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org or calling 01277 373959. There is more information about our work on our website (www.bcys.net) and social media @Brentwoodcys

(From Claire Bailey Director of Youth Ministry, Diocese of Brentwood)

## Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis and Youth Ministry

The Bishop's Certificate is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. The course is online and taught through engaging, short videos with expert interviews. The course will begin on the evening of 24th February, with an introduction and welcome evening, held at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. For more information, please see our website: <a href="https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/">https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/</a> or email your expression of interest to

<u>bishopscertificate@dioceseofbrentwood.org</u> by Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. (From Claire Bailey Director of Youth Ministry, Diocese of Brentwood

## Opportunities within our Diocesan schools

### <u> Headteacher - Holy Cross Primary School, Harlow</u>

Starting salary L17 - L23 (£63,745 - £73,660). Required for September 2022.

The Governors of Holy Cross invite applications from experienced, enthusiastic and suitably-qualified practising Catholics, to play a key role in the leadership and management of our school to continue to build on our successes. Deadline for applications: 12:00 pm on Monday 21st February 2022. For further information please contact Karen Slater, PA to Headteacher, on 01279 424452 to arrange this. Alternatively if you would like an application pack please contact Karen Slater by email: <a href="mailto:karenslater@holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk">karenslater@holycross-pri.essex.sch.uk</a>.

Further details of these vacancies and other are available from the diocesan website <a href="https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/">https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/</a>

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)		

<u>The English Martyrs Catholic Church (Diocese of Brentwood)</u>

<u>Parish address: 240 Alma Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex RM12 6BJ</u>

Parish tel no: 01708 507020

Parish email: hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.orgParish website:

http://englishmartyrshx.weebly.com/

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