



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY 22ND MAY 2022

In the light of today's tensions and conflicts, it is tempting to think that early Christian life was far more peaceful. In fact, Jesus' disciples faced differences and conflict from the beginning.

Today's reading from Acts immediately follows that of last Sunday, which described Paul and his co-workers rejoicing that God had "opened the door of faith to the Gentiles" (Acts 14:27). But some Judean Christians insisted that Gentile Christians must follow all Jewish religious practices, including circumcision. Debates ensued between Paul and the disciples in Jerusalem, resulting in the decision we find here that required Gentiles to follow only some Jewish practices.

The most important aspect of this ruling is its source: "the Holy Spirit and ...us" (Acts 15:28). Apparently, the early Christian community deeply believed that Christ, crucified and raised, continued to guide them in the presence of the Spirit.

Continuing its apocalyptic vision, the second reading expresses this conviction in another way. Old Testament Judaism believed that God dwelled in the Jerusalem Temple. But in the new age of salvation, God's presence is available everywhere and always in the risen Christ, our new Temple.

In the Gospel, Jesus identifies love with obedience, something we are empowered to do by the Spirit sent by the Father in Jesus' name. God's Spirit is our "Advocate", *parakletos* in Greek, meaning "one called to the side of" another. At the Last Supper, Jesus promised the disciples that although he would soon leave them, he would ask the Father to send "another Advocate to be with [them] always" (Jn 14:16). The Spirit as Paraclete remains with disciples in every age, continuing Jesus' teaching (see Jn 14:26)



Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 22nd May 2022 (Cycle C)

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
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 22 nd May	Sixth Sunday of Easter (C)
Wednesday 25 th May	St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Doctor of the Church
Thursday 26 th May	The Ascension of the Lord (C) Solemnity <i>Holyday of Obligation</i>
Friday 27 th May	St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop, National Feast
Sunday 29 th May	Seventh Sunday of Easter (C) (World Communications Day)

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 22 nd May	10.00 am	Padaer Phelan – RIP (donor – Ann & Brian Morean)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners
	8.00 pm	Tommy Higgins - RIP – body to be received into The Church
Monday 23 rd May	8.30 am	
	10.00 am	Funeral of Tommy Higgins – RIP
Tuesday 24 th May	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Wednesday 25 th May	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 26 th May	9.30 am	Tommy Higgins - RIP (donor – Scully Family)
	7.30 pm	
Friday 27 th May	9.00 am	Donal Hayes – RIP (donor – May Shanahan)
Saturday 28 th May	9.00 am	
	12.00 pm	Baptism – Tilly Hart
Sunday 29 th May	10.00 am	Padaer Phelan – RIP (donor – Pauline Guidera)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners

Kindly observe the timetable for the masses in case of any changes.

Parish Notice Board

The Ascension Of The Lord

There will be 2 masses on Thursday 29th May to mark the Ascension of the Lord, at 9.30am and 7.30pm.

RIP – Tommy Higgins

Tommy's funeral mass will take place on Monday 23rd May at 10am, his body will be received into the church on Sunday evening at 8pm. His burial will take place at Corbets Tey and after at the Optimist. Please continue to pray for Tommy and his family.

Please note that on Monday 23rd May, there will be a normal weekday mass, but at 8.30am, prior to the funeral of Tommy at 10am.

First Holy Communion

Next meeting for parents will be Monday 23rd May (Church)

Please remember the FHC children in your prayers as they prepare for this special occasion. Please also remember the catechists who willingly give their time to help prepare the children.

2nd Collection – 29th May 2022

Our second collection next Sunday will be for World Communications Day. Thank you in advance for your kind generosity.

Social Committee

We are looking for volunteers for our social committee to join us in fund raising events. Please leave your name and number on the list at the back of the church.

Parish Finance:

15.05.22- Gift Aid: £89 Loose Plate: £171.08 Total: £260.08

2nd Collection – Promotion of Vocations £93.60

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:

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

Communication Desk

The Acts of the Apostles

Throughout the fifty days of Easter we read from the Acts of the Apostles, the New Testament book which narrates the early years of the Church. Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has prepared faith talks on '[The Acts of the Apostles](#)' and '[Paul in Acts](#)', for your use through the Easter season. To access these free audio recordings please go to the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org and scroll down to 'Acts in Easter'. Thank you.

Your Sins Are Forgiven – A Study Day From Gidea Park

On Saturday 18th June from 11 am Fr Gerard Bradley will lead a study day entitled 'Your sins are forgiven: exploring the sacrament of pardon and peace'. To follow this free live streamed event please go to www.whatgoodnews.org Our speaker, Fr Gerard Bradley, is a parish priest in the archdiocese of Southwark and taught Liturgy and Spirituality at St John's Seminary, Womersley. Two sessions will be followed by the opportunity for questions. The event will end by 1 pm. Recording of the study day will be made available subsequently on www.whatgoodnews.org

Corpus Christi Procession

The Mid-Essex Deanery Procession for Corpus Christi will take place on Sunday 12th June at 3pm. For details, please see the noticeboard.

St Bon's Alumni Event - 17th June 2022, 4-6:30pm

All former students and staff are welcome to attend - please help spread the word! Order a ticket at: www.stbons.org/alumni - Email any questions to alumni@stbons.org

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bp Alan will lead the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 24 – 29 July; a time to pray at the Grotto of Our Lady and enjoy the opportunities of this experience. You can book now on-line: www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood For further information, please phone Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: 01206 735623.

Late Vocation To The Priesthood

A vocation discernment weekend for men between the ages of 30 and 55 will take place at St Beuno's in North Wales from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th September 2022. The direct link for further details and booking: Discernment Weekend.

<https://www.pathwaystogod.org/courses-events-retreats/discernment-weekend-older-men-2>

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 choice.
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.*

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)
Legion of Mary: Michael Okafor (07956 586370)

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 Parish website:

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

Founded 1955

Diocese of Brentwood

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