

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Discipleship leads to life; any other path means death.

In this letter, James defines the actions of a believer and also defines the actions that lead one away from God. For James, wealth ties people to the world's values. He is particularly critical of the rich whose wealth was acquired through fraud and injustice. Verse 5:4 reminds us of two places in the Pentateuch: "The wages you withheld from the workers who harvested your fields are crying aloud" is an echo of Abel's blood that cries out from the earth in Genesis 4:10 after Cain murders him. The cries of the harvesters reach the ears of the Lord of Hosts just as the cries of the widows and orphans do in Exodus 22:22. Those who are oppressed and marginalized have the attention of God. James makes it clear that wealth gained through the suffering of the innocent condemns those who have it. They will weep in misery.

While James urges his readers to humility, gentleness, mercy and righteousness (see last week's reading), Jesus warns his followers not to be a stumbling block to the "little ones", who believe in Jesus. He is warning listeners that their own actions are an example, good or bad. His second teaching echoes the language of the first: Remove whatever causes you to stumble. Hands, feet and eyes are often the instruments of sin. Jesus' graphic illustration reminds the disciples that they must be ready to let go of everything, including their pride, in order to enter the Kingdom of God.

The hell that Jesus names in Mark's account of the Gospel is not the Hebrew *Sheol* but a place outside Jerusalem believed to have been a site of child sacrifice to pagan gods in its earlier history, later converted to a dump in which fire burned continuously. In the original text, it is called Gehenna. Later it became the model for the Christian concept of hell as a place of fire. Isaiah's description of the bodies of those who rebelled against God also influenced this text: "Their worm shall not die, nor their fire be extinguished . . ." (Isaiah 66:24). Discipleship leads to life; any other path means death.

Friday 1st October	9.00 am	Sr Eileen – RIP Brentwood Ursuline Sisters
Saturday 2nd October	9.00 am	
Sunday 3rd October	10.00 am	Don Muscat – RIP (donor – Georgina Nestle)
	12.00 pm	

Parish Notice Board

RIP – Don Muscat

We were very sorry to hear of the passing of Don Muscat. Please pray for the repose of his soul and remember too his family in your prayers.

Baptism - Welcome

We welcome into the family of our Parish Brielle-Mae Nwanerih, who was baptised on Saturday, and we congratulate her parents Johnpaul and Cynthia.

Parish Catechetical Ministry

I profoundly wish to thank everyone who have been supportive of our parish catechetical ministry. In particular I wish to thank Kathy Moss, our zealous Baptism Catechist who catechised our young parents especially during the pandemic. We thank her for her continued ministry.

Laura Mandeman has been leading the First Holy Communion preparation so generously and dedicatedly for many years. I wish to thank her and her team for their hard work in the past. New teams are being formed for the first Holy Communion and Confirmation preparation. I will be announcing the new team members very soon.

First Holy Communion Programme : Autumn 2021 - Summer 2022

The above First Holy Communion Programme will commence this coming Autumn. Would parents of children who are parishioners of English Martyrs, and who will be Year 3 and above in September 2021, please sign in and take an application form for completion from the back of the Church. Please return the form, along with a copy of their Baptism Certificate, to Fr Britto at the Presbytery. Closing date will be Sunday 17th October. Thank you.

School Admissions

Secondary School Applications for September Year 2022

To obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice, Fr Britto will be available to see parents on Monday 4th and 11th October between 6.30 pm and 7.30 pm. Parents will be seen on a first come first served basis. Please wait in the Church. Thank you.

Confirmation Programme 2021-2022

Next week, those who are in Yr 10 and above and are willing to go through our confirmation programme will be invited to register their interest by signing our form at the back of the church.

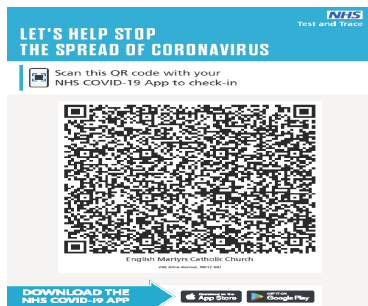
RCIA 2021-22

If anyone is interested in joining our community of Faith in the Catholic Church, please send me an email letter and contact telephone number to be enrolled for the RCIA program.

Returning to Normal

As of now, one half of the church has been changed back to full capacity to allow more parishioners to return for live Mass. The other side will remain restricted for those who feel more comfortable being socially distanced still.

There will no longer be a requirement to give contact details to the steward when attending Mass. The QR code will remain available and parishioners are encouraged to continue to use it.



From the first Sunday in September, it is intended that live streaming of Mass will cease and we will return to normal Mass times.

Many thanks for your continued support to English Martyrs in helping the parish return to as near a normal as possible.

English Martyrs Donations/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.

For those who wish to pay direct from your bank account to the Parish funds, you can now use the following Bank details in future:

HSBC UK

Account No. 11019198

Sorting Code 40 13 22

Kindly make your monetary contributions by cheque in the following way:

1. For 'Mass intentions' to the parish, please make your cheques payable to 'English Martyrs Stipend' account only.
2. For all other donations and contributions to the Parish, please make your cheques payable to 'English Martyrs Catholic Church'.
3. Any personal remuneration for Father should be payable to 'Fr. Belevendran'.

Parish Finance

Sunday 19th September 2021 Gift Aid-£568.00 Loose plate-£430.00 Total £998.00

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish: Kathleen Clifford, Anna Heneghan, Paul Hogan, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Rachel, Mary Scully, Mary Thurgood, and Mary Wright. Rose Yates and Claire Ryan in Emerson Court.

Communication Desk

The Thresholds Of Hope Questions

Are a series of talks for adults who want to grow in understanding and confidence when questioned or speaking about their Catholic Faith. The talks and discussion will take place on Zoom from 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon. The talk is on the 26th September and will consider the question: "What is the relationship between faith and reason?" It will be given by Fr Mark Swires, the chaplain at the University of Essex. If you would like to join this discussion please email your name and a contact email address to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org For more information about *The Thresholds of Hope Questions* go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

Season of Creation Study Days

"During the 2021 Season of Creation, from 1st September to the feast of St Francis on 4th October, thousands of Christians on six continents will unite to pray and take action in defence of our common home www.seasonofcreation.org From the parish of Gidea Park we have organised two study days – on Saturday 4th September and Saturday 2nd October from 11.00 to 12.30 BST – to explore the teaching of Pope Francis on 'care for our common home' (*Laudato si'*), and the promotion of global solidarity (*Fratelli Tutti*). These study days, 'The Cry of Creation' and 'The Cry of the Poor' will be given by Fr Ashley Beck, associate professor at St Mary's University, Twickenham. For access to these free live stream events go to www.whatgoodnews.org No registration needed. Talks will be available subsequently on the same website. Please spread the word on social media."

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Climate Crisis Appeal

Our local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. This Family Fast Day, donate in the parish using a CAFOD envelope or online through the [CAFOD website](http://cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) (cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis) and help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis. You can also add your voice to our online [petition](#) calling for our Prime Minister to show leadership in tackling the climate crisis, cafod.org.uk/climate. And thank you for your generosity for our emergency appeals to support our sisters and brothers in crisis in Afghanistan

Open Evenings September 2022 Intake

The Brentwood Ursuline convent High school will be holding open Evening for prospective Year 7 and sixth form students with their parents who wish to consider entry to the school in September 2022. For prospective Year 7 students the open Evening will be on Thursday 30th September 2021 from 6.30pm-9.00pm. The Headteacher will give a talk at 6.30pm and 7.30pm. For sixth form students the Open Evening will be on Thursday 4th November 2021 from 6.30pm-8.30pm. There will be a Headteacher's talk at 6.30pm.

BCYS

Please see the noticeboard for up to date information.

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 Priest: Fr Britto Belevendran, (01708 507020)
Parish Administrator: Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri (10am-1pm) (01708 507020)
Diocesan Safeguarding Representative: Katie Nash (07825293308)
Finance: Mr Graham Daniels (01708 452406)
Parish Gift Aid Organiser: Dr Steve Pinder (01708 445443)
Hall & Lounge Bookings: English Martyrs Parish Office (01708 507020)

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

Registered Charity No. 23409