



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 29TH AUGUST 2021

Conversion of Heart

Today all three readings are concerned with the disposition of the heart and its connection with outer actions. Moses begins the first of his exhortations to the Israelites before they cross the Jordan into Caanan. The law of God is just, more so than the laws of any other nation. Obedience to the law of God, says Moses, will show Israel's wisdom and discernment. But hearing the word and desiring it with the heart must come first. Conversion of the heart always has primary importance for Moses and the rest of the prophets. Moses spoke of circumcision of the heart as a sign of the interiorization of the covenant (Deuteronomy 10:16). Isaiah told the Israelites that God despised the festivals, sacrifices, and rituals because the Israelites were not caring for the orphan and the widow. They were going through the motions of obedience without care for god and God's justice. Their attitude was apparent in their lack of compassion.

James understands the implication of "hearing" the law for the Jews. To hear is to obey. According to James, a good Christian is in the same position. One cannot be a hearer of the Word without doing right as well and following the law without a faithful heart has no place in the covenant relationship.

In Mark's account of the gospel, Jesus speaks precisely to the last point. The Pharisees are concerned with outward appearances, not inner conversion. When Jesus quotes Isaiah, he reminds them that such scrupulous behaviour without the necessary conversion of heart is not true worship of God. Jesus is not attacking the Jewish law here. His point is about the systematic judgment of the scribes and Pharisees that does not ask first what is the disposition of the heart but, rather, whether every letter of the law has been observed. Like Moses, Isaiah, and the other prophets before him, Jesus knows that lip service and outward obedience without inner transformation are not a sign of covenant relationship.

What examples do we see today in Church or society of outward obedience and inward rebellion ?

Tuesday 31st August	9.00 am	Audrey Eileen Pollard – RIP
Wednesday 1st September	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 2nd September	9.00 am	Jimmy McGinley – RIP (donor – May Shanahan)
Friday 3rd September	9.00 am	Paddy Higgins – RIP
Saturday 4th September	9.00 am	Matthew Hill – RIP (donor – May Shanahan)
Sunday 5th September	10.00 am 12.00 pm	

Parish Notice Board

Welcome

We welcome into the family of our Parish Finley George Lofthouse, who was baptised last Saturday 21st August, and we congratulate his parents Adam & Rosaleen. We also welcome into the family of our Parish Elara Florence Poll who will be baptised on Sunday 29th August and congratulate her parents Richard and Rachele Poll.

Fundraising

Tamanna is a third year student at the University of Cambridge and will be running the Cambridge Half Marathon (13.1 miles) this October in memory of her grandad. She is raising money for a girls orphanage in Kerala, India which is a cause that is close to her family's heart. The orphanage is home to around 40 girls and helps them to make a life for themselves. Please give generously if you can via the JustGiving link:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/tamanna-jithesh?utm_term=z6N7Z7yK9

Thank you very much!

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.

**LET'S HELP STOP
THE SPREAD OF CORONAVIRUS**

NHS
Test and Trace

Scan this QR code with your
NHS COVID-19 App to check-in



English Martyrs Catholic Church
240 Abingdon Avenue, B91 1 8BQ

**DOWNLOAD THE
NHS COVID-19 APP**

Download on the
App Store

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Google Play

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.

'Together Again' Parish Event

We are hoping to organise an open-air mass and picnic at 12pm on Sunday 5th September in the English Martyrs Presbytery Garden.

Bring your own picnic plus food for sharing. Food for sharing may include the following: Desserts and Drinks (water/fruit juice/ beer/wines). So that all may not bring a mountain of only desserts!!!, please email the parish office above to let us know what you wish to bring for sharing.

Volunteers will be needed to prepare the garden or the church and hall, depending on the weather on Saturday 4th September.

Please contact the church either by email hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org or telephone 01708 507020 if you are willing to help and if you are bringing food to share.

Let us build our community by our willingness to participate in the above "Together again" event, and inaugurate the new academic year 2021-2022.

Together In Hope,

Fr. Britto

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 22nd August 2021 Gift Aid £95.00 Loose Plate £69.50 Total £164.50

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

Communication Desk

Brand New Bcys Youth Mass – 2nd September, Brentwood Cathedral

Taking place on the first THURSDAY of the month at Brentwood Cathedral, the BCYS are delighted to welcome young people back to Youth Masses which will be bigger and better than ever! The evening will start with a celebration in the Parish Hall at 6pm, where we will provide food and drink as we know many will come straight from school or work, followed by Youth Mass in the Cathedral at 7:30pm.

We always welcome new people, old friends, school and confirmation groups so please do come along! For more information please visit www.bcys.net/events/september-youth-mass/ or email info@bcys.net

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.”

Fr Adrian Gaffy

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