



English Martyrs Catholic Parish
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 31ST JANUARY 2021

Power Over Demons

Jesus' first miracle is an exorcism set in the context of his teaching. Why is this so important? When Jesus entered the synagogue and spoke, the people were amazed at the power and authority with which he taught. The scribes quoted previous experts and authorities for important interpretations of Scripture and the Law. The Greek word used to describe Jesus' teaching, *exousia*, means that he taught "out of himself". In other words, he did not use other authorities to strengthen his arguments.

Into this context wanders the possessed man. The unclean spirit, a demon in other translations, reveals the identity of Jesus as the Holy One of God. In the Old Testament, particularly in the prophecy of Isaiah, God is the Holy One of Israel. In this passage, in Acts 3:14, and in 1 John 2:20, Jesus is the "Holy One". These similar phrases imply a connection between Jesus and God. Jesus silences the demon, not because it is wrong about his identity, but because the time has not yet come for Jesus to be revealed.

With the confidence of authority, he commands the unclean spirit to come out. The crowd watches in amazement - often a signal that they do not understand what is happening. Their remarks about a new teaching are meant for the reader. Jesus' power is greater than any other power. Even the demons obey him.

Throughout Mark's account, Jesus' identity is revealed by demons who are then silenced, while the people with Jesus come to know who he is only slowly, if at all. The remarkable exorcisms and healings of Jesus defeat the powers of evil that oppose God. But they will soon lead to a greater question for both his followers and his detractors: What is the source of Jesus' authority?

In Mark's account, things happen very quickly. Consequently, when Mark slows down enough to tell the details of the story, the readers pay more attention. What do the details have to say about the nature of Jesus or the unclean spirits?



Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 31st January 2021

Liturgical Calendar

Sunday 31 st January	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) (Racial Justice Day)
Tuesday 2nd February.	The Presentation of The Lord. - Feast
Wednesday 3rd February	St Anne Line, Martyr
Friday 5th February	St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr
Saturday 6th February	St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs
Sunday 7th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) (World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life)

DUE TO THE SEVERITY OF THE PANDEMIC THERE WILL NOT BE A 12NOON MASS IN CHURCH UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. LIVE STREAMING WILL CONTINUE AT 10AM AS BEFORE.

WEDNESDAY'S PRIVATE PRAYER WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Masses & Intentions This Week

Monday 1st February	10.00 am	Kay O'Leary – RIP (donor – Fiona & Stephen Collins)
Tuesday 2nd February	10.00 am	
Wednesday 3rd February	10.00 am	
Thursday 4th February	10.00 am	
Friday 5th February	10.00 am	
Saturday 6th February	10.00 am	
Sunday 7th February	10.00 am	

Austen Ivereigh Livestream Event

PLEASE DON'T FORGET to subscribe to this event tomorrow Saturday 30th January from 11am until 12.30pm. Dr Austen Ivereigh will speak about the book he recently co-authored with Pope Francis. 'Let us Dream: The Path to a Better Future' presents the Pope's vision for the post-pandemic future. How should we move forward from the multiple coronavirus crises? Pope Francis among many other topics addresses the problems of human solidarity, the ecological crisis and the rise of populism. To access this livestream event please go to www.sppilford.org.uk and click on live stream remote services. The event, which is sponsored by Gidea Park parish in conjunction with Brentwood Interfaith, will be available subsequently on www.whatgoodnews.org Questions for Austen may be emailed beforehand to adriangraffy@dioceseofbrentwood.org

A Note from English Martyrs Parish Secretary

Please note that I am only physically in the office on limited days now as I am working from home. However, should you need any information or to book mass intentions etc, please do not hesitate to call me on 07956 473389 during the hours of 11am – 1pm, Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays or email me. Many thanks.

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. <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations?parish=hornchurch-2>. We appreciate your help and understanding.

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 Notice Board

Brentwood Diocesan Directory – 2021

The Brentwood Diocesan Directory is now on sale at the back of the church for £2.80.

COMMUNICATIONS DESK

Liturgy Of The Word

Apps to access readings for Mass: Daily Readings for Catholics, and Laudate. You can also access the readings by going to the website www.universalis.com

Retrouvaille – A Programme For Couples Struggling In Their Marriages

Rediscover Your Marriage -Retrouvaille offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. Sixteen couples attended our last weekend (six of whom were in the process of divorce) and almost all of the couples are still attending the follow up sessions. The feedback from the weekend was very positive and there are advantages in being able to attend the weekend from your own home. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 25th - 28th February 2021, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 – or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Vacancy

St Elizabeth's Centre in Much Hadham

Are looking to recruit a Lay Chaplain to play a pivotal role, ensuring the Catholic identity of the centre is celebrated and developed. Further information on St Elizabeth's and the very important work we do supporting Adults and Children with epilepsy and other complex learning needs and disabilities can be found on our website:

<https://www.stelizabeths.org.uk>

Should you have any questions regarding the role itself, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay

Are seeking to appoint a highly motivated and inspiring SENCO to join our team, with a passion for working with vulnerable children to ensure they receive the education they deserve. You will be able to bring an innovative and creative approach to supporting the strategic direction and development of SEN provision across our school, whilst effectively managing and developing the progress and achievement of our SEND pupils. You will be a strong practitioner with a degree and a teaching qualification. Ideally, you will hold the National SENCO qualification.

For more information can be found on Essex Jobs via this link

<http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=62538>

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

Parish Priest : Fr Britto Belevendran, (01708 507020)
Parish Administrator : Daphne Thomas, Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri (11am-2pm) (07956 473389)
Diocesan Safeguarding Representative : Katie Nash (07825293308)
Finance & Maintenance : 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