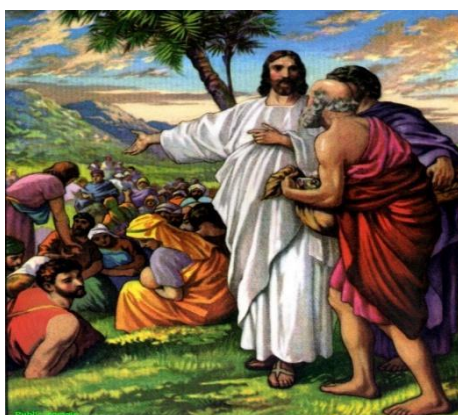


EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 31ST JULY 2022

Today's second reading is more understandable with a little background information. A group of preachers had arrived in Colossae teaching a message different from the apostolic Gospel. While it is still unclear exactly what this group preached. Apparently they combined aspects of Christianity with astrology, Greco-Roman mythology and Jewish dietary customs. The result was that Christ was demoted to just one among many heavenly entities. In addition, the keeping of dietary rules became equal to baptism and living a moral life for salvation. Paul writes to remind the Colossians that Christ is essential to their salvation.

Paul's call for the community to seek what is above directly confronts the new preachers' message. Christ is raised and seated at the right hand of God, a decidedly prominent position over all of creation. Recall that a few weeks ago Paul reminded the same community that Christ was firstborn of all creation, the one through whom all things came into being.

The call to seek what is above also challenges the emphasis on food laws. Jewish dietary customs are not wrong – Paul, as a Jew, still kept the law of Moses. But Paul teaches that Gentiles who take on the Gospel and faith in Christ do not need to take on the law also. They can be saved by faith and by living in the Spirit. Whatever they were before – slave, free, Jew, Gentile – they have now put on a new self, renewed in the image of the Creator. To focus on dietary rules and mythology is to return to the old earthly ways. How could they be given value over Christ, who “is all and in all” (Col 3:11)



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday 31st July 2022 (Cycle C)

Parish Diary

Sunday Masses	10.00 am & 6.30 pm
Weekday Masses	9.00 am (Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays until Fr Britto returns)
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 31 st July	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
Monday 1 st August	St Alphonsus Liguri, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
Thursday 4 th August	St John Vianney (Cure of Ars), Priest
Saturday 6 th August	Transfiguration of the Lord (C) Feast
Sunday 7 th August	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 31 st July	10.00 am	Tom Guidera – RIP/Birthday (donor – Pauline Guidera)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners
Monday 1 st August	9.00 am	NO MASS
Tuesday 2 nd August	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Wednesday 3 rd August	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 4 th August	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Friday 5 th August	9.30 am	Michael Townsend – RIP/Anniversary (donor – Evelyn Townsend)
		Audrey Eileen Pollard – RIP/Anni
Saturday 6 th August	9.30 am	Mrs Anne Farrell – RIP (donor – Louis Tesi)
Sunday 7 th August	10.00 am	Teresa Brewty – RIP (donor – Joan Despard)
	6.30 pm	For Parishioners

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

Parish Notice Board

Welcome

We welcome once again our Rainham Priests from La Salette, who will join us today for our Sunday morning mass only.

Office Closure

This is to advise you that the office will be closed on Friday 5th August to Tuesday 9th August inc. However messages can still be left on the answer machine which will be picked up. For emergencies, please contact either Father Maurice at Elm Park on 01708 451449 or Fr Mariusz at St Albans on 01708 552897. Many thanks.

Request

Dear Parishioners

As you will all appreciate, since Father Britto's sabbatical leave commenced, we have been graced with the assistance of Fr Jean-Laurent as well as the Rainham priests.

There are some up and coming dates on a Sunday where we may have the assistance of Fr Stewart Foster depending upon whether we are able to sort out transport for him, i.e.

Sunday 21st August 10am and 6.30pm masses – NOT COVERED

Sunday 28th August 10am and 6.30pm masses – NOT COVERED

We therefore request the kind assistance of one/two or more of our parishioners to collect Fr Stewart from Witham and bring him here to English Martyrs and then kindly take him back that evening after 6.30pm mass.

If you are able to assist with this could you kindly either let Fr Jean-Laurent know after mass or alternatively contact the office and leave a message on the answer machine. Many thanks.

Baptisms

Please introduce yourself to the Priest after mass who will in turn discuss the process with you.

Parish Newsletter and Liturgy of the Word

Please would you kindly make use of the Newsletter and Liturgy of the Word at the back of the Church and take them home with you. Thanks.

Parish Finance:

24.07.22- Gift Aid: £88.00 Loose Plate: £161.24 Total: £249.24

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound in our Parish:

Kathleen Clifford, Rosaleen Grimwood, Anna Heneghan, Brenda Humphreys, Pat Lark, George Malaj, Sheila McCurdy, Sheila Murphy, Rachel, Pradeepan Ragunathan, Mary Scully, Greta Street, Voni Tesi, Elizabeth Tesi, Mary Thurgood, Mary Wright, Rose Yates, Claire Ryan in Emerson Court and John Buckley.

Communication Desk

Wennington Fire

You will have been very distressed to learn of the fire at the village of Wennington, just outside Rainham, during which homes were destroyed. Please keep the people involved in your special prayer. We remember too people all over the country and all over Europe suffering in similar ways. We pray that politicians will have the wisdom to make action to mitigate the effects of climate change their first priority.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society

Children and families from Essex and East London have direct therapeutic support to our highly experienced counselling team. We provide support directly to children, adolescents on a 1:1 basis or the whole family. We help children with various reasons including anxiety, emotional health, bereavement, behaviour, bullying, family separation and illness. Sessions take place either on line or face to face at our counselling suites at our offices in Rayleigh. There is a sessional charge but support may be given if required. If you feel your child may benefit from our services or you would like more information, please contact Sarah D'Lima - sdlima@bccs.or.uk or 01268 947061.

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>

Beginning Experience Weekend

If you have suffered a divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 14th to 16th October 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com.

Adventure in Faith

Journey towards World Youth Day, Porto and Lisbon, July 26th – August 9th 2023. This amazing opportunity is for anyone who will be aged 17 – 27 in August 2023. Find out more at <https://bcys.net/events/wyd23/>. Express your interest with an email to WYD@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Only 40 places available.

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

Registered Charity No. 23409