



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
SUNDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Ephphatha – Be Opened

Isaiah's vision of the coming day of God reveals a world turned upside down. The blind see, the deaf hear, the mute speak and waters spring up in the desert. This is a world of unexpected and surprising. It is a result that is as unsettling as it is joyful, for it is not what nature has intended. In the presence of the divine, anything needed is provided; anything broken is made whole. The laws of nature, created by God, are suspended when God comes in glory.

Mark's account of the Gospel describes the living fulfilment of Isaiah's prophecy when Jesus touches the deaf and mute man so that he hears and speaks. As in the other healing stories, Jesus demonstrates mastery over the limits of the human body. Already he has made the lame walk (see Mark 2) and the dead live (Mark 5). The next time he heals (see Mark 8:22-26), he will cure a blind man. Where Jesus walks, life in its wholeness bounds. The astonishment of the people suggests that they remember the prophecy of Isaiah and wonder if this might be the sign that God has come to save them.

In what way might these texts illuminate the epistle from James? James addresses a particular fault of a Christian community in the first century. The people show favouritism to the rich and well-dressed. James reminds them that God's preference is for the poor and disenfranchised. God did, after all, rescue poor Israel from wealthy Egypt. In that act, God displayed a fondness for turning things upside down. James reminds the church that God's power is not limited to healing the sick or sending manna. God also has control over economic and social injustices. A society that allows these things will be surprised, unsettled, and ultimately changed at the coming day of the Lord. Just as God will heal our broken bodies, God will heal the broken relationships caused by unjust uses of wealth. That will be good news to some, but for those who define themselves by their wealth and the privilege it buys them, it will be a painful transformation.

How do we follow God in making a preferential option for the poor ?



Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Times
Sunday 5th September 2021

Liturgical Calendar

Sunday 5 th September	Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
Wednesday 8 th September	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Feast
Sunday 12 th September	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

Sunday Family Mass

We will be having a Family Mass followed by a Social Meal at the Presbytery Gardens at 12pm on **Sunday 5th September**. All are warmly welcome.

Timetable of Masses:

Sunday Masses 10am & 12pm

Both the 10am and 12pm masses are now open for *People’s Physical Participation*. The 10am mass will also be livestreamed.

Weekday Masses

Mondays	9am	Mass for Parishioners
Tuesdays	9am	Mass for Parishioners
Wednesdays	9am	Eucharistic Service
Thursdays	9am	Mass for Parishioners
Fridays	9am	Mass for Parishioners
Saturdays	9am	Mass for Parishioners

As the pandemic is still not gone away completely, we are still asked to be careful with regard to safety procedures. So please continue wearing masks and keep safe distance and sanitise your hands.

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 5 th September	10.00 am	Greta Street – Intentions (donor – Tommy Higgins)
	12.00 pm	
Monday 6 th September	9.00 am	Tom O’Connor – RIP (donor – May Shanahan)

Tuesday 7 th September	9.00 am	Greta Street – Get Well (donor – Georgina Nestle)
Wednesday 8 th September	9.00 am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday 9 th September	9.00 am	Nellie Lee – RIP (donor – May Shanahan)
Friday 10 th September	9.00 am	
Saturday 11 th September	9.00 am	Joan Carey – Birthday (donor – Ann Turner)
Sunday 12 th September	10.00 am	Danny Singleton – RIP/bday (donor – Maria Harris)
	12.00 pm	

Parish Notice Board

[Together Again:](#)

We hope and pray that there will be plenty of sunshine on Sunday 5th of September as we are holding a Family Mass at the Presbytery Gardens at 12pm followed by a Social Meal.

For those who have volunteered to help on Saturday evening at 5pm, please bring with you any garden cleaning tools and other Hall cleaning materials. Kindly Self-care with regard to safety.

All those bringing food/ drinks to share, kindly leave them with Mike Dineen in the Hall and proceed to the Garden for mass.

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

GET IT ON
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.

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 29th August 2021 Gift Aid £49.00 Loose Plate £116.50 Total £165.50

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

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.”

Seated Pilates

“Beginning Tuesday 7th September in the church hall Seated Pilates with PilatesCOREuk. Get moving safely to improve mobility and health. Tuesdays 11am - call Kim 07730409298”

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