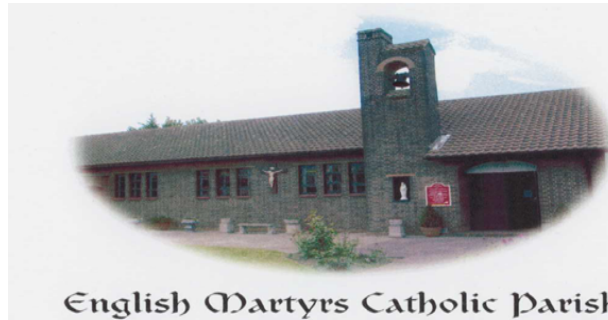


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English Martyrs Catholic Parish

**SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST  
HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST  
SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021**

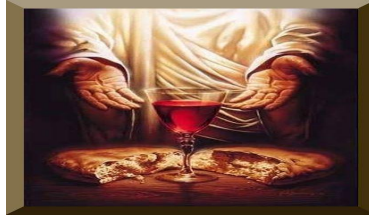
**As Christians, we are called to share in Christ's life and sacrifice. On this Solemnity of the Most Holy body and Blood of Christ, traditionally known as Corpus Christi, we delve into Christ's willingness to sacrifice himself for others. God becoming human in Christ was the beginning of a life devoted to others.**

**Blood is life. The people of ancient Israel knew that. They enacted laws against the spilling of blood (see Deuteronomy 19; 21; Leviticus 17) and used blood in rituals to sanctify altars, consecrate priests (see Exodus 29), and seal covenants between God and the people. It is fitting then that Jesus talks about his blood as the blood of the covenant. To drink his blood is to sprinkle it on one's heart, just as Moses dashed blood on the people as a sign of their relationship with God.**

**The letter to the Hebrews contrasts the Blood of Christ with the blood of the sacrifice for atonement in Leviticus 16. Aaron was forbidden to enter the Holy Place until he had sacrificed a bull to atone for his sins and a goat to atone for the sins of the people. Jesus comes before God by way of his own blood. The blood of the old covenant, says the Letter to the Hebrews, sanctified the body; the blood of the new covenant sanctifies the mind and heart forever.**

**In the story of the Exodus, Moses sprinkled the blood of a new lamb on the doorposts of the Israelites so that the angel of death who came to destroy the firstborn children of Egypt would pass over their houses. In his First Letter to the Corinthians, Paul states: "For our paschal lamb, Christ has been sacrificed" (1 Corinthians 5:7). In Paul's theology, Christ becomes the means by which we escape the death caused by sin. It is the living sign of Christ's Blood that transforms our lives with grace.**

**We remember the Last Supper at every liturgy during the Eucharistic Prayer. We tell the full story of the Last Supper during the reading of the Passion on Palm Sunday and in Paul's letter to the Corinthians on Holy Thursday. In the readings for the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, we ponder the power and depth of Jesus' sacrifice for us. His Blood ratifies and sanctifies our relationship with God, atones for our sin, and protects us from 2soul death." When we remember the Last Supper, Jesus' selfless act of love becomes present to us once again so that we can be transformed.**



**Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ**  
**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

**Liturgical Calendar**

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	The Body and Blood of Christ (B) – Solemnity Holyday of Obligation
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (B) Solemnity
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	The Immaculate Heart of Mary
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

**Sunday Masses In Church**

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)

**Reflection for a Holy Hour on Corpus Christi**

***“This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you.” (Cor 11:23). These words from St Paul’s account of the last supper give us two significant phrases which illuminate our baptismal vocation; ‘Receive’ and ‘passed on.’ Here St Paul is specifically speaking of the Eucharist, but this is true also of our faith. The gift of faith, received in baptism, is the faith of the Church which we receive individually, but is something which we are called to pass on to others. What we celebrate in the sacramental life of the Church we are commissioned by our baptism to pass on to others by the witness to our living faith.***

***What is it that we receive and in turn pass on? The Book of Proverbs gives us an insight in the reading for our Holy Hour. Wisdom offers a generous hospitality to those who respond to the call of the maid servants to come. Her house is a symbol of the Church, built on the seven sacraments and those who come need not be the “learned and the wise” (Matt 11:25) but the “ignorant,” the ones with open hearts to receive in love what is offered; not just bread and wine, but that which brings insight, the meeting with the Lord. When we gather as a Church, we are offered these precious gifts which lead to deeper understanding of our faith and our lives.***

***Therefore, when we share in the Eucharist, we receive nourishment for the journey which helps us to perceive, or put another way, to discern more clearly the pathways of the Lord. We become like the disciples on the road to Emmaus, who not really understanding what had just happened at the events of the first Easter are drawn into the Lord’s presence through listening to the Word of God and sharing in the Breaking of Bread. Hopefully, when we are at Mass, we can enter ourselves into their experience and be able to say that our hearts too are burning because we have realised all that the Lord has done for us, and***

**like them, be spurred into action to tell of this to others (Luke 24:33) We, then, pass on to others what we ourselves have received from the Lord's generosity, like the two from Emmaus.**

**When the Catholic community gathers to celebrate the Sunday Mass it does this so as to 'relive with particular intensity the experience of the Apostles on the evening of Easter when the Risen Lord appeared to them as they were gathered together. This close connection between the appearance of the Risen Lord and the Eucharist is suggested in the Gospel of Luke in the story of the two disciples of Emmaus, whom Christ approached and led to understand the Scriptures and then sat with them at table. The gestures of Jesus in this account are his gestures at the Last Supper with the clear allusions to the "Breaking of Bread", as the Eucharist was called by the first generations of Christians.' (Dies Domini 33).**

**This gathering of the community Sunday by Sunday, according to Pope St John Paul II is so that in each place where the Eucharist is celebrated, the Church is truly present and, in this way, Sunday becomes the day of the Church where the People of God are nourished by the Lord in his Word and in his Eucharist. Through the gathering of the people, their experience of being fed in Word and Sacrament, they in their turn, become disciples and witnessed to him. Sunday is the day where each parish community is united in this great sacrament of love and draw deeply from this fountain of the Lord's goodness. The weekly gathering for Mass, its celebration and the sending forth of all present, becomes the very heartbeat of the Church. "Renewed and nourished by this intense weekly rhythm Christian hope becomes leaven and the light of human hope." (Dies Domini 38)**

**Pope St John Paul expresses how we are to be the light of hope and leaven for the world when he says that; "With the offering of the Sunday Eucharist, the Church crowns the witness which her children strive to offer every day of the week by proclaiming the Gospel and practising charity in the world of world of work and in all the many tasks of life; thus she shows forth more plainly her identity 'as a sacrament, or sign and instrument of intimate union with God and of the unity of the entire human race'" (Dies Domini 38). When we see it in this way, we know how dependent we are on this spiritual food for the work of Christian witness, bringing the message of hope and mercy to the world.**

**This sense of hope is extended when we come before the Lord for a prolonged moment of adoration. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament gives us the opportunity to come into the Lord's Eucharistic presence and quietly speak to him, to listen to what he says to us in silent contemplation, to be enfolded in his abundant love and to offer him the joys and sorrows of our daily life. Jesus speaks to our hearts, and we become conformed to him united in prayer to his passion, cross and resurrection.**

**How can we not fail to be in awe of the one before whom we kneel? How can we not be humbled by his generous love and mercy for us? Can anything stop us from bringing his love to others? "To contemplate Christ involves being able to recognise him wherever he manifests himself, in the many forms of presence, but above all in the living sacrament of his body and blood. The Church draws her life from Christ in the Eucharist; by him she is fed and by him she is enlightened. The Eucharist is both a mystery of faith and a mystery of light. Wherever the Church celebrates the Eucharist, the faithful can in some way relive the experience of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus: their eyes were opened, and they recognised him." (Ecclesia de Eucharistia 6).**

**Present to the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, we can pray that our eyes will be opened to know truly all that the Lord has done for us and pray for the courage to pass on to others the goodness that we have received.**

**Come, then, good Shepherd, bread divine,  
Still show to us thy mercy sign;**

*Oh, feed us, still keep us thine;  
So we may see thy glories shine in fields of immortality.  
O thou, the wisest, mightiest, best,  
Our present food, our future rest,  
Come, make us each thy chosen guest, Co-heirs of thine, and comrades blest  
With saints whose dwelling is with thee.  
(The prayer of St Thomas Aquinas, used by Pope St. John Paul II to conclude  
Ecclesia de Eucharistia.)*

## Parish Notice Board

### 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 contributions for Father should be payable to 'Fr. Belevendran'.

Many thanks  
Parish Office

#### Parish Finance

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021

Gift Aid £45.00    Loose Plate £67.95    Total - £112.95  
Confirmation Donations £80

A kind donation has been received with gratitude towards Parish funds - £200.

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 in Emerson Court.

#### Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	Tony Grant – (will be ordained in the summer) (donor – Anne Marie Laffey)
	12.00 pm	For the People of India (donor – Mary Kelly)
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	10.00 am	Tom Roache – RIP (donor – Pauline Guidera)

## Communication Desk

### Catholic Biblical Association

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 11 am Fr Jeremy Corley, lecturer in Sacred Scripture at St Patrick's College, Maynooth, will speak on 'Afterlife Hope before the New Testament'. This event is free of charge and can be accessed by going to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) and following the instructions. No prior booking necessary. The event will be available subsequently on the same website. Dr Sean Ryan, chair of the CBA, will introduce the day and take questions.

### 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](http://www.universalis.com)

### Parish Administrator Vacancy– Ongar

A Parish Administrator is required to provide support to our Parish Office. The successful applicant will ideally be an administrator with substantial experience in office organisation. **The applicant** must be a good team player with excellent communication and Microsoft office skills, including Word and Excel and financial experience. It is important that all applicants are self-motivated, organised, can multi-task, work to deadlines, and use their own initiative within this role. 20 hours per week at £9.50 - £10.50 per hour . Closing date: Friday 18th June 2021. Please contact the parish office via email [ongar@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:ongar@dioceseofbrentwood.org) for a full job description and application details.

### 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 (11am-2pm) (01708 507020)
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](mailto:hornchurchem@dioceseofbrentwood.org)**

**Parish website: <http://englishmartyrshx.weebly.com/>**

**Founded 1955**

**Diocese of Brentwood**

**Registered Charity No. 23409**