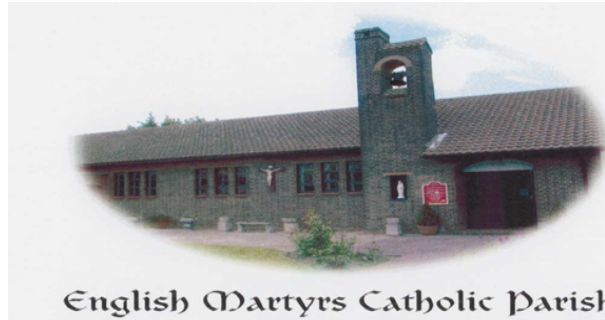


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English Martyrs Catholic Parish

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
SUNDAY 7th MARCH 2021

You shall not have other gods besides me

We commonly learn, read, and follow the Ten Commandments out of context. Whether in a religious education session or on a courtroom wall, they often stand alone like a timeless, universal statement of perfect morality. But the Bible places them firmly in their context within the story of Israel. In Exodus 3, God tells Moses that he is coming to deliver Israel from their oppressors. Exodus 4-11 narrates the struggle between Moses and the pharaoh before the deliverance. The first Passover celebration comes in chapters 12-13. The spectacular rescue from the Egyptians and its aftermath appear in Exodus 14-15, and the events of the journey to Mount Sinai, including the first manna and the water from the rock, happen in chapters 16-18. Finally in Exodus 19, the people reach Sinai, where God tells them through Moses, “You have seen ... how I bore you up on eagle wings and brought you here to myself. Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine. You shall be to be a kingdom of priests, a holy nation” (19:4-6). Then follows in chapter 20 the text we read today.

The proper setting for understanding the Decalogue is the mighty act of salvation and the covenant that God established as its result. Its Ten Commandments presuppose that one is already participating in the covenant. People obey out of love, faithfulness and gratitude. The very first commandment emphasizes the context of salvation: “I, the Lord, am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt You shall not have other gods besides me” (Exodus 20:2).

Moses sealed the people’s participation in the covenant by sprinkling them with the “blood of the covenant” (Exodus 24:8). Jesus renewed that as “my blood of the covenant which will be shed for many” (Mark 14:24). For Christians, the context for understanding and obeying is the Paschal Mystery of our Lord, who through the Eucharist gives us the wisdom and power to obey.



Third Sunday of Lent
Sunday 7th March 2021

Liturgical Calendar

Sunday 7 th March	Third Sunday of Lent (B)
Sunday 14 th March	Fourth Sunday of Lent (B) (‘Laetare’ Sunday)

Masses & Intentions This Week

Sunday 7 th March	10.00 am	Deceased Members of the Crawley and Guidera Families (donor – Pauline Guidera)
Monday 8 th March	10.00 am	Mr Johnny Connor – RIP (donor – Mary Fant)
Tuesday 9 th March	10.00 am	Sheila Watson – RIP (donor – Mary Fant)
Wednesday 10 th March	10.00 am	David Geraghty – 40 th Birthday (donor – Greta Street)
Thursday 11 th March	10.00 am	Margaret & Wilfred Street – RIP (donor – Greta Street)
Friday 12 th March	10.00 am	Joan & Dennis Sullivan – RIP/Anni (donor – Greta Street)
Saturday 13 th March	10.00 am	Thomas Brady – RIP/Anni (donor – Margo Fuller)
Sunday 14 th March	10.00 am	Maria Veronica Chinwe Adesegha – RIP (donor – Peter & Pat Lark)

The Season of Lent

During Lent, we are asked to devote ourselves to seeking the Lord in [prayer](#) and reading Scripture, to service by [giving alms](#), and to practice self-control through [fasting](#). Many know of the tradition of abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent, but we are also called to practice self-discipline and fast in other ways throughout the season. In addition, the giving of alms is one way to share God's gifts—not only through the distribution of money, but through the sharing of our time and talents. As St. John Chrysostom reminds us: "Not to enable the poor to share in our goods is to steal from them and deprive them of life. The goods we possess are not ours, but theirs." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2446).

Lent is a favourable season for opening the doors to all those in need and recognizing in them the face of Christ."-- Pope Francis

Sunday Masses During Lent In Church

Sunday 7 th March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 14 th March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 21 st March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)
Sunday 28 th March	10am (livestream)	12pm (in church)

RIP – Pauline Carroll

Please continue to pray for Pauline's family and especially Richard Carroll who is in need of our special prayers.

A Note from English Martyrs Parish Secretary

Please note that I am only physically in the office on Mondays and Fridays now as I am working from home. However, should you need anything urgent or to book mass intentions etc, please do not hesitate to call me on 07956 473389 during the hours of 11am – 2pm or please feel free to email me. Many thanks.

The National Novena to St Joseph

Will take place from 10th- 18th March 2021 at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. In this Year dedicated to St. Joseph, the Mill Hill Missionaries are preparing for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society's missionary outreach, and for the intentions of all those who support their work.

If you are able, and if it is possible to attend, Masses are on Wednesday to Friday (10-12 March), at 7.30pm, Saturday, 13 March at 10am, Sunday, 14 March at 11.00am, Monday –Thursday (15-18 March) at 7.30pm.

If you are unable to attend but would like to join in from home, for the first time this year, Masses from St. Joseph's Church will be available to follow on Zoom and YouTube via the parish website: stjosephsparish.co.uk and the Mill Hill website: www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena, where you will also find the Novena prayer leaflet.

You can also join in by praying the daily Novena prayer, which will be in your Novena prayer leaflet. You are welcome to send in your petitions and/or to request a printed Novena prayer leaflet. Please write to the Novena Director, 41 Victoria Road, Liverpool, L37 1LW, or email novenamhm@gmail.com

The Catholic Biblical Association Of Great Britain

The CBA announces the live streamed launch of the latest document of the Pontifical Biblical Commission in its English translation. 'What is Man? A Journey through Biblical Anthropology' will be available from Darton Longman and Todd www.dltbooks.com Professor Nuria Calduch-Benages, professor at the Gregorian University and member of the Commission, will speak at the event on Saturday 20th March from 11 am GMT. Dr Sean Ryan, chair of the CBA, will introduce the event. Please access the live stream free event by going to www.whatgoodnews.org and following the instructions on the home page.

BCCS – Spring Newsletter

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society – bccs – Spring Newsletter:

https://www.bccs.org.uk/application/files/9516/1409/6364/BCCS_Spring_Newsletter_2021.pdf

BCYS Sponsored Sleepout 2021

Join us in "giving" rather than "giving up" this Lent, by taking part in a diocesan wide Sponsored Sleepout on 26th March, led (virtually) from Walsingham House at Abbotswick. – join us from your garden, with just a sleeping bag and mat or cardboard boxes to sleep on or under! No tents allowed, whatever the weather!

Challenge yourself with a sponsorship goal - from £10 - £100, or perhaps even more! – as all money raised will support local homeless charities, such as Anchor House, The NewWay Project, Basildon Emergency Night Shelter and Southend Night Shelter, as well the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. If you are not able to take part, you can always support those who are by sponsoring them on our website! Sponsorship forms, online

donations and further information can be found at www.bcys.net/events/sleepout2021 and if you would like to take part or have any more questions, please email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

BCYS Voices

I hear about refugees and I ask, “what can I do”? Inspired by his Grandparents, themselves refugees, Rob Green, a young BCYS leader, travelled to a refugee camp in Greece: what he saw inspired and challenged him. Interspersed with reflective questions, and information from the Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) hear Rob tell his story in the latest BCYS voices video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqt0mvRrDH0>. More details of the whole BCYS voices series and much more at www.bcys.net

Calais Light

‘Will we survive or drown?’ Calais Light is a small refugee charity group that is still caring for refugees here & in N France. Watch & listen to the desperate thoughts of a refugee mother adrift in the dark in our Guided Meditation : “A minute on the Aegean Sea”. Imagine the terrible decisions she has to make. Watch on our website: www.calaislight.com & please donate. Thank you.

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

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

Vacancy at Sir William Petre Almshouses, Ingatestone

A vacancy has arisen at the Almshouses situated along the High St in Ingatestone. The Almshouse is a one-bedroom property. Candidates must be over 50 years and in need. Preference may be given to Roman Catholics. Applicants please contact Mike Falcone, Trustee, Ginge Petre Trust on tel 07935 959388.

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