

ANNIVERSARIES IN SEPTEMBER

Please remember the following :

† Anne Cadman, Brenda Patterson, Agnes Mullins, Tracey Baker, Terence Peter O'Brien, Charles James, Alice 'Maudi' Keenan, James Avery, John Patrick Quinn, Cecil Maurice Fielding, Nicholas Simmonds, Mary Funnell, Anthony Docherty, John Twitchett, Paddy and Eileen Burke, Patricia Worsley, Terry Alexander, Rene Askew, Michael O'Sullivan, Dr Colin Adey, Kathleen Sharland, Paddy Tobin, Vic Duggan, Joan Dowie. †

MASS RESPONSES

Responsorial Psalm 6pm and 8.45am

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm 10.45am

O that today you would listen to his voice: harden not your hearts!

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

A FINAL THOUGHT...

Seek not to understand that you may believe, but believe that you may understand.

St. Augustine.

To arrange visits to the sick and housebound please contact Sharon in the office.

New to the Parish? Please go to our website and fill in your details and Fr Brett will contact you in due course.

Parish Priest: Fr. Brett Adams

96 Ness Road, Shoeburyness, SS3 9DH

Telephone: 01702 292726

Website: www.saintgeorgeschurch.co.uk

Facebook: @stgeorgeandtheenglishmartyrs

School: St. George's Catholic Primary

Eagle Way, Shoeburyness, SS3 9RN

Headteacher: Mrs A. Delgado

Telephone: 01702 293522

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Those who receive Holy Communion

at home:

Jo Williams, Eileen Barber, Tom Costello, Eileen Glyde, Patricia Connolly, Neil O'Boyle, Michael Ryan, June Dillon, Rudolf Seneca, Kate Baron, Jack Pollock. Margaret Yorke-Starkey, Teresa Gleave.

Other friends and family in our prayers:

Robert Walliker, Sonia Curtis, Julie Stubbs, Colin Bennett, Janet Bernard, Eileen Malone, Margaret Button, Eileen Wilson, Theo Kalogerides, Maureen Woodcock, Rosie Stubbs, Mark Whitton, Shirley Essex, Emma Tredgett, Elisa Roffey, Anthony Betts, Gary Perez, Karel O'Rourke, Doug Woulds, Monica McGrath, Michael Tobin, Marion Storey, Alison Gleave, Joan Butcher, Jackie & Ron Gravestock, Lesley Sullivan, Liam Bryan, Don Cannon, Steve Magee, Cath Wilks, Brigid Hogan, Gabriella Magee, Lorna Smith, Sylvia Asuquo, Michelle Oatham, Yvonne Byford, Hilary Bliss, Paul Herbert, Joan O'Connor, Alan Essex, Esmé Kelly, Phyllis Green, Dexter and Claire Stubbs, Arthur Partington, John Morton, Tom Grain, Rita Docherty, Alan Parker, Tony Hatch, Paolo Angeletti, Charlotte Alexander.

Parish Administrator: Sharon Chambers

Office Hours - Mon 8am - 3pm; Fri 8am - 3pm.

Office Closed - Tues, Weds and Thursday

Hall Bookings: 292726 in office hours

Gift Aid: Jim Filmer.

Tel. 07775 898409

Church Email: -

stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com



The Catholic Parish of

ST. GEORGE and the English Martyrs



Twinned with Mpuluzi, South Africa

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Can we live without religion? Many people these days would say that we can and, as we know, many people do live without religion.

In fact, I think some people would say that we would be better off without religion. I've heard people claim that religion is bad because it encourages violence, bigotry and intolerance – sadly that is true. I've witnessed this first hand in mid-west America.

In their arguments against the failures of religion, people have often cited the Christian Crusades, the Inquisition and many other religious wars down through the centuries as examples of how destructive religion can be. In our present day, fundamentalist religious groups can exude terrible hatred and destruction.

However, and unfortunately, the appalling wars and genocides of the last century demonstrate that humankind is all too capable of committing atrocities that are not in the name of religion.

For most people it is obvious that religion can get hijacked and simply used as a vehicle to justify and mask the bad side of human nature.

We might say then that it is possible to have good religion and bad religion. The readings we are given this weekend seem to address this issue.



In the 1st Reading from Deuteronomy we get a sense of a deep appreciation of the Law that God had given to the people of Israel. They had been in miserable slavery in Egypt and God had freed them. The Ten Commandments, given to them on Sinai, were seen as a precious gift and a way of keeping them in harmony with the heart and mind of God so that they did not slip back into the slavery of idolatry and an 'every man for himself' attitude. Additionally, the rituals of the Law helped them to belong as a community.

This is an example of good religion.

Jesus as a Jew respected God's Law, but when the Pharisees who were obsessed by every details of the Law criticised Jesus' disciples for not performing the washing rituals, he makes a fierce prophetic attack on the way religion can become bad, and he quotes the prophet Isaiah to back him up. If we're not careful, the laws can become the end in themselves, covering up injustice, indifference and selfishness. Religion then becomes hypocritical as it serves human interests and not the original commandments of which the greatest is to love God and our neighbour. Jesus insists that good religion comes from a heart that is oriented towards this love. External rituals are useful, but they remain superficial unless they are rooted in this great command. A heart which is not motivated by love can easily give way to selfish, destructive forces, and it is this that will make a person 'unclean'.

Let's pray that by our example we will give faith and religion a good press!

Have a good week.

Fr Brett



1st SEPTEMBER - 9th SEPTEMBER 2018

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

Saturday 1st	6.00pm	For All Parishioners
Sunday 2nd	8.45am*	22nd Sunday of the Year Family and Friends of Betty and Pat O'Sullivan
Monday 3rd	10.45am	Tom McPhillips (Chris McPhillips) <i>and Intentions of Henrieta - very ill</i> (Sylvia)
	9.15am	St. Gregory the Great Antonia Nappi <i>and</i> Miss Carmen Georges and Mr Edigio Giorgis RIP
Tuesday 4th	9.15am*	Feria Intentions of Paul and Josephine Caldwell
Wednesday 5th	11.30am	Feria John Wilks RIP (Chris and Don DeViell)
Thursday 6th	9.15am	Feria Eucharistic Service
Friday 7th	9.15am	Feria For the Souls in Purgatory <i>and</i> Fr Michael Durand (Westminster) RIP
Saturday 8th	6.00pm	Intentions of the Gwilliam and Hunt Families
Sunday 9th	8.45am*	23rd Sunday of the Year (Education Day) Tom Malley RIP (Maureen Malley)
	10.45am	For All Parishioners <i>and</i> Special Intentions of E.D. Attai - very ill (Sylvia)

*At St. Gregory's, Thorpe Bay

Confessions at St. George's—Saturday 5pm to 5.45pm. Other times may be available upon request.

Morning Prayer will begin at 9am, followed by Mass at 9.15am, on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Adoration is on Friday mornings following the Mass. Benediction will take place at 11.45am.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION NEWS

The Application Packs to apply for First Holy Communion are now available in the porches of both churches. This is open to children who will be going into Year 3 and above.

A few useful dates for your diary -

Monday 15th October at 7pm - Parents Meeting and Registration.

Monday 5th November, 4pm to 5pm, Children's Sessions start in the Church Hall.

Saturday 22nd June at 10.30am - First Holy Communion.

**ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC
AREA FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, 29th September, 2018
Chelmsford Cathedral.**

A Special One-day Come and Sing Event for Choirs and Individual Singers led by James Davy, Master of the Music, Chelmsford Cathedral and featuring the music of Martin Shaw who died 60 years ago in 1958. All choirs and individual singers are welcome. Registration 10 am. Festival Service 4pm. Registrations and requests for the booklet containing the music (£5) to be used in the Festival to Shirley Timmins - telephone (answerphone) 01277 233302 or e-mail shirleytimmins@btinternet.com

SCHOOL FORM SIGNING

Father Brett is now taking bookings to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice that you might need if you are applying for a Catholic Senior School place for your child.

He can only provide you with this Certificate if you are known to him, and a practising Catholic.

A 'practising' Catholic is someone who attends a weekend Mass here every week. If you believe that you fit this criteria please ring or email the Church Office on 292726 to book your appointment. We have various appointments available in early October, and all sessions will take place in The Presbytery.

If you practise at another church then please see the Parish Priest of that church for a Certificate.

If you are not a practising Catholic, the Certificate of Catholic Practice cannot be given. However, you may still apply to a Catholic School, but your application will be considered under another category.

OFFERTORY

The offertory last weekend came to £786.08 excluding Gift Aid and standing orders. Many thanks to you all for your generosity.

CONFIRMATION 2019

Will you be in Year 9 or above from September onwards? If so, we would like to invite you to put your name forward for Confirmation next year. Fr. Brett will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday 9th June 2019. All Confirmation sessions will run on various Sunday afternoons in the Church Hall, and there will be some other commitments - details to follow. Please telephone or email the office, or go onto our website to register your interest.

MEDITATIVE ROSARY

The Rosary Group meet every Tuesday in St. George's Church at 7.30pm. Please come and join us.

SPECIAL MASS

Apostleship of the Sea invites you to a Mass in honour of our patron Stella Maris, Our Lady Star of the Sea. Come pray for the work of Apostleship of the Sea and for seafarers on Thursday 20th September 2018 at 9.15am in the Cathedral of St Mary & St Helen, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, CM15 8AT. Bishop Alan Williams will celebrate Mass, followed by a reception. All invited. Please RSVP by email to roland@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

SHARE THE JOURNEY

This Friday, the 7th September at 7.30pm in St. George's Church, to coincide with the publication of the refugee agreement, the Senior Justice and Peace Group will be hosting an hour of reflection and prayer on the continuing crisis. Come along and listen to readings, watch the PowerPoint and help support our displaced brothers and sisters. Following the presentation there will be refreshments served in the Church Hall.

We come together to demonstrate our support for all those fleeing war, poverty and persecution in our world. We come to share their journey.



Share the Journey
#sharejourney

AUTUMN SPIRITUALITY TALK
Conference Centre, Cathedral House, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT

Saturday 15th September 2018 - 10.30am-12.00noon.
Topic: **One Bread One Body.**
Speaker: Thomas McMahan, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood.
For further details: tel. 01277265285
email: jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org

COFFEE MORNING

The Coffee Morning this weekend will be in aid of ACROSS. Come and join us after the 10.45am Mass for tea, coffee and cakes. Look forward to seeing you there!



Next week: -
9th September - 669

CONVERSATIONS IN FAITH BETWEEN GENERATIONS

In the Church Hall on Friday 14th September at 7pm there will be a small gathering to put some ideas on paper as to what needs to change for generations to work together for a faith that does justice. All welcome to attend. Refreshments provided.

REPOSITORY NEWS

Next weekend, 8th and 9th September, the Repository will open once more. If there are any items that you would like Serena to order for you, for example scroll calendars, diaries, statues or small Christmas gifts, she will be placing her Christmas and New Year orders during September. Just let her know in the next few weeks.

WANTED!

Articles for the next edition of 'The Georgian.' Please send me any summer holiday stories, articles, jokes, etc.
Deadline: 16th September
Send to: mcevoy@ymail.com

Fund raising for St George's Parish

COCKNEY EVENING

7-30 pm Saturday 8th September

Three Course Meal

St George's Church Hall

Bring your own drink

RAFFLE Tickets: Charlotte or Dianne 01702 535751 **TICKETS £15**

HOMELESS NEWS

This month we are asking for: - small cartons of juice (for night packs); meals in tins e.g. curries, hotpots, chilli, casseroles; plus coffee and sugar please.

Thanks very much for your kind donations recently, both of food and money. It really is very much appreciated

ENRICHMENT DAY FOR READERS

A Day of Reflection & Enrichment for READERS – Advance Notice for Saturday, 20th October in Woodford Green.

READERS & PROSPECTIVE READERS PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARIES. Details to follow.

We are looking to share a coach with Rayleigh parish. If you want to come along please let Sharon know as soon as possible. At this present moment in time there are places available. If you are not currently a reader, but would like to be, this could be the day for you!

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

If you need a low gluten host please speak with an usher on arrival in Church, and they will arrange this.

BUT YOU, HE SAID -

WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?

Have you ever thought about becoming a Christian? Are you already a Catholic, and have thought about being Confirmed? Are you interested in learning about the beliefs and Traditions of the Catholic Church?

Our annual programme, for which the posh name is Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), will start on Monday 1st October in the Committee Room at the back of St. George's Church at 7.30pm. It is designed to help you consider these questions in the context of a caring and supportive group of fellow travellers. We are all on a journey of faith; feel free to come and see if you would like to share yours with us!

If you think you might want to come along please speak with Fr Brett or Sharon to register your interest, or to ask any questions that you might have. It is a weekly course, with breaks for the school holidays.



BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism Course takes place this Wednesday, 5th September, 7.45pm for 8pm, in St. George's Church. Please book with the office.

To have your child Baptised at least one parent must be a Baptised Catholic and needs to be practising. All Godparents must also be Baptised, and at least one must be a regular attender at Mass.



THE KNIGHTS OF ST. JOHN AND OUR LADY OF PHILERMO

The 8th September 1565 saw the end of the Siege of Malta by the Ottoman forces of Suleyman the Magnificent. It brought to a halt the Ottoman advance in southern Europe. The Knights of St. John (Knights of Malta) attributed their success to the intercession of Our Lady of Philermo. This day is dedicated to her.

As a young man and as the new Sultan Suleyman successfully defeated and evicted the Knights of St. John from the island of Rhodes in 1523. They had been on Rhodes since 1307. Previously they were based in the Holy Land where the Order was founded to care for the sick and poor. The Order was acknowledged by Pope Pascal II in 1113. After Rhodes the Knights were 'homeless' and eventually settled on Malta in 1530.

The chalice used during this Saturday's Mass was a gift to the parish from the Grand Master of the Order of Malta when he visited our parish in July 2013, the 900th Anniversary year of the Order. The Chalice bears his Coat of Arms. He expressly asked for it to be used on this special day for the Order dedicated to Our Lady.



JOAN BUTCHER

Joan Butcher has moved to 44, St Joseph's, Nazareth House, SS1 1PP. Mobile 07740994085 From 4th Sept (01702)436708.

She would dearly love to stay in touch but her sight is poor and it is hard for her to call you, so please call or indeed visit if you can.

My thanks to you all for your prayers and amazing support.

Carol Williams