

ANNIVERSARIES IN MARCH

Please remember the following :

† Joseph Bryan, Genevieve Britto, Florence Meager, Edith Humphreys, Kathleen Davies, Kathleen Gooding, Tony Mander, Louisa Bruce, John Roberts, Peter Zuelchaur, Leonard Carlile, Linda Conroy, Arthur Bann, James Rockell, James Coughlan, Thomas Spalding, Bill Wisbey, Kenneth Dawson, Edith Timmermans, Edward Dean, May Mills, Carmen Kelly, Stephen Dowie, Jim Dixon, Pat McKelvie, Mary d'Eca, Catherine Harman, Jenny Adamson, Michael Sheaf, Maria Coleman, Joan Pollock, Sean O'Sullivan, Barbara Neagle, Brian Hanley, Monica Winn, James Curtis, Barbara McKelvie, Robert Stone, Teresa Pitcher, Shirley Sharrad, Joan James, Manuel Sufredo, Gabby Millar, Barbara Devereux †

MASS RESPONSES

Responsorial Psalm 6pm and 8.45am

A pure heart create for me, O God.

Gospel Acclamation 6pm and 8.45am

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! If a man serves me, says the Lord, he must follow me; wherever I am, my servant will be there too. Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Responsorial Psalm 10.45am

Keep on trusting in God, for there is mercy with him.

Gospel Acclamation 10.45am

Glory and praise to you, O Christ! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

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, Roland de Cruz, Christine Leaver, Patricia Connolly, Neil O'Boyle, Michael Ryan, June Dillon, Carmel Collis, Rudolf Seneca, Kate Baron, Jack Pollock. Margaret Yorke-Starkey.

Other friends and family in our prayers:

Kitty Grange, 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, Pat Davison, Jackie and Ron Gravestock, Lesley Sullivan, Liam Bryan, Don Cannon, Steve Magee, Cath Wilks, Brigid Hogan, Gabriella Magee, Lorna Smith, Sylvia Asuquo, Michelle Oatham, Yvonne Byford, James Corr, Hilary Bliss, Paul Herbert, Joan O'Connor, Alan Essex, Glenda Rhodes, Esmé Kelly, Severino D'Andrea, Phyllis Green, Dexter and Claire Stubbs, John Wilks, Arthur Partington, John Morton, Tom Grain.

To arrange visits to the sick and house-bound 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 Administrator: Sharon Chambers

Office Open: Mon 8.30am - 3pm; Tues

8.30am - 5pm; Thurs 8.30am - 3pm; Fri

8.30am - 3pm.

Email: stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com

Hall Bookings: 292726 in office hours

Gift Aid: Jim Filmer. Tel. 585839

Suggestions Email:

suggestions_stgc@btinternet.com

The Catholic Parish of

ST. GEORGE and the English Martyrs



Twinned with Mpuluzi, South Africa

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year B



A few years ago, I saw an excellent film called, *Of Gods and Men*. The film is based on a true story of a Cistercian monastery set in the Atlas Mountains of Algeria.

The monks joyfully and happily lived among the Arab population, helping them with both medical aid and their education, and entering into brotherly dialogue with Muslim leaders and scholars. Both religious groups had a deep respect and love for each other.

However, then came the threat of terrorist, fanatical groups, a threat which was getting closer to the monastery. A decision had to be made by the monks; should they return to Europe or stay put in their monastery?

Perhaps the most powerful part of the film is where the monks enter into a period of discernment which involved a lot of personal and community prayer and reflection, and everyone was given the opportunity to air their views, fears and anxieties; as you can imagine, it was an intense time. At the heart of it all was the regular celebration of the Eucharist. Bearing in mind that the Eucharist represents the outpouring of Christ's life for humanity, it may come as no surprise the decision the monks took; they would stay in the monastery, continuing their work with the local community. In the light of how things might go for them, it was a courageous decision.

It didn't long for a terrorist group to come knocking at the monastery door. Their manner was threatening and aggressive, and they wanted medical supplies and assistance. It was shortly after that visit that they returned and kidnapped seven of the monks. The film ends with them trudging through the snow to meet their grim fate.

Yes, it is a sad ending, but a very 'Eucharistic' example of living one's faith, albeit an extreme one. Those monks were determined to love and serve the people to the bitter end.

Although most of us will not be asked or challenged to take such extreme steps in living our Christian faith, there are many other ways in which we are called to be selfless and self-giving.

Before his death, one of the monks, Fr Christian de Cherge, wrote in his testament (sent sealed to his mother) that their lives in such circumstances would be given, not taken; given to God, Algeria and its people.

Let's pray for the generosity and courage to live our faith confidently and boldly.

Have a good week,

Fr Brett



17th MARCH – 25th MARCH 2018

Fifth Sunday of Lent - Year B

Saturday 17th	6.00pm	For All Parishioners
Sunday 18th		Fifth Sunday of Lent (The Third Scrutiny)
	8.45am*	For the health of John Hedderman (Ted Brown)
	10.45am	Mairaid McPhillips RIP (Chris and Tom)
	4.00pm*	Vespers (St. Gregory's)
Monday 19th		St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	9.15am	Mrs Gooderham and Joan Pollock RIP (Jack and Family)
Tuesday 20th		Feria
	9.15am*	Mary Woulds RIP (D. Woulds)
Wednesday 21st		Feria
	11.30am	Norman Butt RIP - Anniv. (Theresa Butt)
Thursday 22nd		Feria
	9.15am	Eucharistic Service
Friday 23rd		Feria
	9.15am	Clemente Mancino RIP (Margherita and Ian)
	7.30pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 24th		
	6.00pm	Norman Sach RIP and All Dementia Sufferers
Sunday 25th		Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
	8.45am*	Deceased Parents of Ted and Anne Brown
	10.45am	For All Parishioners
	4.00pm	Vespers (St. George's)

*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 of the Blessed Sacrament: - Adoration is on Friday mornings following the Mass. Benediction will take place at 11.45am.

Bishop Alan goes #SiLent!

For 12 hours, from 8am to 8pm, on Tuesday 27th March, the Tuesday of Holy Week, Bishop Alan will be completely silent (except for occasional communication with his cat, Delia). This is part of a national initiative, "Million Minutes," adopted this year by the BCYS, to encourage all of us to (re)discover the peace, tranquility and value of silence: within the stillness, God speaks. Every minute of silence can also be sponsored, raising money for projects led by young people in our Diocese. For more details, and all the resources, look at www.millionminutes.org/Brentwood. To sponsor Bishop Alan go to <https://be.wonderful.org/bishop.alan/2018/staysilent>. To find out more about all our opportunities for young people go to www.bcys.net

A DAY WITH MARY

A day of instruction, devotion and intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. Taking place at Our Lady of Canvey, Canvey Island, on Saturday 7th April. Beginning at 10am, and finishing at 5.30pm. Please bring a packed lunch. During the day there will be Confession and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

2018 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Bishop Alan will lead our annual pilgrimage from Monday 23rd to Saturday 28th July. We shall be accompanied by an experienced medical team and there is plenty of help for those with mobility needs. The pilgrimage is no less ideal for couples, individuals, and groups of friends; all are welcome. There is a full programme to opt in and out of. For more information or for a brochure, please 'phone the pilgrimage administrator Cathy O'Connor: 01206 735623.



A FINAL PRAYER...

You are God's servants, Gifted with dreams and visions.

Upon you rests the grace of God like flames of fire.

Love and serve the Lord in the strength of the spirit.

May the deep peace of Christ be with you, the strong arms of God sustain you, and the power of the Holy Spirit strengthen you in every way.

VACANCIES

St, George's Catholic Primary School are looking for an energetic, hard-working, trustworthy *Caretaker/Handy Person* to carry out duties including general security, cleaning, and maintenance of the school premises. 25 hrs per week 07.00 – 09.00 & 15.00 – 18.00. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expect all staff and volunteers to support this commitment. For more details and an application pack please contact the school office on 01702 293522 or visit our website www.sgcps.co.uk. Visits to the school are warmly welcomed and encouraged. Closing date: 26th March 2018.

Holy Family Parish, Benfleet are looking for an *Admin Manager*. 20 hours p.w. timing of work can be negotiated. If you – or any of your family/friends – are interested, please first contact Fr. Eduard Fartan on 01268 792082 or the office on 01268 799649 – or send an email to priest@holyfamily-church.org for a job description and person specification. You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements and attributes of the role. Closing date for CVs/applications is Tuesday 3rd April.

Our Lady of Ransom Catholic School, Rayleigh require two enthusiastic and highly-motivated *class teachers*, one in Early Years and one in KS1/2. Details in last week's newsletter or refer to the school website www.olorcps.net

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary currently have positions for *class teachers* starting in September 2018. For more information please contact the school office via email at office@sacredheart.southend.sch.uk

St Peters Catholic Primary School in Billericay are currently advertising for two positions. Details can be found on Essex School Jobs following the links below.

Teacher vacancy <http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=40940>

Teaching Assistant <http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=40941>

The closing date for applications is noon on Friday 23rd March 2018.

COFFEE MORNING

This weekend we will be raising money for resources for the CAFÉ Group. Everyone welcome after the 10.45am Mass. Come and enjoy tea, coffee, and cakes, plus have a jolly good natter! The Coffee Mornings for the next few weeks are raising money as follows: -
25 March - Youth J & P
1 April - Easter Sunday (no coffee morning)



EASTER FLOWERS

This weekend we will be having a retiring collection towards the Easter Flowers at both churches.



Thank you to our lovely group of ladies who work so hard throughout the year to produce the flower arrangements in our parish.

THIS WEEK

Vespers and Benediction continue this Sunday at St. Gregory's at 4pm. Stations of the Cross will take place every Friday at 7.30pm in St. George's, and this coming week we have our Confirmation Group leading us.

RCIA NEWS

This weekend, at the 10.45am Mass, our Candidates and Catechumens will go through The Third Scrutiny as part of their journey towards either being received into the Church at Easter, or being Confirmed at Pentecost. This does mean that at the 10.45am Mass we will be following the Year A readings, and not the Year B readings as we would at the other Masses. Please remember Michael, Sam, Leah, Maudy, Wallace, Betty and Ola in your prayers.

EASTER EGG COLLECTION

We will be collecting Easter Eggs for those less fortunate than ourselves over the next couple of weekends. Please bring them along to either church at any time, with the last collecting date being Palm Sunday. (next weekend).



DEANERY SACRAMENTS OF RECONCILIATION

The second Deanery Reconciliation Service will take place as follows: -
Friday 23rd March - 8pm -
St. Peter's, Eastwood.

OFFERTORY

The offertory last weekend came to £701.98 excluding Gift Aid and standing orders. Many thanks to all.

HOMELESS NEWS

This month we are asking for Tinned Vegetables - peas, carrots, assorted beans etc., plus Breakfast Cereals. Also, as a regular item, long-life milk is always needed. Thank you to everyone who donates, it is much appreciated.

EASTER CARDS

Thank you to Jessica (Year 3) and Jacob (Year 4) for producing the fantastic artwork for our Parish Easter card this year – well done! Thank you also to those who took part in the assignment: Ellie (Year R), Kundai (Year 1), Scarlett (Year 2), Maddy (Year 5) and India (Year 6).

UNITED SERVICE

On Palm Sunday at 3.00pm in the Mallards there is a United Service. This is provided for the residents by the Methodist and Catholic churches. Do please support it if you can. (The Mallards is opposite the Exhibition pub/Methodist Church in the High Street.

EASTER OFFERING FOR THE PRIEST

The collection taken over the Easter Sunday Masses is an opportunity for you to make your own personal Easter offering to the priest. Together with the Christmas collection, this forms his main income for the year.

If you have gift-aid envelopes, you will find a white envelope marked "Easter Sunday" amongst the sequence of your other gift-aid envelopes. Please use this envelope for your offering. If you pay by cheque, then please make it payable to "Catholic Church Shoeburyness"; your offering will still make its way to Fr Brett.

If you support the parish community by paying through a *Standing Order*, then please note that this money does not form part of the Easter offering to the priest, but goes to the parish.

Thank you for your kindness and support.

SOUTHEND DEANERY LENT TALKS

Theme: - 'The Ministries to which we are called'

The last talk takes place at Nazareth House, Southend as follows: -

22nd March at 7.30pm - 'Devotion to Mary means Apostleship' given by Brian Holt -President of the Comitium for the Legion of Mary in our Diocese.



YOUTH JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

Coffee morning in aid of

HOPE FOR JUSTICE

After Palm Sunday 10.45 Mass

Homemade cakes

Sausage and bacon rolls

Craft activities for children

Raffle

Please come and support our wonderful project

SUMMER FAYRE - DATE FOR YOUR DIARY....

Many thanks to those of you who turned up at the Summer Fayre planning meeting last week. We have settled on Saturday 9th June as the date for our Fayre. Please make a note in your diaries, and start praying for warmer, brighter weather!

For those of you who couldn't make the meeting, it is not too late to get involved! Please contact the office to put your name down.



HELP NEEDED

Our Family Group that meets on a Tuesday morning is in desperate need of some extra hands to set up and pack away, and possibly to do some reading or singing to the children. If you have a couple of hours to spare on a Tuesday morning, between 9am and 11.30am, please telephone the office and leave your details.

MEDITATIVE ROSARY

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