

The Catholic Parish of

ST. GEORGE and the English Martyrs



Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

21st / 22nd November 2020

This weekend we celebrate the feast of Christ the King, marking the end of another liturgical year; next weekend we begin a new year as we step into the holy season of Advent.

However, as we focus on the kingship of Jesus this weekend we need to proceed with caution, reminding ourselves that Jesus did not lay claim to the title 'king' in his lifetime. This might be because of all the negative undertones that come with such a title – power, control, authoritarianism, unapproachable, distant, oppression, 'not one of us', privilege, prestige and wealth. As we know, this is not how Jesus understood God or revealed God – quite the opposite in fact.

However, humans are more comfortable with a divine monarch at the top of pyramidal reality. Consequently, we quickly made Jesus, who described himself as "meek and humble of heart" (Matthew 11:29), into an imperial God, both in western Rome and eastern Constantinople. This idea set a particular tone which, from time to time, reared its ugly head throughout Christian history, and thus religion – in the name of Christ – was used as a vehicle to exert control, manipulate, and dominate.



A positive quality of kingliness, is the task of uniting, bringing people together, and Jesus was certainly a community formation person. He strove to break down the cultural and societal barriers of his time, trying to show us that we are all equal in the sight of God. In fact, Jesus tried to point out that we are one because we all share in the same divine origins. It is the false self/ego in us that tends to divide, whether it is by 'stinking thinking', attitudes or behaviours.

Jesus' kingship was all about communion with others, and by implication, service towards others. Hence, the greatest religious achievement we could ever attain is seeing Him in others, which is the central theme of the gospel we hear today – "In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you did it to me...in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these brothers or sisters of mine, you neglected to do it to me." Put it another way, it is no good coming to church or claiming any religious virtue while judging and looking unkindly at others.

As king of the universe, the power that Jesus possesses is the same power that He shares with us, and that is the power of eternal being, which is the hallmark of everything you see. In and through our humanity, He invites us to allow our true being to come to the fore, which is the spiritual project before all of us.

Wishing you well for the week.

God bless,

Fr Brett

21st NOVEMBER - 29th NOVEMBER 2020

Our Lord Jesus Christ the King

Saturday 21st

4pm - 6pm

Diane Hogan RIP (Hogan Family)
and **Fr Michael Horrax (Nottingham) RIP**
Private Prayer Session

Sunday 22nd

10am - 12noon

Christ the King
For All Parishioners *and*
For the Intentions of Michael Davis (Joan and Tony)
Special Intentions of Caroline Statham (Sylvia)
Private Prayer Session

Monday 23rd

10am - 12noon

Feria
For the Holy Souls *and*
Rev. John Miller (Westminster) RIP
Private Prayer Session

Tuesday 24th

Ss Andrew Dung-Lac, Pr & Companions
Deceased Parents of Ted and Anne Brown

Wednesday 25th

10am - 12noon

Feria
Michael Norton RIP - Anniv. (Serena and Brian Fitzgerald)
and **For Persecuted Christians**
Private Prayer Session

Thursday 26th

Feria
No Mass or Prayer Session

Friday 27th

Feria
Requiem Mass for Patricia Brown RIP

Saturday 28th

4pm - 6pm

Fr. John Garrett RIP (Tony and Liz Castle)
Private Prayer Session

Sunday 29th

10am - 12noon

First Sunday of Advent
For All Parishioners *and*
Kitty Mayo RIP - Anniv. (Wendy Stafford)
For my Children to Return to the Catholic Church (Sylvia)
Private Prayer Session

VIRTUAL HO, HO. HO'S

Parish Grand Draw News

Thanks to everyone who has dropped in money for tickets and donated some wonderful prizes. So far the Draw Prizes are as follows: -

1st Prize £100 Cash

2nd £50

3rd £25

4th Christmas Hamper

Simba Lion King Cuddly Toy

Selection of Wines

Selection of Spirits

Selection of Minature Gins

Litre Hendricks Gin

Litre Remy Martin Cognac

Brandy

Miss Dianne Christmas Cake

Miss Margaret Christmas Cake

Afternoon Tea Selection Pack

Lindt Chocolates Selection

Chocolate Tub Selection

Ladies Accurist Watch

Echo Dot

Cappuccino Coffee Cups and Biscuits

Virtual Tickets are £1; drop an envelope into the Presbytery with either cash or cheque (made payable to Catholic Church Shoeburyness) for the number of tickets that you want - and **please include your name, address and telephone number.**

We can also accept bank transfers as long as you take a screen shot of your payment and send it into the Office, along with your details. Please email the office for bank details. Cut off date for tickets is 12noon on 5th December.



PRIVATE PRAYER SESSIONS

A change to our Prayer Sessions this week....

Sunday, Monday and Wednesday, only- 10am until 12noon

Saturday - 4pm until 6pm

Please note that there will be no Prayer Session on Friday this week as Fr. Brett will be holding a Requiem Mass for Patricia Brown.

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY

Lord, a wise man once said:

You must be the change you want to see in the world.

When I look at this world I want so many things to change.

But I know that I must change first so that I can get rid of things that stop me from serving you as I know deep down I want to.

Help me to listen to what you are saying to me; teach me to recognise your face in other people and inspire me to learn more and more about this world that you have created and this wonderful life you have given to me.

Lord, make me courageous enough to be the change I want to see in the world.

SHOEBURY LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

The idea of the living advent calendar is that each day at 4pm a different window is revealed around Shoebury and then remains on view until the First of January. Each window will be unveiled live and also on social media through a dedicated Facebook group making it accessible for people who are self-isolating or needing to shield. Though the idea is that the windows are lit, we recognise this is not feasible for everyone - for example Thorpedene school have no visible windows so are looking to do something different, and South Shoebury Hall are going to be erecting a display board.

It would be great if you would like to join in spreading a little cheer around Shoebury this Christmas, and up until time of going to press, they need 3 more windows to participate.

Please click here for more information: -

<https://thisissouthend.com/2020/10/27/shoebury-living-advent-calendar/>

If you do want to get involved here is a Doodle poll for you to select your day: <https://doodle.com/poll/dtkifiegpgu6va32>. In the information pack are some window ideas (sorry – the nativity scene has been taken) but don't feel you have to stick to these ideas. If you have any ideas, please contact Rev. Hannah Robinson, Assistant Curate at South Shoebury, on Rev.Hannah.Robinson@outlook.com

PROVISIONAL REPOSITORY CHRISTMAS OPENING

Obviously this is dependent on what the Government come out with in regards to opening up the Church at the beginning of December, but we are hoping to set up a stall in the Church Hall for the weekend of the 5th/6th December, following each Mass (if indeed we are allowed to have Mass then). Serena will be selling Christmas Cards, and other bits and pieces, at a social distance.

In the meantime, if you are needing some Christmas Cards or other items please give the office a call as we do have some stock that Serena would be happy to dig out for you.

NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY

Today is the Feast of Christ the King, and the weekend where we especially honour and celebrate the place of young people. Last year Pope Francis wrote a letter to young people, *Christus Vivit*, where he said “Young people ... are meant to dream great things ... and to offer the best of themselves to the building of something better.” Covid has had particular effects on the young; since March our Brentwood Catholic Youth Service has offered online opportunities for prayer and service, in wonderful ways, and reaching thousands of people. To discover more – including a series of short videos where young people share their experience of the BCYS – go to www.bcys.net.



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people share their experience of the BCYS – go to www.bcys.net.

Donations: This year, in addition to lost retreat income, the lack of congregations at Mass will dramatically affect the second collection that usually takes place today – please give a donation to support the BCYS via the website www.bcys.net/donate or post a cheque to “Brentwood Catholic Youth Service” through the presbytery letterbox and we will pass it on.

If you are a Gift Aider, please remember to use your designated envelope, and make the cheque payable to Catholic Church Shoeburyness.

Thank you to you all in advance.

From Fr. Dominic (abridged version)

This week our young Walsingham House team bring together 35 young people, catechists, young leaders and priests in a series of short videos, sharing what the BCYS means for them. They are not polished – it is all filmed at home, on phones – but there is absolutely beautiful testimony of companionship and faith, and a tremendous sense of the journey they are on in their young lives. The videos range from a couple of minutes long, up to 6 minutes. All week you’ll find the videos at

<https://www.youtube.com/c/BrentwoodCYS>

If you are looking for a bit of hope in lockdown, then spend a little time each day with these videos. Pray for the young people in them. They have had exams cancelled, and have not been able to journey through such key moments as the ending of school year 11 and 13, or celebrating 16th, 18th or 21st birthdays with friends. Plus some of them have had to deal with much more fragile situations, and yet these young people, and those accompanying them, offer hope, joy, and a sense of faith that is tangible. I hope these little videos encourage you; be proud of these young people who are a credit to our Diocese, their Parishes and their families.

COMPASS IN ADVENT...

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

Our lives are being turned upside down at the moment due to Covid-19.

Join us to reflect on some of the characters in the Christmas story whose lives were also radically changed.

How is God speaking to us through these stories today?

Each Friday we will focus on one set of characters. The meeting will also include a sharing of a contemporary story of vocation/call. There will be time for sharing, questions and discussion.

Who? – Young adults 18-35

When? Fridays - 27th Nov, 4th , 11th , 18th Dec

Time? 7pm for one hour

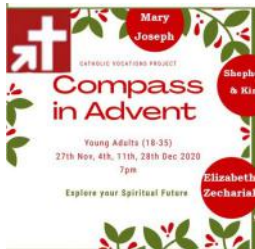
Zoom link: email us

on CompassInAdvent@gmail.com for the link and for any other information.

Facebook event:

<https://bit.ly/CompassInAdvent>

Compass is a project of CVP (Catholic Vocations Project). CVP is supported by a group of religious women and men in the UK who are interested in promoting a culture of vocation in our Church.



VACANCY

Mary's Meals are looking for a Supporter Engagement Officer.

They will play a key role in the development and implementation of fundraising activities by Mary's Meals in the UK. The officer will help to develop local strategies and plans, to secure increased support and funding for Mary's Meals school feeding programmes around the world.



Responsibilities include: growing and nurturing our volunteer network by building relationships with community volunteers, churches, schools, and faith groups.

This role is office-based, working in the community in London (office staff are currently working at home due to Covid-19).

For more details click here:-

<https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/useful-links/work-for-us/supporter-engagement-officer-london>

WALK WITH ME

We now have copies of this little Advent daily reflection book in stock, priced at £1. Please pick one up from the porch, or from the office.

SVP FOOD PARCELS

As well as toys, they are still in need of the following food stuffs. Thanks so much to everyone who contributes regularly:

UHT Milk

Tinned Veg (peas, sweetcorn, carrots, potatoes, mixed veg)

Microwave Rice

Super Noodles

Tinned Spaghetti

Tinned meats/ curry/ chilli/ ravioli/ ham / Spam/ Tuna/ Meatballs

Dried Pasta and Sauce in Packets

Noodles

Fruit Juice / Squash

Coffee/Tea/Sugar

Crisps

Tinned fruit/ custard / rice pudding

Jam/Spreads/Crackers

Shower Gel/Deodorant/Shampoo/ Conditioner

Wet Wipes/Nappies/Toilet Rolls

Also, the SVP have put a plea out for men's trainers, sizes 8 and 9; plus jeans, particularly size 34 - and nothing over a 38 please.

Thank you to the Braybrook Family who collect all items every Friday and deliver them to the SVP in Short Street.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY NEWS

For those of you who receive this newsletter via email, there will be an electronic version of the BCCS Newsletter attached. It is also not too late if you want to remember a loved one through their Tree of Angels. Please go to their website, www.bcys.org.uk for more details.

They also still have Christmas Cards available if you still need some.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

(www.twainoneflesh.org.uk)

Christ the King

(Ezek 34:11-12; 15-17 1 Cor 15:20-26; 28 Matt 25:31-46)

**Called to be symbols of the way
Jesus loves**

Jesus says that those who respond to others are in effect responding to him. Our call as married couples is to be a symbol of Jesus' love for us. In each small way that we show our love: doing little jobs, spending quality time together, listening, forgiving and making up, we are responding to that call and nourishing one other.

ANNIVERSARIES IN NOVEMBER

† Jack Askew, Mary and William Bryan, George Burton, Joan Butcher, Reginald Chambers, Colman Connolly, William Dickens, Christopher Docherty, Joe Dore, Peter Dowie, Joan Dowie, Christopher Fagan, Tom Gallimore, Sheila Gaunt, Marie Hanley, Cathy Heffernan, Adelaide Hodges, Diane Hogan, Christopher Holden, Bernard Humphrey, Peggy Kateley, Anthony Maurice Henry Maintenant, William Marrs, Patrick McFadden, Constance Miller, Mick Montague, Mark Murray, Rachel Neale, B.J. O'Connell, Winifred Paterson, Stanley Platt, Jessie Rae, William Ryan, Mark Schneiderhan, Leslie Smith, Ruby Statham, Kurt Stocker, Lily Sutton, Joan Taylor, Phyliss Wallhead, David Webber, Michael Wilks, Tom Woodman, Martha Zuelchaur. †

300 CLUB

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our November Draw: -

£50 Mr. Bernard Chalk

£20 Mrs. Rita Donko

£15 Mrs. Chris Wallen

We are nearly at that time of year where we invite you to renew your tickets for 2021.

Watch this space for more details.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Please pray for all those who are sick or housebound in our parish, as well as our friends and family.

Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need.

Amid mental and physical suffering may they find consolation in your healing presence.

Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits.

May these special people find lasting health and deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts.

We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who believed.

Amen.

Please be aware that given the increase in Covid-19 cases, at present we will not be allowing people into the Presbytery without an appointment, and would ask that you wear a mask. Thank you.

Parish Priest: Fr. Brett Adams

96 Ness Road, Shoeburyness, SS3 9DH

Telephone: 01702 292726

Website: www.saintgeorgeschurch.co.uk

Facebook: @stgeorgeandtheenglishmartyrs

Instagram: saintgeorgeschurch

School: St. George's Catholic Primary

Headteacher: Mrs A. Delgado

Telephone: 01702 293522

Parish Administrator: Sharon Chambers

Office Hours - Tues, Thurs, Fri 8.30am - 3.30pm

Office Closed - Monday and Wednesday

Hall Bookings: 292726 in office hours

Gift Aid: Jim Filmer. Tel. 07775 898409

Church Email: -

stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com