



25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

The Mass - Part 2

As a background to this segment, remember that the Church is mostly an “underground” and quite revolutionary organisation which puts Christ at the centre of people’s lives and not the current Emperor! As such persecution is frequent. The followers of Chrestus, are often the scapegoats for any civil misfortune. To avoid capture the early Roman Christians sometimes celebrated their gatherings in underground cemeteries known as Catacombs.

In the catacombs Mass was often said using the tomb of a Martyr as a table and with lights “burning in the darkness”. The practice of using candles pre-dates Christianity but took on a much greater significance given Jesus’ various statements such as “I am the Light of the world”. That stone table with its holy relic can, today, be found in the majority of Catholic churches and provides the setting for our celebration. By the mid second century typical Christian worship, according to Justin Martyr, (d. 165 AD) was:

Held on a Sunday.

Started with a reading of the memoirs of the Apostles or the writings of the prophets for a period as long as time permits!

An exhortation or homily on the reading given by the President; he challenges the faithful to “imitate these beautiful things”.

Congregation stands for prayer. This prayer was for all manner of needs and in one early source it states “they prayed with a childlike confidence”. What a beautiful image of trust in a loving Father!

Kiss of peace.

Celebration of Lord’s Supper (elements dictated by the Bishop) with thanksgiving and prayers.

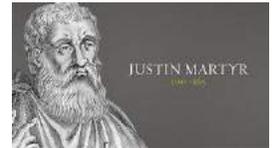
The people responded with Amen. A call to self-scrutiny before partaking in The Lord’s Supper was included in the Liturgy.

Collection for aid to widows etc.

Meeting dismissed.

From very early in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century the Church Fathers are increasingly clear about the real and true nature of the Eucharistic food. Writers such as Ignatius of Antioch, Justin Martyr, Irenaeus, and Tertullian to name but a few state that ... “I desire the bread of God, which is the flesh of Jesus Christ, who was the seed of David; and for drink I desire his blood, which is love incorruptible”. (Ignatius in his letter to the Romans A.D. 110)

From about the mid second century onwards until the time of Constantine and The Edict of Milan (313 A.D.) there were slow and incremental changes to the style of Liturgy. Mass was still said in the language of the people. In the near East this was mainly Aramaic from which we get words such as “Abba” and “Maranatha”. As more Churches were founded in Greco-Roman Europe the language they used for Liturgy was Greek but in the near East Liturgy was celebrated in Syriac, Coptic and Armenian. Many of the words they used are still familiar to us especially *Eucharist* (a Greek word, meaning thanksgiving). Next time we’ll look at the development of the prayers of the Mass.



## 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 Lord upholds my life.

**Responsorial Psalm 10.45am**

All the earth proclaim the Lord, sing your praise to God.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord: anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

## LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

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

**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.**

## 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.

**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

**Parish Administrator: Sharon Chambers**

**Office Hours** - Mon 8am - 3.30pm; Tues

8.30am - 4.30pm; Thurs 8.30am - 4pm; Fri

8am - 3pm

**Office Closed** - Wednesday

**Hall Bookings:** 292726 in office hours

**Gift Aid:** Jim Filmer.

Tel. 07775 898409

**Church Email:** -



## 22nd SEPTEMBER - 30th SEPTEMBER 2018

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B

<b>Saturday 22nd</b>	6.00pm	<b>Intentions of Paolo Angeletti</b> (Pat and Jacquie)
<b>Sunday 23rd</b>	8.45am*	24th Sunday of the Year <b>Barbara, Marjorie and Harry Quinn RIP</b> (Ernie Quinn)
	10.45am	<b>For All Parishioners</b>
<b>Monday 24th</b>	9.15am	Our Lady of Walsingham <b>Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Tuesday 25th</b>	9.15am*	Feria <b>Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Wednesday 26th</b>	11.30am	Feria <b>Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Thursday 27th</b>	9.15am	St, Vincent de Paul <b>Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Friday 28th</b>	9.15am	Feria <b>For the Souls in Purgatory</b>
<b>Saturday 29th</b>	6.00pm	<b>Terry Alexander RIP - Anniv.</b> (Dianne, Charlotte and Family)
<b>Sunday 30th</b>	8.45am*	26th Sunday of the Year <b>Gary Phillips RIP</b> (Jean and Helen) <i>and</i> <b>For All Parishioners</b>
	10.45am	<b>Intentions of Brian and Serena</b>

\*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.

## CATECHIST TRAINING DAY

This training day is open to all First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists in the Diocese of Brentwood and will be an opportunity for input on resources and best practice. The day will also include the Diocesan launch of the Faith in Action Awards, with guest speakers Phil Sparke, Chief Executive of HCPT – The Pilgrimage Trust, and Sarah Barber, former BCYS Director and now CAFOD Youth Team Leader.

**WHERE:** Sacred Heart School, Upminster

**TIMINGS:** 10:30 – 15:30



### J & P UPDATE

In November last year our parishioners sent 120 greetings cards to Christians facing persecution. Today we are asking for your prayers: On 19 February, 14-year-old Leah Sharibu was one of 110 girls taken from their school in Nigeria by Boko Haram. The next month, following negotiations by the government, the girls were put into vehicles to go home. However, Leah wasn't among them. She wasn't released because she refused to convert, from Christianity, in exchange for her freedom.

Earlier this week, a humanitarian worker, one of three abducted by the al Barnawi faction of Boko Haram in May, was executed. Saifura Hussein Ahmed, a Muslim, was a 25-year old mother of two. She had dedicated her life to helping others, working as a midwife in a camp for those who have had to flee their homes because of terrorist violence

Now the group has threatened to kill the remaining hostages, including Leah Sharibu, next month unless the Nigerian government responds to its demands.

Pray urgently:

- For Leah and the other hostages to be released back to their families
- That Leah would know and be comforted by God's powerful presence
- For God to comfort Leah's parents, Nathan and Rebecca, and give them strength
- For God's blessing on the work of those working to secure the hostages' release.

**LET IT BE – DONE UNTO ME –  
ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD**

"Mary once gave us the Saviour of the World, today she helps us to be filled with the Spirit of God"

Join the Deanery Stewards of the Gospel Group at Nazareth House for an inspiring TV quality exploration of Mary, past and present. Filmed on location in Walsingham, the Holy Land, Ephesus, Rome, Montserrat, Lourdes and Knock. 6 sessions starting on Monday 8th October at Nazareth House – 7:30pm start in the main hall. Session 1 – Chosen By God; Session 2 – The First Disciple; Session 3 – Mother Of All; Session 4 – Queen of Heaven; Session 5 – Help of Christians. Our final session will concentrate on Miracles. Each film is 25 minutes approximately long to be followed by a Q&A discussion. Input from experts such as Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Fr Raniero Cantalamessa, Mgr John Armitage, Dr Sarah Boss, Fr Jim McManus, Sr Catherine Droste and others... Entrance is free but a small donation towards the running costs of Nazareth House would be most welcome.

**SOLIDARITY ACROSS THE CHANNEL**

Saturday 20th October 2018

This is a one day event in St Paul's Catholic Church, Dover, focusing on the journey of refugees, with powerful testimony and witness from those working in Calais and Dunkerque. For more details have a look at the poster in the church porch or email [office@southwarkj&p.co.uk](mailto:office@southwarkj&p.co.uk).

**FOUNDATION GOVERNORS FOR  
ST. BERNARD'S HIGH SCHOOL**

St. Bernard's are looking for Foundation Governors for a four-year term. You must be a practising Catholic supported by your Priest. More details from Mr Sue Clancey on 01702 608005 or [sjc@stbernards.southend.sch.uk](mailto:sjc@stbernards.southend.sch.uk).

**NEWS FROM THE GOOD COUNSEL  
NETWORK**

Moves are afoot to bring in anti-Christian censorship zones around abortion centres in the U.K. On Friday the 28th September, the Vigil of the Feast of St. Michael, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed, and it really does save lives.

**COFFEE MORNING**

The Coffee Morning this weekend is being run by HCPT 192 who will be raising money for their pilgrimage to Lourdes next year. All welcome to join us after the 10.45am Mass for tea, coffee and cakes, and lots of great company. Look forward to seeing you there!



Our hosts for the next few weeks are as follows: -

**30th September** - Knights of St. Columba

**7th October** - CAFOD (this Coffee Morning will link in with the Harvest Fast Day collection)

**THANK YOU!**

A very big thank you to Fr Joseph Farrell, who has supplied for us over the last couple of weekends. You have been a big hit, Fr Joe, and we hope you will be coming back again sometime.

Our beloved leader (!) Fr Brett will be back in the office on Friday 28th September - hopefully full of enthusiasm for the work ahead of him. Sharon has missed the copious amounts of tea that he provides for her during her working day....he has a lot of catching up to do. :)

**YOUTH JUSTICE AND PEACE**

Thank you to everyone who helped or supported their Coffee Morning last weekend. £150 was raised which will be sent to CAFOD for the Refugee Emergency Appeal.

Also, the first session of this term will take place in St. George's Church Hall at 7.30pm next Friday, the 28th September.

All young people of senior school age and upwards are welcome to attend. Come and help make a difference to the world!

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL  
ELECTIONS**

Can you give a little of your time to serve on the Parish Pastoral Council to help Fr Brett nurture the faith of the Parish? To help build a community bound together in true Christian love and fellowship?

Where each person is respected and the gifts, talents and enthusiasm of all parishioners are encouraged and utilised to the great good of everyone?

Full details and Nomination Forms will be given out next weekend.

## 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.



## 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 of food and money.

### 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.

### OFFERTORY

The offertory last weekend came to £687.23 excluding Gift Aid and standing orders. The Second Collection for Home Mission Sunday was £266.25 excluding Gift Aid. Many thanks.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION NEWS

The Application Packs to apply for First Holy Communion are now available in the porches of both churches. 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.

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

***Please do not complete your forms and drop them into the Church or Office - they need to be brought along to the Parents Meeting on the 15th October.***

## JUSTICE AND PEACE

### (Senior Group):

A thought for today:  
***If you were arrested and charged with being a Christian, would your prosecutors find enough evidence to convict you?*** Do you read the newspapers and watch television and find yourself moved by injustice, persecution of minorities, causes of hunger etc. and wish you had the power to change things? Why not join us in the Parish Meeting Room at 1.45 p.m. on Tuesday 25th September. Everyone welcome. For further details contact Brian Fitzgerald on: - 07817842604.

## 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.

## MEDITATIVE ROSARY

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