

ANNIVERSARIES IN

Please remember the following :

† Len Saad, James Rant, Madeleine Myall, Ellen Wicker, Charlotte Rooney, Joseph Gibbons, Albert Perkins, James Studdert, Anthony O'Hara, Joseph and Simon MacKereth, Keith Fletcher, Patrick O'Hara, Andrew Sharman, Reginald Hutchinson, Alfie Cantor, Sheila Baker, Dolly Bright, Marcus Redding, Millie Medcalf, Maurus and Mona Lawton, Gwen Schneiderhan, Sean Corr, Stephen West, Brian Blyth-Cook, James Devereux, Helen Carmichael, Nora Carey, Frances O'Sullivan, George Collis, Alfred Marshall, Peggy Gillies, Malcolm Andrews, Dorothy and Jim Eost, Richard Copley, Roger Grain, Treasa Parker, Paul O'Sullivan, Joanne Wicker, Kathleen Fallon, Audrey McAuliffe, Dorothy Locker, Anna Cohen. †

MASS RESPONSES

Responsorial Psalm

You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. Alleluia!

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, 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, Margaret Everett.

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, 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, Rita Docherty.

Parish Administrator: Sharon Chambers

Office Open: Mon 8.30am - 3pm; Weds

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 Easter - Year B

You might be surprised to learn that the oldest and largest grapevine in the world is in Britain, at Hampton Court Palace. It is in a special, purpose-built greenhouse in the gardens. It is known as the Great Vine and was planted in 1768. Around it's base it measures four metres, so it is huge!

Despite its grand old age, it still produces a good crop of quality sweet black grapes every year, on average around 272 kilograms. The grapes are ripe at the end of August and are sold to the public during the first three weeks of September. It's continuing success at producing good fruit is largely down to the attentive care that the vine is given.

Vineyards were fairly common place in Jesus' time and using imagery associated with them they occasionally get a mention in the scriptures. In the gospel this weekend Jesus makes an important and fundamental analogy in regard to us, as a church community. Jesus is the vine, we are the branches of the vine, and God the Father is the vinedresser.

This imagery of the vine communicates well the profound interconnectedness of us all and the life flow upon which we are dependent, Jesus. The tender and loving care of the Father, the vinedresser, is also an important factor; it is the Father who is best equipped to direct and manage the vine. As this is such a powerful motif in describing Christian Community life, it is not surprising that it has found its place in a great deal of Christian art.



I mentioned in my homily a couple of weeks ago that the issue of 'witnessing' makes frequent appearances in the scriptures over the next few weeks; today's gospel is no exception.

Here, the issue of 'witnessing' appears in the form of the vine branches (i.e. us) bearing "fruit". As we know, trees/shrubs/vines etc can either bear good or bad fruit, or none at all!

What category do you fit into when it comes to 'bearing fruit'? How evident are your Christian values and principles? Are you even clear on what they are?

These searching questions all point to the big question which is 'how connected are you with Jesus, the flow of God's life and the source through whom we bear 'good fruit'? Lots to reflect upon!

I'm off to the US for a two-week rest and am leaving you in the very capable hands of Fr Martin and Sharon. Please say a little prayer that I may have a safe trip – thank you.

Fr Brett

28th APRIL – 6th MAY 2018

Fifth Sunday of Easter - Year B

Saturday 28th	6.00pm	Intentions of Dianne Alexander (Chris and Tom)
Sunday 29th		Fifth Sunday of Easter
	8.45am*	For All Parishioners
	10.45am	Praying that more Parishioners come to Adoration on Fridays (Sylvia)
Monday 30th		Feria
	9.15am	Intentions of Joan Butcher (Brian and Serena)
Tuesday 1st		Feria
	9.15am*	John Jo and Catherine Leahy RIP (Ned and Catherine Harrold)
Wednesday 2nd		St. Athanasius
	11.30am	Intentions of Joan Butcher (Margaret Everett)
Thursday 3rd		SS Philip and James
	9.15am	Marion Wainwright RIP (Lorna)
Friday 4th		The English Martyrs
	9.15am	Domenica Cameron RIP (Margherita and Ian)
Saturday 5th		
	6.00pm	Mairaid McPhillips RIP (Chris and Tom)
Sunday 6th		Sixth Sunday of Easter
	8.45am*	For All Parishioners
	10.45am	Brian Whelan RIP (Eliza)

*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.

**WALSINGHAM WITH WESTCLIFF
PARISH****Saturday 26th May**

Join Bishop Alan and parishes throughout the diocese of Brentwood as we come together to honour Our Lady of Walsingham. Last year Brentwood had 3000 pilgrims attending the centenary pilgrimage and we hope to have a similar number this year as well.

11am Arrive at the RC Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham.

12.00 Holy Mass 1.30 Lunch (bring packed lunch)

2.30pm Procession to Little Walsingham village.

3.30pm Vespers and Benediction

4.30pm Conclusion and departures.

Price £15 per person. If you are interested in going to Walsingham, either phone Carmen O'Brien on 01702 305172 (evenings only) or email westcliff@dioceseofbrentwood.org

**VOCATIONS WEEKEND
25th - 27th May 2018**

A retreat weekend for young women considering the vocation to religious life. Contact Sr Lynne fcJ :- lynnefcj@hotmail.com

**HOLY HOUR TO PRAY FOR
VOCATIONS 2018**

Again, you are invited to join us at special holy hours around the Diocese, to pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Please come and listen to a vocation story from one of our guest speakers and join us for refreshments afterwards. All are welcome, but please join us especially if you are considering a vocation to the Priesthood.

The next one takes place at: - ***Our Lady Immaculate in Chelmsford*** on Wednesday 30th May at 7.30pm, with a Vocations story from Abbot Hugh Allan.

CARITAS BRENTWOOD

Over the last few months, some of us have been attending the inaugural meetings of Caritas Brentwood. This is still very much in the planning stage, but there will be a multi-generational meeting held for all parishioners, both young and old, on Saturday 7th July at Sacred Heart School, Upminster, from 10.30am to 3.30pm. Can you please let Sharon know if you are interested in attending or want more details.

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY (from Most Holy Redeemer, Billericay)

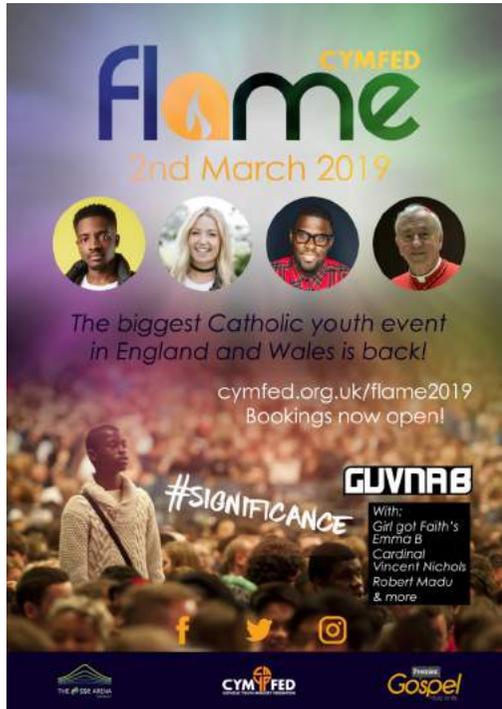
Date 6th September 2020, 5 days in Austrian Lake District, half board 1 day and 1 night in Oberammergau £1,239. Cost includes Flights, 4 tours in Austria, Passion Play, 3 course meal in the interval. Bookings made through Lee Robinson 01277 652358. All details of this tour can be found on www.tailored-travel.co.uk quote mhrp201

VACANCIES

St. Peter's Primary School, Dagenham - *Deputy Head Teacher* required. From: September 2018. Please contact school for application pack on Tel. 0208 270 6524. Closing date 11 May 2018.
www.st-peter.bardaglea.org.uk

A fantastic opportunity has arisen at **All Saints Catholic School Dagenham**. *School chaplain* (scale 4 pt 18-21 £16,945 - £18,653 pro rata) term time only. Job description and person specification are on the website www.allsaintsschool.co.uk or can be obtained by emailing office@allsaintsschool.co.uk

MASS FOR MIGRANTS
Monday 7th May at 11am,
St George's Catholic Cathedral,
Westminster Bridge Road, London
SE1 7HY. For decades the Church has welcomed people from many shores, and this Mass celebrates the international diversity of our congregations. Celebrated by the Archbishop of Southwark, with our own Bishop Alan, and many priests and people from across London, Essex, Kent and Hertfordshire, this Mass is full of joy. All are welcome.



BOOKINGS FOR FLAME (2nd March)
Open to all young people. Please speak with the office if you are interested in going.

COFFEE MORNING

This weekend, in a change from the advertised Coffee Morning, Lewis Dye will be our host. He is raising money for his trip to Ecuador next year. All welcome after the 10.45am Mass to indulge in tea, coffee and cakes - as well as enjoying a good chat with friends.



The next few Coffee Mornings are as follows: -

6th May - Parish
13th May - Friends of St. George's School.
20th May - Cancer Research

MAKING US MORE ACCESSIBLE

We are aware that increasingly we do not have enough space for wheelchair users and have therefore allocated further areas where these can be safely accommodated.

Obviously these spaces can be used, if needed, for double buggies which are harder to keep in the porch.

We would ask parishioners to ensure these spaces are only used for the purpose mentioned above and this allocation of space is something we will be keeping under regular review. Many thanks

RETIRING COLLECTIONS

Advance warning of the next few retiring collections: -

13th May - World Communications
3rd June - Sick Clergy
17th June - Day for Life
1st July - Peter's Pence

Most of these are compulsory collections, mandated by the Catholic Bishops' Conference.

THE GEORGIAN

The next, long-awaited, issue of The Georgian is now available in the porches of both churches.

Priced at a bargain £1 please don't forget to pick your copy up this weekend. We have already sold quite a few copies - get yours before they all go!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

We have some great fundraising social events coming up in the parish in the next few weeks: -

Saturday 2nd June - African-themed Evening

Saturday 9th June - Summer Fayre

Saturday 30th June - Afternoon Tea

Keep an eye on the newsletter for further information.

CAR BATTERY

Malcolm has a new, medium duty car battery, suitable for a car up to 2litres, that he is willing to give to someone in need. If you are interested please leave your details with the office and Sharon will pass on.

OFFERTORY

The offertory last weekend came to £1222.71 excluding Gift Aid and standing orders. The retiring collection for the Promotion of Vocations came to £379.14 excluding Gift Aid. Many thanks to you all for your generosity.

HOMELESS NEWS

This month we are asking for: - Long-Life Milk, Coffee, Sugar, Cooking Oil, and small jars of various herbs and spices (to spice up their meals!).

For those that don't know where to put the food items, there is a big blanket box in the inner porch of St. George's, and a cardboard box under the bench in the porch of St. Gregory's. Thanks again to all of you who donate either food or cash. It all goes to good use at HARP.

THY KINGDOM COME

With just over two weeks to go, a kind reminder to all parishioners to register their PLEDGE TO PRAY as individuals or as a family! Family activities and Catholic Novena are now available from your Steward of the Gospel. To register your pledge please go to:
www.thykingdomcome.global/

ARE YOU OVER 50, AND WANT TO EXERCISE??

A Total Body Exercise Class for age 50+, a fun way to keep fit using balls and bands, exercising to some feel good tunes. Come along to St. George's Hall and give it a try on Wednesdays, 10am -10.50am, £4.00 per session.

FOOTBALL SHIRT AND PEW

Thanks to those who bid for the signed Football Shirt and the Pew. The shirt was won by Frank and Val McEvoy, with a winning bid of £51, and the pew went to Margaret and John Munson, who bid £45.

400 CLUB NEWS

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our most recent draw: - £50 Mrs D. Alexander; £20 Mrs J. Alcock; £15 Mrs M. Wade; £15 Mr A. Barrett.

CONFIRMATION NEWS

This weekend our twelve Confirmandi will be going to Walsingham House at Abbotswick for their Confirmation Retreat. This is a wonderfully spiritual time for them as they prepare for being confirmed by Bishop Alan on the 24th June. Please remember them, and their Catechists, in your prayers.

ST. GEORGE'S GARDEN UPDATE

We are very badly in need of Volunteers to help with the three gardens (front, back and side) at St George's Church. We are a small group and not getting any younger! We meet on Wednesday mornings 9.30 to 11.30am.

This week we planted some new shrubs /plants following the removal of a diseased front hedge. Funds were taken from the proceeds of our Coffee Morning in February. We would appreciate any help with general gardening maintenance / watering. If you can help please call the office or speak to Margaret.

A big thank you to Margaret and John for their hard work in sorting the garden out this week. It was quite a challenge.

YOUTH JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

Our Youth Justice and Peace Group meet in the Church Hall on Friday 18th May, at 7.30pm. Anyone of senior school age or above is welcome to come along and get involved in our future projects. *Well done to all who slept outside at St. Gregory's last weekend. More details and total raised to follow. Particular thanks go to the adults who helped out. You are all amazing.*

CALLING MARRIED COUPLE VOLUNTEERS

We are holding a get together for couples keen to learn more about the Explore project in our secondary schools. If you spoke to Anna at the appeal, you will get an e-mail invitation. If for any reason you didn't leave your contact details but would like to come along, any married couples are most welcome. We will be meeting in St George's Parish Hall on Saturday 12th May from 2.30pm. Looking forward to seeing many of you again!

anna.mccormick@dioceseofbrentwood.org