



Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B - 3rd / 4th July 2021

I don't need to point out to you that the world we live in holds a lot of store by success, strength and achievement. While it has its place (i.e., we should always do our best), when it comes to the spiritual life, this maxim can be easily mistranslated. Success could equate to 'perfection', strength could equate to stubbornness and pride, and achievement could equate to how many religious activities one has managed to do during the week. Notice that it is all about what you have achieved (another merit label for the ego) and not what God can achieve in and through you.

In the 2nd Reading, St Paul gives us the real shape of what the spiritual life looks like – “For it is when I am weak that I am strong.” In other words, to experience 'strength' in the spiritual sense, one must acknowledge, own and experience the reality of one's weakness.

St Paul had a constant reminder of his weakness, which he called 'a thorn in the flesh'. There is no explanation of what this was for Paul, but we do know it troubled him greatly because he asked God three times to deliver him from it, which never happened!



St Paul's spirituality of strength through weakness has been called the 'spirituality of imperfection'. Many Catholics were brought up with the opposite view, a spirituality of "perfection", which is not real because perfection is impossible.

What is real, is our vulnerability and weakness which, when accepted, leads us to learn the greatest spiritual lesson of all, that we are completely dependent on God (this is especially true for the 'disciple' who wishes to take up his cross and follow Jesus). It is this attitude and disposition that opens up our spiritual channels whereby the grace of God can freely flow, and Paul knew this, which is why he ends up praising God for all his struggles.

Two of my favourite saints which really bought into the 'spirituality of imperfection' are Francis of Assisi and Thérèse of Lisieux. St Francis is quoted as teaching the friars: "We must bear patiently not being good and not being thought good." This is very counter-cultural to our 'thinking well of oneself'! St Thérèse of Lisieux teaches the same thing, calling it a "new way".

Quite simply, both Francis and Thérèse recognized that *you come to God not by being strong, but by being weak; not by being right, but through your mistakes; not by self-admiration but by self-forgetfulness.*

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3rd JULY - 11th JULY 2021

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)

Saturday 3rd

6pm **For All Parishioners**

Sunday 4th

14th Sunday of the Year
9am **Intentions of Mark Whitton for his Birthday** (Sharon)

10.45am **Lindy Ncube RIP; Special Intentions of Kelvin, Kundai and Ruva** (Sylvia)

Monday 5th

Feria
No Mass

Tuesday 6th

Feria
No Mass

Wednesday 7th

Feria
No Mass

Thursday 8th

Feria
No Mass

Friday 9th

Feria
No Mass or Adoration

Saturday 10th

6pm **For All Parishioners**

Sunday 11th

15th Sunday of the Year (Sea Sunday)
9am **Ted Wilson RIP - Anniv.** (Eileen and Eileen Wilson)
10.45am **Mrs Ekaette Lee - Birthday Intentions** (Sylvia)

MASS BOOKINGS

A reminder that bookings open as soon as the emails go out on Sunday evening for the weekend of 10th/11th July.

For those of you who book by telephone, Sharon will be in on Monday morning, and can take bookings after 9am.

Please remember to telephone us if you cannot attend Mass so that we can offer your space to someone else.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

This teaching utterly levels the playing field of holiness, so all losers can win, which is everybody, if we are honest. This is the Gospel and worthiness of being called “good news for all the people” (Luke 2:10)

I am off on my annual retreat this Sunday afternoon so I will leave you in the very capable hands of our wonderful Sharon and Fr Gerald Gostling who will be celebrating the Masses next weekend.

Take care and God bless,

Fr Brett.

IF YOU USE FACEBOOK...

...then please ‘like’ us -

@stgeorgeandtheenglishmartyrs



SEA SUNDAY - 18 July 2021

Next week is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be a second collection for Stella Maris (the Apostleship of the Sea), the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. For an appeal talk from Bishop Paul Mason, and a video showing some of what Stella Maris does, please visit

www.stellamaris.org.uk/SeaSunday.

We will be holding a Retiring Collection here, and those who Gift Aid will have special envelopes.

If you want to donate directly, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate or text SEA to 70460 to donate £5. Stella Maris is dependent on voluntary donations, so please give generously.

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism Course takes place in St. George’s Church on Wednesday 7th July, 7.45pm for 8pm.

Please book your place with the Office by Tuesday.

LOW GLUTEN HOSTS

Please remember to ask an Usher if you require a low gluten host.

CATHOLIC? GOING TO UNIVERSITY?

Make sure you look out for your Catholic Chaplaincy. Most of our Universities and Higher Education Institutions have a dedicated Catholic Chaplain based in the University or the local Parish. The Catholic Chaplaincy is a place for you to explore your faith as a young adult, to meet other young people with similar interests from a great range of backgrounds, and to get involved in activities and social outreach. If you already have a strong faith, this is a chance to deepen it. If you are full of questions and doubts, this is the chance to share them. All welcome. To find your local Chaplaincy, visit the Catholics at University website: - www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk
Once you have found your Catholic Chaplaincy, check out their Facebook page.

SVP NEWS

Well done to everyone contributing to our **TOP TWO** appeal! For the next **TOP TWO** we are looking for....



Sugar or Instant Mash (any brand of either).

In addition to this, they are always in need of UHT Milk.

Every single item is very gratefully received and helps to continue the great work of St Vincent's Short Streetcheckout their [Facebook page.](#)

HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

Message from Fr Gerry

Sadly increasing numbers of Catholics are not receiving the Last Rites. In many instances the person's family is lapsed and are therefore unaware of the importance of this Sacrament.

I know this is a sensitive subject but please do speak to your family about wanting the Last Rites and explain how important it is to you.

Also can I remind you that I am the Chaplain at Southend Hospital and if you wish me to visit yourself or a family member please feel free to email me at frgerryd@gmail.com or call 07919 416263.

CLERGY MOVES

(and you will be pleased that Fr. Brett is here with us for another year!)

Fr Sean Connolly from Manor Park to Chadwell Heath

Fr Joseph Whisstock from Halstead to Frinton/Harwich

Fr Jijo George from Canning Town to Springfield

Fr John Victor Drabeesan from Walthamstow, St George's to Manor Park

Fr Sabu Pariyadan RCJ from Springfield to Basildon, Holy Trinity [together with **Fr Saji Thomas Puthuparambil RCJ** (Kerela)]

Fr Daniel Kelly from Basildon, Holy Trinity to Royal Docks

Fr Michael Halsall (Ord) to Upminster

Fr Rick Fernandez from Basildon, Holy Trinity to Lexden

Fr Rob Page (Ord) is appointed Parish Priest of Hainault in addition to Clayhall.

Assistant Priests

Fr Michael Barwick (newly Ordained) Walthamstow, St George's

Fr Tony Grant (newly Ordained) Canning Town

Fr David Pearce from Dagenham, HF to Basildon, St Basil's

Fr Tarciziu Erdeş from Romania to Hainault

None of the above affect our Deanery, although we will lose Fr. Michael Halsall as a regular Supply Priest, as he is being given his own parish in Upminster. We wish all of the above Priests, and in particular Fr. Michael, every blessing in their new parishes.



NEXT WEEK

Please note that there will be no Mass or Adoration taking place next week during Monday to Friday as Fr. Brett will be going on Retreat.

Next weekend we welcome Fr. Gerald Gostling who will be supplying for us.

Also, please note the office will be closed Monday and Wednesday whilst Sharon spends some time with her family. (Mark's birthday, plus both boys are back under the same roof for a couple of days!)

“Lourdes at Your Local” – Southend Deanery, Monday 26th July, Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh-on-Sea

We would like to invite all Parishes in the Deanery to join the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service on Monday 26th July at 11am, for a "Lourdes at your Local" Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh-on-Sea. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan, with Anointing of the Sick and joyful music, and followed by coffee and refreshments. This is one of 5 Masses for the week around the Diocese, and each Mass will be recorded and streamed online at 5pm for anyone not able to attend during the day. Alongside this there will be a virtual Daily Rosary, Torchlight Procession and Talent Show. All ages are welcome to celebrate Mass and enjoy our virtual events, with particular invitation to those who have been housebound or shielding. Further details and a full itinerary are available on our website www.bcys.net/events or you can email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org for more information.

“Lourdes on the Lawn”, 31st July 2021

This event is open to anyone currently in school Year 13 or above (approx. age 18-28) from 12pm – 4pm on Saturday 31st July. We will celebrate Mass together with Bishop Alan at Midday, and invite those attending to bring a picnic to enjoy in the beautiful grounds of Walsingham House at Abbotswick during the afternoon. You can find more information at www.bcys.net/events or email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org.



ASK YOUR MP TO VOTE AGAINST ABORTION UP TO BIRTH

The abortion lobby, led by the UK’s largest abortion provider, BPAS, has worked with Diana Johnson MP to bring forward an amendment to hijack the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill to introduce abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth to England and Wales.

This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would leave England and Wales with one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. We are expecting that this radical proposal will be voted on by MPs this Monday.

Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool that makes it simple for you to send an email to your MP asking them to vote against the motion.

Please click the link below to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds!

www.righttolife.org.uk/StopAbortionUpToBirth

**NATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE
NETWORK ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

23-25 July 2021

Entitled **Action for Life on Earth**

2021: moment of truth we will be talking about the climate, Covid-19 and the decisions that need to be made at COP-26. If you have any interest in J & P matters

please go to the

[NJPN website](#) for information.

Please note that if you do want to come along, please check there is still space with Geoff via email before sending any money or forms. (admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk)

VACANCIES

St. George's Catholic Primary School

are seeking a number of Learning Support Assistants to join our school family in September 2021; people who have experience of working, understanding and supporting children. Further details and an application form can be found on our website: <https://www.sgpcs.co.uk/vacancies/> For more details or to arrange a visit to the school please call Mrs Parascandolo on 01702 293522. Closing date: 5th July 2021



BON VOYAGE...

Maria Stocker is moving back to Switzerland. Please join us at the 10.45am mass on July 18th to bid a fond farewell to dear Maria.

(From her friends in the Women's Group)

PS Just a reminder that you will need to book seats in the normal way for that Mass - bookings will open on Sunday evening, 11th July.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

(www.twainoneflesh.org.uk)

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time (Ezekiel 2: 2-5 2 Corinthians
12: 7-10 Mark 6: 1-6)**

Recognising our real beauty

When we married we became, together, a 'prophet', not predicting the future, but proclaiming the good news of marriage, here and now. Yet, there are times when we feel sorry for ourselves, blaming each other. Let's admit our own faults and weaknesses and remind one another of the beautiful qualities we found when we first fell in love.

ANNIVERSARIES IN JULY

Please remember the following :

† Fr. Pat Taylor, Trevor York-Starkey, Nancy Cuffe, Thomas James Hatch, George Ranger, Frederick Bradley, Robert Wicks, Stella Yuille, Catherine Woods, Bridget Du Boisson, Terry Murphy, Adalmair Gabrielli De Amorim, Tony Brown, Joan Clarke, Peter Grant, Joan Skipper, Leslie Skingle, Hannah Hance, Vicky Cutter, Frank Miller, Mary Regan, Mary Cole, Joan Baron, Paul Duddy, Tom Finigan, Lilian Fenwick, Vera Sheehan, Jean Jagelman, Norman Reid, Angelina Vidler, Curtis Sweet, William Raycraft, Alex Jarno, Mary Browne, Robert Wheatley, Michael Kelly, Catherine Doherty, Kathleen Wallen, Cornelius Kelliher, Julia Kalogerides, Bridget Tobin, Bill Cooke, Frank Smith, Suhaila Mana, Philomena O'Sullivan, Bridie Priestley, Rob Duggan, Jim Murphy, Roland de Cruz, Caroline Bell, William Bryan, Eileen Jones.†

DAILY HOPE LINE

Daily Hope offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The Freephone line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the lockdown. Well worth a listen!

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

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.

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 Hours - Tuesday, Thursday and Friday

8.30am - 4.30pm;

Office Closed - Monday and Wednesday

Hall Bookings: 292726 in office hours

Gift Aid: Jim Filmer. Tel. 07775 898409

Church Email: -

stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com