

ST. GEORGE and the English Martyrs



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B - 6th/ 7th February 2021

World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE FRANCIS

FOR THE XXIX WORLD DAY OF THE SICK – 11th February, 2021.

Dear brothers and sisters,

The celebration of the World Day of the Sick is an opportunity to devote special attention to the sick and to those who provide them with assistance and care both in healthcare institutions and within families and communities.

We think in particular of those who have suffered, and continue to suffer, the effects of the worldwide coronavirus pandemic. To all, and especially to the poor and the marginalized, I express my spiritual closeness and assure them of the Church's loving concern.

The experience of sickness makes us realize our own vulnerability and our innate need of others. It makes us feel all the more clearly that we are creatures dependent on God. When we are ill, fear and even bewilderment can grip our minds and hearts; we find ourselves powerless, since our health does not depend on our abilities or life's incessant worries.

Sickness raises the question of life's meaning, which we bring before God in faith. In seeking a new and deeper direction in our lives, we may not find an immediate answer.

The biblical figure of Job is emblematic in this regard. He cries out to God so insistently that God finally answers him and allows him to glimpse a new horizon. He confirms that Job's suffering is not a punishment or a state of separation from God, much less a sign of God's indifference. Job's heart, wounded and healed, then makes this vibrant and touching confession to the Lord: "I had heard of you by word of mouth, but now my eye has seen you."

Sickness always has more than one face: it has the face of all the sick, but also those who feel ignored, excluded and prey to social injustices that deny their fundamental rights.

The current pandemic has exacerbated inequalities in our healthcare systems and exposed inefficiencies in the care of the sick. Elderly, weak and vulnerable people are not always granted access to care.

Investing resources in the care and assistance of the sick is a priority linked to the fundamental principle that health is a primary common good. Yet the pandemic has also highlighted the dedication and generosity of healthcare personnel, volunteers, support staff, priests, men and women religious, all of whom have helped, treated, comforted and served so many of the sick and their families with professionalism, self-giving, responsibility and love of neighbour. A silent multitude of men and women, they chose not to look the other way but to share the suffering of patients, whom they saw as neighbours and members of our one human family.

Continued inside....

6th FEBRUARY - 14th FEBRUARY 2021

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life)

Saturday 6th

6pm **John Manna RIP—6th Anniv.** (Manna Family)

Sunday 7th

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
9am **For All Parishioners**

10.45am **Ann O'Mahoney RIP** (Mary and Chris)

Monday 8th

Feria (Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking and those who work to combat it)
9.15am **Hilary Bliss RIP - 2nd Anniv.**
(Trevor, Sharon, Denise, Suzanne and Families)
and Fr. Enda Keenan (Brentwood) RIP

Tuesday 9th

Feria
9.15am **Sean Smith RIP, Michael Marin RIP, and Geraldine Paterson RIP** (Maureen McKeone)

Wednesday 10th

St. Scholastica
9.15am **Josef Gänsbacher RIP** (Maria Stocker)

Thursday 11th

Our Lady of Lourdes (World Day for the Sick)
No Mass

Friday 12th

Feria
9.15am **Sylvia's Intentions** (Jacquie Paterson)

Saturday 13th

6pm **For All Parishioners**

Sunday 14th

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (World Day for the Unemployed)
9am **Frank and Eileen Glyde RIP** (Glyde Family)
10.45am **Special Intentions of Simon and Ann Smalley** (Sylvia)

BOOKING FOR MASS

This coming week, the booking system, via the Parish Website, will be open from Monday 8th February at 9am through to 12 noon on Friday 12th February for Masses on the 13th and 14th February.

We have also set up a booking button for Ash Wednesday, 17th February, which is open now. We are expecting it to be busy, so please book early. ***PS Please note that this coming Wednesday, the Mass will be at 9.15am, due to a Deanery Meeting.***

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

A second collection will be taken this Sunday to support the Shrine in Lourdes, which is suffering financially because of the pandemic restrictions. The annual pilgrimage in July has been cancelled for this year. However, some form of alternative experience of Lourdes in the diocese is being planned. Further details will follow.

Please give what you can. Thank you.

POPE FRANCIS' MESSAGE - continued from front cover

Such closeness is a precious balm that provides support and consolation to the sick in their suffering. As Christians, we experience that closeness as a sign of the love of Jesus Christ, the Good Samaritan, who draws near with compassion to every man and woman wounded by sin. United to Christ by the working of the Holy Spirit, we are called to be merciful like the Father and to love in particular our frail, infirm and suffering brothers and sisters.

welcoming, especially to those most in need.

Dear brothers and sisters, the commandment of love that Jesus left to his disciples is also kept in our relationship with the sick. A society is all the more human to the degree that it cares effectively for its most frail and suffering members, in a spirit of fraternal love. Let us strive to achieve this goal, so that no one will feel alone, excluded or abandoned.

To Mary, Mother of Mercy and Health of the Infirm, I entrust the sick, healthcare workers and all those who generously assist our suffering brothers and sisters. From the Grotto of Lourdes and her many other shrines throughout the world, may she sustain our faith and hope, and help us care for one another with fraternal love. To each and all, I cordially impart my blessing.

ORDINATIONS

During these rather difficult times it's nice to hear some positive news. This year, the following two men will be ordained to the priesthood for our diocese:-

Rev Anthony Grant is due to be Ordained to the Priesthood on Saturday 26 June at Forest Gate.

Rev Michael Barwick is due to be Ordained to the Priesthood on Saturday 10 July at the Cathedral.

Also, **Mr Damien Wade** is due to be Ordained to the Transient Diaconate on Saturday 17 July at St Bede's, Chadwell Heath.

Please keep them all in your prayers.

300 CLUB NEWS

The lucky winners of our most recent draw, witnessed by Jacque Paterson and Sarah Frampton, are: -

£50 Mrs M. Taylor

£20 Mr M. Duncan

£15 Mrs P. Sach

Congratulations to you all!

It is not too late to join in the fun if you still want to get your form in!

APPEAL FOR USED SPECTACLES AND HEARING AIDS

The Southend Lions Club have an ongoing request, for spectacles and hearing aids. These are collected, and passed to Medico France. They are processed and sent on to people in developing countries, to assist with Sight and Hearing difficulties. Please pass these on to ushers in St George's or leave at the office.

Many thanks,

Wishing Our
Mum & Dad a Very
Happy 60th Diamond
Wedding Anniversary!

Anthony & Patricia
Shead were married at
St Michaels, East Ham
on the 4th February
1961

Love from Suzanne, Brian, Jane, Daren, Annette, Steve & all the family xxxx



Congratulations Pat and Tony, from all of us here at St. George's!

Nigel Folkard (Southend Lions Club)

SVP NEWS

Each week throughout this pandemic St Vincent's Southend have, on average, delivered around 45 -50 food parcels to vulnerable individuals and families. To many, they may seem like a few bags of essential food items, but to some families they literally are a lifeline!

To find out more, and to make a donation [click here](#).

Alternatively, you can drop food off at the Presbytery. Their latest wish list:-

Tinned Curry, Chilli, Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans and Sausages;

Tinned Potatoes; Packet Mash; Tinned Fray Bentos Pies;

Tinned Hot Dogs; Coffee; Sugar; Packet Pasta and Sauce;

UHT Milk; Microwaveable Rice; Nappies Size 4, 4+, 5, 5+ and 6

Deodorant (male and female); Shampoo/Conditioner; Wet Wipes;

Little Sweetie Treats for the Children;

Also, five nights a week, bags of clothes are given out to their guests. They can always use the following:-

Men's jogging bottoms S, M &L; Men's hoodies; Jeans; Trainers size 7, 8

&9; Men's hats and gloves; New Men's pants, boxers;

New women's knickers all sizes.



A PRAYER

God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us,

You sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and our bodies look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay in many regions of Europe and the world, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief,

deliver us from illnesses and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in this moment of trial but deliver us from evil.

We ask this of Thee, who with the Son and Holy Spirit, live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.

Mary, mother of health and hope, pray for us

FATHER ENDA KEENAN RIP

Father Enda was born in 1924 and studied for the priesthood at St John's College, Waterford. He was accepted as a student for the Diocese of Brentwood by Bishop Doubleday and was ordained on 18 June 1950.

As an assistant priest he served at Ilford (1950-1952), Southend-on-Sea (1952-1954) and Canning Town (1954-1957). As a parish priest he served at Blessed Sacrament, Chelmsford (1957-1972), English Martyrs, Hornchurch (1972-1986) and Chadwell Heath (1986-1988) from where he retired to Ireland.

At the time of his death Father Keenan was the oldest priest of the diocese and the last to have been ordained under Bishop Doubleday, the 2nd Bishop of Brentwood.

Please remember him in your prayers. May he rest in peace.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY...

The friend who can be silent with us in a moment of despair or confusion, who can stay with us in an hour of grief and bereavement, who can tolerate not knowing, not healing, not curing...that is a friend who cares. (*Henri Nouwen*)

LIVESTREAM MASS

for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes,

**World day of Prayer for the Sick,
Thursday 11th February 7pm.**

This Mass, from St Edward the Confessor Romford, will be celebrated especially for those who would have been due to travel with HCPT and Diocesan pilgrimages this year. At a time of pandemic, the graces and prayers of Lourdes seem especially important, and all are welcome online. Music, from young musicians of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, will include songs and hymns familiar from Lourdes.

YouTube link:

<https://youtu.be/2RI1GCARDQM>

VACANCY

St Thomas More High School, Westcliff are looking to recruit to their team of Learning Support Assistants to work alongside Teachers and specific students with particular needs. This is a one year contract. If this role might be of interest to you, please visit the school's website www.st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk for further details or telephone the school on 01702 344933.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Marriage is not just a relationship but a vocation and a means of holiness. Please pray for married couples, those preparing for marriage (especially those who have had to defer weddings), and those who have been widowed especially in the past year. In the run up to St Valentine's Day the Brentwood Marriage and Family Life Facebook page (BrentwoodMandFL) will include interviews with couples from around the diocese. If you are experiencing difficulties in your marriage, or would like to deepen your understanding of this vocation and each other, a number of organisations are able to help remotely during the lockdown, such as Retrouvaille, Marriage Care and Smart Loving. Search for these organisations online, or look out for information on the noticeboard [adapt as appropriate]. Retrouvaille is running its first virtual weekend for couples in difficulty this month, 25th - 28th February (0788 729 6983 / 0797 338 0443 / retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com).

WALK WITH ME LENTEN PRAYER BOOKS

We now have 30 of these little prayers books in the porch of the Church, priced at £1. Please take one and give the money to a Steward.

SURVEY ON THE EFFECTS OF LOCKDOWN.

Catholic Voices, together with Professor Francis Davies, who holds the Chair of Religion and Communities at Birmingham University, are running a joint survey on how the lockdown is affecting people. They have asked for your help and input with regard to this. Full details can be found on www.catholicvoices.org.uk/survey

MARRIAGE MATTERS

(www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk)
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Job 7:1-4, 6-7 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23 Mark 1:29-39)
Making the time to talk and to listen

As married couples we need time to grow in knowledge and understanding of each other. This week let us make time when we are not tired, to talk together, to share what's happened in the day, our thoughts and feelings, the things that worry us or make us happy. Perhaps we can also plan a regular celebration of our love.

ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY

Please remember the following :

† Frank Axson, Vivienne Axson, Maureen Baker, William Bliss, Hilary Bliss, John Borthwick, Daniel Bradley, Mary Bradley, Philomena Bradley, Ada Braithwaite, John Breen, Kathleen Burke, Stella Byrne, Archie Carmichael, Catherine Collins, May Corr, Michael Cox, Timothy Crowley, Mrs. L. DeVell, Keith Dixey, Bonita Dodd, Simon Dodd, Kathleen Dowling, Anne Downey, Anthony Drozdicki, Bernard Feeney, John Gillies, Samantha Glover, Frank Glyde, Kathleen Gooding, Malcolm Goodwin, Bernard Haas, Susan Hickey, Ronald Horstead, Maeve Knights, Pamela Lines, Alice Elizabeth Mackereth, John Maguire, Mary Michell, Elizabeth Murray, Heather Notarianni, Donny O'Rourke, Denis O'Sullivan, Leslie Paterson, Harry Pither, Jack Pollock, Florence Porter, Jillian Saunders, Katy Smith, Mary Tinson, Walter Watson †

GLOBAL HEALING

How our faith helps us care for our common home

Bishop John Arnold is the first speaker in a weekly series of talks focused on the Catholic response to Climate Change. He is speaking on Thursday 18th February 7.30pm – 8.30pm and the talks continue via Zoom on Thursdays in Lent. To register please email jane@catholicclimatemovement.global and for more information about this area of Catholic life and faith have a look at www.catholicclimatemovement.global

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 Priest: Fr. Brett Adams

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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 - Mon 10 - 4pm; Tues, Thurs and Fri 8.30am - 2.30pm

Office Closed - Wednesday

Hall Bookings: 292726 in office hours

Gift Aid: Jim Filmer. Tel. 07775 898409

Church Email: -

stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com