



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B - 7th / 8th August 2021

In the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading today from the Book of Kings we encounter a broken and very dispirited Elijah. He placed his trust in God and been faithful to what God had asked him to do, but he finds that it has got him into a whole heap of trouble and has to flee for his life. He ends up in the “wilderness” (a metaphor for his emotional and psychological state) and tired and exhausted says to God, “I have had enough. Take my life...”.

When we make acts of trust and then see things take a bad turn, it's easy to get despondent and disillusioned. I have experienced that many times and it is not a nice place to be. It seems to me that this is part and parcel of the spiritual life and therefore the nature of the type of trust that God calls us to.

In the story we hear that an “angel of the Lord” appears to Elijah, offering sustenance to help him back onto his feet in order that he can continue his mission. Once again, this simple, but powerful story, echoes my own experience where I have come to learn – not in the head, but in the heart - that, in order to live out our Christian vocation, we are very much dependent on ‘divine’ sustenance and inspiration.



In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading, it sounds as though the Christians of Ephesus have not been living up to their vocation; criticising, bickering and spitefulness have been the order of the day! Paul seeks to correct them by exhorting forgiveness and friendship – ‘try to imitate God’. As we know, this is easier said than done! For Paul, when a Christian fails in their duty of discipleship this is a cause of sadness to the Spirit (“do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God”), for the nature of the Holy Spirit is to flow, connect, heal, build up and renew.

In the gospel this week we continue with the image of Jesus as the *Bread of Life*. Declaring Himself as such has caused great alarm among some of the people; “I am the bread that came down from heaven” is getting very close to blasphemy!

Additionally, this ‘bread from heaven’ is also the lad from up the street! This is too much for some people to take on board.

Indeed, I think that, if we’re going to take it seriously, faith in Christ is something which is both difficult and challenging to take onboard; so challenging, that we’re tempted to reduce it to a mere duty or habit – the path of least resistance.

In essence, our faith is about forging and growing relationships, with God and with each other, and like any relationship, something you have to personally invest in and work at.

Have a good week.

Fr Brett

## 7th AUGUST - 15th AUGUST 2021

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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<b>Saturday 7th</b>	6pm	<b>Gareth Hansen-Chambers RIP and Fr. Tony Skillen RIP</b> (Sharon and Family)
<b>Sunday 8th</b>	9am	19th Sunday of the Year <b>For All Parishioners</b>
	10.45am	<b>Intentions of Tom and Chris for their Birthdays</b> (Sylvia)
<b>Monday 9th</b>		St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross
	9.15am	<b>Florence Mary Hill and her Parents RIP</b> (Joan and Tony McD)
<b>Tuesday 10th</b>		St Lawrence
	9.15am	<b>James Condon RIP</b> (Catherine and Ned Harrold)
<b>Wednesday 11th</b>		St Clare
	11.30am	<b>Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Thursday 12th</b>		Feria
	9.15am	<b>Eucharistic Service</b>
<b>Friday 13th</b>		Feria
	9.15am	<b>Filomena Kettlewell RIP</b> (Margherita and Ian)
<b>Saturday 14th</b>	6pm	<b>Stanley Smith RIP</b> (Doug Woulds) <i>and</i> <b>Intentions of the Faweya Family</b>
<b>Sunday 15th</b>		The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	9am	<b>For All Parishioners</b>
	10.45am	<b>Lindy Ncube RIP</b> (Simon and Ann Smalley)

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### **Mass Bookings**

Bookings for the weekend of the 21/22 August will open on Sunday evening, **but close early at 1pm on Thursday.**

Please note, that Sharon will only be in the office on Tuesday through to Thursday next week, so if you are making a telephone booking, please call on one of those days.

### **SVP Help Required**

All the way through the pandemic the parish have generously supported the SVP by collecting food and household items and delivering them each week to the hub in Short Street. We are now looking for a new set of volunteers to pick up the donations from church and deliver them to the hub in Short Street, Southend.

If you think you would be able to help with this please contact Sharon in the office. Thank you.

### **Weekday Masses**

As from Monday there will no longer be a Steward taking your details when you arrive in Mass during the week. Can you please remember, if you have a suitable phone, that you scan the QR code when you come in.

### **BCCS Relay 100 walk**

We would like to thank all the kind parishioners who generously supported us for our recent sponsored walk. Thanks to your kind donations, we were delighted that we were able to raise in excess of £600 for the Brentwood Catholic Childrens' Society. Thank you all so much. ***Frank, Val, Joan and Tony.***

### **Lourdes at Your Local**

The Lourdes at your Local was a big hit last week, with over 1000 people participating, either through going to the designated Masses in person, or by watching online.

If anyone would like to attend a 'virtual pilgrimage' at any time during the summer, the videos are available to watch on the [BCYS youtube Channel.](#)

All being well, the Diocese will be back in Lourdes next summer, so if anyone is interested in going, either with the adult pilgrims, or with the BCYS, keep an eye out for further details.

### **Low Gluten Hosts**

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

Chris from the Brentwood CAFOD office has sent us lots of interesting news about the work that they have been using our donations for.

Obviously, one of the big things that they were raising awareness of was the distance that young people were having to walk for water.

You can see some water stories [here](#), and watch the video of Beauty from Zimbabwe talking about her delight in their new water source.

Across the world preparations are taking place for the Synod. To help the Catholic community CAFOD are offering online sessions, open to all, with experts sharing what the synod and synodality is, why it is important and how parish communities will be taking part. Sessions can either be viewed live or on catch up. The first session took place on the 27th July and featured a conversation with Christopher Lamb, Rome correspondent for The Tablet, about why Pope Francis is inviting us all to participate in the synod. The recording of this session can be found [here](#).

Many Catholics have been meeting with their MPs this summer in response to Pope Francis' call for a better kind of politics. Dialogue has focused on debt cancellation for the world's poorest countries, action to tackle the climate crisis and vaccine equity. There is a petition that CAFOD has had for a while, asking our Prime Minister to put the people hardest hit by the climate changes at the heart of the COP26 talks. If you haven't done so already, please have a look at the petition [here](#), and add your name if you can.

In regards to COP26, you can expect to read much more on about it on a regular basis leading up to the event in Glasgow in November.

## Rosary Group

As of this Tuesday evening our Rosary Group will be back in the Church from 7.30pm onwards. When you arrive please sit in one of the first three pews on the right. Again, if you can scan the QR code when you come into Church, please.

## Still nervous about coming to Mass?

Why not try popping along to a Eucharistic Service. A small group of us get together on Thursday mornings at 9.15am (although this week there will also be a Eucharistic Service at 11.30am on Wednesday too). All welcome.

## Cycling for charity

### ("Pedalling through the Pandemic").

Fr Dominic Howarth has been cycling for many months, heading towards 5,000km – and he now has just 500km to go. He is raising money for the BCCS, Catholic Children's Society, Walsingham House, HCPT Easter Lourdes Group 709, and Help Refugees. Find out more and sponsor him [online](#) or phone 01708740308 or email [frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org) if you want to donate via cheque or cash. Thank you for any support you can give.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

We are now holding Adoration again every Friday morning from after the 9.15am Mass, through to 12noon. Can you spare a few minutes on a Friday morning anytime between

10am and 12noon to spend in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament?

We have a rota in the porch if you would like to add your name to it.



Again, all are welcome.

## SVP NEWS

Thanks for your contributions. Our TOP TWO this week are: -



Cup a Soup and Squash (any brand or flavour).

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 Street ....checkout their [Facebook page](#).

## Message from Pax Christi

At this time we remember the devastation caused in Hiroshima and Nagasaki when the atomic bombs were dropped, on 6 and 9 August 1945, and we pray that nuclear weapons will be abolished so that they can never be used again. In his message, 'A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace', Pope Francis asks, 'How many resources are spent on weaponry, especially nuclear weapons, that could be used for more significant priorities such as ensuring the safety of individuals, the promotion of peace and integral human development, the fight against poverty, and the provision of health care'. Pope Francis calls on us to 'strive daily, in concrete and practical ways, to form a community composed of brothers and sisters who accept and care for one another'.

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi. Their website suggests many ways we can all promote peace in our daily lives. There are activities for families to do at home, including a 15-minute peace liturgy for young children: -

<https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2021/>

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x>

Cheques payable to: Pax Christi, and sent to: -

Pax Christi, St Joseph's, Watford Way, London NW4 4TY



## THE CRY OF CREATION – A Study Day on Laudato Si'

As the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 26), to be held in Glasgow in November, draws nearer, and at a time of unprecedented danger for the world, the 2015 encyclical of Pope Francis, *Laudato si'*, on care for our 'common home', could not be more relevant. Fr Ashley Beck, Priest of the Archdiocese of Southwark/Associate Professor at St Mary's University will explore its contents and explain its crucial relevance. To access this free live event go to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) – the event is scheduled for 11.00 to 12.30 BST on Saturday 4th September. No registration is needed. The talks will be available subsequently on the same website.

## Vacancy

### Chancery Tribunal General Assistant

based at Cathedral House.

This is a Secretarial/Administrative post , with the full job description being available from the Diocesan website [here](#).

Hours of work: 25 hours per week

Start Date: September 2021

Closing date: Monday 16th August 2021 at 5pm

Interviews: Week commencing 23rd August 2021

To be considered for the role, please send a CV and covering letter (no longer than one side of A4) to [recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org) Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

Please note that you will need to be eligible to work in the UK to apply for this position. You must provide proof of Right to Work in the UK. For an informal chat with Michaela Pearce, Chancery and Tribunal Administrator, please email: - [tribunal@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:tribunal@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

### ECO-THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Have you thought about using a cotton hankie, instead of a tissue? Think Planet!

## Munch at STBBC

### Children and Young People Cooking Together

Do you have a child at a local primary or secondary school? Fancy doing some cooking with them? Come and pick up a free meal kit from Shoebury and Thorpe Bay Baptist Church on Wednesdays during the school holidays (until 1st September) between 10am and 12noon.

### MARRIAGE MATTERS

([www.twainoneflesh.org.uk](http://www.twainoneflesh.org.uk))

### Nineteen Sunday in Ordinary Time

**(1Kings 19: 4-8 Ephesians 4: 30-32 5: 1-2 John 6: 41-51)**

### To love as God loves

When we married we became a flesh and blood sacrament. Today, Jesus says "I am the bread of life". We are 'food and drink' for each other. Let's continue to nourish one another in our marriages, in all those little ways, with tender words and loving actions and become more a 'sign' of God's love for the world.

## ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST

Please remember the following :

† Xenia Sullivan, Steve Rose, Doris Woodman, Mary Carson, Stanley Woollard, Robert Wheatcroft, Irene Brown, Richard Worthington, Melita Hartley, Madge Fisher, Honora Smith, Walter Williams, Elizabeth Wildish, Elizabeth Ryan, Edward George Bines, Frances Breen, Innes Perkins, Rev. Fred Wall, Larry Brown, Charles Avery, Rosemary Gravestock, Mary Land, Lilian Fenwick, Mary Boland, Daren Stagg, Thomas Tobin, Peter Wallen, George Singleton, Eileen Needham, Mary Watts, Michael Kelly, John Hamblin, Emily Franklin, Eleanor Yorke-Starkey, Florence Hanley, Niall McNicholl. †

## Parking around St. George's Church

Unfortunately we have received some complaints from neighbours about inconsiderate parking.

When you park your car, please be mindful of blocking an entrance or a drive way. If you are late for Mass, please do not be tempted to leave your car overhanging someone's run in.

Thank you very much for your co-operation.

## 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**

96 Ness Road, Shoeburyness, SS3 9DH

**Telephone:** 01702 292726

**Website:** [www.saintgeorgeschurch.co.uk](http://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 8am - 3pm; Weds 8am - 1pm; Thurs 8am - 2pm

Office Closed - Monday and Friday

**Hall Bookings:** 292726 in office hours

**Gift Aid:** Jim Filmer. Tel. 07775 898409

**Church Email:** -

**[stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com](mailto:stgeorgesrcchurch@outlook.com)**