

ST. GEORGE and the English Martyrs



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B - 27th/28th July 2024

In the 1st Reading this weekend the country where Elisha finds himself in is experiencing a famine. Elisha, being “the man of God”, is given top priority on the food distribution list. Perhaps they thought that if they keep on the prophet’s good side, then they’ll keep on God’s good side! Elisha was offered twenty loaves of barley and “fresh grain in the ear”. Despite his hunger, he sees others who are needy and says, “Give it to the people and let them eat.” But his servant objects - “How can I set this before a hundred people?” But Elisha is insistent, “Give it to the people and let them eat.” And they ate and had some left.

Elisha relies not on what he has – which appears to be insufficient - but on what God can do with what he has, and his kind gesture is multiplied!

The gospel follows along the same miraculous lines, with the multiplication of the five loaves and two fish; the kind act of the anonymous boy, coupled with Jesus’ intervention, satisfies a great number of people.

There are a number of teachings in these scripture readings. Firstly, if we take the bold step of allowing God to touch and shape our lives, we will always see ‘abundance’. Sadly, for most people, it’s the opposite; there’s always a deficit. There is never enough...money, time, happiness, love or even God.

Fortuitously – and maybe disappointingly for some - you cannot manufacture the ‘abundance’ experience, because that would be the ego at work; only God can open your eyes to it. But you must allow God the space to do it and, to do that, you have to be in the right ‘space’; which is certainly not in the ‘head’, but in a willing heart.

Once you have had a glimpse of this wonderful gift, life will never be the same – for the better! You will be changed person, and you will feel blessed, beyond what I can convey with words. Once this happens, then you become the gift, a channel of God’s grace.

The process is very simple - you offer, in humility and love, who you are and what you have to God, and God does the rest, just like the people in the scriptures today.

What of the recipients of the ‘miracle food’ in the gospel? While they gratefully receive their food, will their gratitude inspire them to take the bold step of trusting in Jesus and having their spiritual hunger satisfied? It is a question which is asked of all of us!

Have a good week.

Fr Brett



27th July 2024 to 4th August 2024

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time —Year B

Saturday 27th

6pm **Evelyn and Victor Thompson RIP** (Dianne and Family)

Sunday 28th

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Gregory's, Thorpe Bay

8.45am **Julie Gillies RIP and Anne Spratt RIP** (John Gillies)

10.45am **For All Parishioners**

Monday 29th

Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus

9.15am **Intentions of Conrad Britto** (Annie and Peter Walkling)

Tuesday 30th

Feria

St. Gregory's, Thorpe Bay

9.15am **Collin Doyle RIP** (Ted and Anne Brown)

Wednesday 31st

St. Ignatius of Loyola

11.30am **Deceased Members of the Creed Family**
(Margaret Brown)

Thursday 1st

St. Alphonsus Mary de' Liguori

9.15am **Eucharistic Service**

Friday 2nd

Feria

9.15am **Elizabeth Mac Gregor RIP** (The Mac Gregor Family)
(followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 12noon)

Saturday 3rd

Youth Mass

6.00pm **Valerie Quinn RIP** (Annie Spelling)

Sunday 4th

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Gregory's, Thorpe Bay

8.45am **For All Parishioners**

10.45am **Margaret and John Munson on their 55th Wedding Anniversary—In thanksgiving**

NOT A COFFEE MORNING!

As mentioned in the last newsletter, the Coffee Mornings have stopped for the Summer...but instead how about doing Sunday Lunch?

Taking place in the Hall on Sunday 4th August at 12.30pm,

Dianne is offering a two-course meal for £20 per head. It is a Catholic do, so of course there will be a raffle, and you can bring your own drink. Please contact Dianne on: 07861 777488/01702 535751 or email: dianne.a@icloud360.co.uk to book your place.

Please book before Tuesday as Dianne needs final numbers to sort the food out!



ROSARY and PRAYERS

Tuesdays at 3.30pm in St. George's Church. Come through the front door and receive a warm welcome! More info from Kaz: 07786 000391.



MOBILE PHONES

It is possible that on entering this church you will hear the call of God. It is, however, unlikely that he will contact you by telephone or text message. Please turn off your mobile device when arriving in Church.

BCCS DRAW TICKETS

Damien Dillon from the Knights of St. Columba has sent his thanks for the welcome they received last weekend when a few of them were able to attend our Masses and sell some draw tickets in aid of Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Damien said 'It was great to meet a number of people that I haven't seen for quite a while and I enjoyed visiting the parish.' They sold over £300 worth of tickets in aid of the charity. If you missed out and would like to purchase some tickets please contact ddillon@bccs.org.uk and he will assist you. Thanks to everyone who supported them.



OFFERTORY

The offertory for the weekend of the 13th/14th July came to £583.51, excluding Gift Aid and Standing Orders. The retiring collection for Stella Maris was £314.24.

Last weekend (20th/21st July) the amount collected came to £509.41—again excluding Gift Aid and Standing Orders. Thank you for your generosity.

“ADOREMUS” FESTIVAL

On Saturday, 14th September at Oscott College in Birmingham, the “Adoremus” National Eucharistic Congress and Pilgrimage is taking place with representatives from dioceses across England and Wales. Our diocese has been allocated a limited number of places for this event. If you would like to attend please contact the Diocesan Co-ordinator, Father Dan Mason at frdanma-son@brcdt.org by the 1st August.

There will be a coach leaving for the Congress from St Edward’s Church, Romford (RM1 4AT) at 8am on the day. There is no charge for the coach or attending the Congress but you will need to bring a packed lunch.

For more information please visit the Adoremus page on the Catholic Bishops’ Conference website:

[Adoremus at Oscott - Catholic Bishops’ Conference](#)

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Congratulations to the lovely Margaret and John Munson, who will have been married 55 years on the 2nd August!



Wishing you both a lovely day, and a wonderful year ahead.

FLAT WANTED

Looking for a ground floor flat for an 80 year old friend to rent at a reasonable price as he is self-funding. South East Essex is preferred, but reasonably close may work.

He is an ex-serviceman with no vices, but because of his level of savings he is not getting much help from elsewhere. Please speak with Sharon if you know of anything suitable. Thank you.

DIVINE MERCY REFLECTION DAY

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 26 August 2024 from 10 am to 4:30 pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call millie on 07957594646 for more information.

WHAT DOES FR. BRETT DO ON RETREAT?

A few folks have asked me what I get up to on retreat. Recently, at all the Masses, I shared with you what the purpose of my retreats are, i.e. increasing my desire for God and therefore, by extension, deepening my relationship with God. This involves a lot of listening, waiting and hoping which one needs time and space for. So, I thought I might share with you what a typical day looks like for me when I'm on retreat:-

8:00am - Breakfast

8:30am - *Office of Readings & Morning Prayer*

9:30am - 1st meditation (1 hour)

10:45am - Walk 1.

12:00pm- *Midday Prayer*

1:00pm - Lunch

2:15pm - Walk 2

3:30pm - 2nd meditation (1 hour)

5:45pm - *Evening Prayer*

6:00pm - Supper

7:00pm - Walk 3

8:30pm - 3rd meditation (1 hour)

9:30pm - *Night Prayer*

NB. 'Meditation' is simply prayer, but what I call 'centring prayer', which means a lot of listening. The 'Prayer' sessions in italics are what we call the "Divine Office of the Church". This is also known as "The Liturgy of the Hours" which marks the 'hours' of each day with prayer and offering. This has ancient roots in the monastic tradition.



WRITE TO YOUR NEW MP!

Old news now, I know, but the country (including this area) have voted for change—a politics more concerned with the needs of the people, with truth and integrity thrown in.

CAFOD suggest we write to our new MP and call on him to play his part. Go to their [website](#) to add your name.

TURNING CONCERN INTO ACTION...

ST VINCENT'S CENTRE
INVITES YOU TO
Afternoon Tea
AT
THE ROSLIN BEACH HOTEL
MONDAY 2ND DECEMBER 2024
12:30PM
£35.00 PER PERSON
(ADVISE DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WHEN BOOKING)
To Book Contact Phone: 07549128877
Email: nesperm@svp.org.uk
Charity No: 1053992

Our friends at St. Vincent's Centre, Southend, have a couple of fundraisers that they are advertising. If you are interested in attending either the Black Tie and Auction, or the Afternoon Tea, please contact Nesper on 07549 128877, or email: nesperm@svp.org.uk *Money raised goes to helping those in need.*

Don't forget to bring a non-perishable food item to Mass with you.

The items donated get brought up at the Offertory, and then will be delivered to the SVP Centre in Short Street later in the week. Their urgent requirements are on their [Facebook](#) page, but include tins of meat and veggie meals, packets of noodles, Tea, Coffee and Sugar. Thank you.

St Vincent's Centre, Southend
Black-Tie & Auction
Saturday 16th November 2024
Roslin Beach Hotel
Thorpe Esplanade, Thorpe Bay,
Southend-On-Sea SS1 3BG
Welcome Drinks - 5pm
Dinner - 5.30pm
Ticket Prices
£95 - Welcome Drink, 3 Course Dinner
Live Music and Charity Auction

RSVP - NesperM@svp.org.uk
07549128877
Charity No: 1053992

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Inspire, nurture and accompany young people on the edge of East London. The parishes in the Romford Parish Partnership are recruiting a **Parish Partnership Youth Coordinator**. Salary £30,000/year, closing date September 10th 2024, start date no later than January 2025. This is a new role, with amazing potential to bring young people into leadership in the Church, and provide a wide range of opportunities for them to live and deepen their faith within a diverse and vibrant part of London. Full details: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>

Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School, Chelmsford, are looking for a Head Teacher from 1st September 2025.

Deadline for applications: 12:00 noon on Monday 30th September 2024. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school, please speak with the Admin & Finance Officer, Lindsey Murgatroyd for more information. For an Application Pack please email: lindseymurgatroyd@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk
Job description available through the [Brentwood Diocesan website](#).

IF YOU USE FACEBOOK...

...then please 'like' us -

[@stgeorgeandtheenglishmartyrs](#)



OPEN HOUSE BILLERICAY

Saturday, 12th October 2024

On Saturday, 12th October the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay will be hosting a day focusing on parish renewal with talks and workshops designed to help parishes transition from maintenance to mission. Bishop Alan will also be presiding at the Midday Mass.

Get inspired by priests and parishioners as they share stories of transformation. Hear what they are learning and dream about the change that could be possible in your own parish.

The day will last from 9.30am to 5pm and the cost is £20 per person. In order to attend you need to register in advance by following this link: <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>

MEDJUGORJE IRISH CENTRE

PILGRIMAGES APRIL - OCT 2024:

7 Nights Apartment B&B from €224 per person sharing. Airport transfer available on request. Contact us for details and book the dates that suit you.

Tel. 020 3239 8662 or website

www.med-irishcentre.com

Telephone: 020 3239 8662

Email:

reservations@med-irishcentre.com

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 Bois-son, 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, Paul Herbert, William Bryan, Eileen Jones, Marjorie Smith, Jo Williams. †

New to the Parish? Please go to our website and fill in your details and Fr. Brett will contact you in due course.

If you know of anyone housebound who would want Communion at home, please let us know.

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.



Parish Administrator: Sharon Chambers

Office Hours - Tues/Weds/Friday

8.30am—5.30pm

Office Closed: Monday and Thursday

Hall Bookings: 292726 in office hours

Gift Aid: Paul Driscoll via the Church Office

Church Email: -

shoeburyness@brcdt.org