



The Catholic Parish and Ordinariate Church of S. John Vianney Clayhall



Parish Priest: Fr Rob Page
1 Stoneleigh Road, Ilford IG5 0JB

Tel 020 8550 4540 email vianney.clayhall@btinternet.com clayhall@brcdt.org

Safeguarding rep: Clem Yoganayagam tel 07717 312969

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Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sexagesima) 23 February 2025

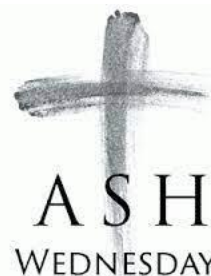
Today's gospel reading is a continuation of the teaching that began in last Sunday's gospel. We continue to hear Jesus's Sermon on the Plain. Recall that in Luke's Gospel, this teaching is addressed to Jesus's disciples. This is in contrast to the parallel found in Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount, in which Jesus's words are addressed to both the disciples and to the crowds.

These words from Jesus's teaching are familiar to us. They constitute the crux and the challenge of what it means to be a disciple: Love your enemies, turn the other cheek, give to those who ask, do unto others, lend without expecting repayment, judge not lest you be judged.

There are several similarities between Luke's and Matthew's reports of Jesus's great teaching. Both begin with the Beatitudes. Matthew includes nearly all the content that Luke does; the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew's Gospel is longer than Luke's Sermon on the Plain. There are, however, differences in language and nuance. For example, Matthew presents this portion of the teaching as a contrast between Jesus's teaching and the teachings of the law and the prophets. This is in keeping with Matthew's concern to address his predominantly Jewish audience. It is likely that Luke omits this contrast because it was unnecessary for the Gentile believers for whom Luke is writing.

Another point of contrast between Matthew's and Luke's presentations is the terminology. In Luke, Jesus contrasts the behaviour of his followers with the behaviour of "sinners". In Matthew, Jesus contrasts the behaviour desired with the behaviour of tax collectors and Gentiles. Matthew concludes the teaching about love of enemies with the admonition to be perfect as God is perfect; Luke concludes by emphasising God's mercy.

In both Gospels, Jesus's words challenge those who would follow him to be more like God. God loves us beyond our expectations, beyond anything we can possibly imagine. In response to God's love, we are to love as God loves, beyond expectations and with a depth beyond imagining.



A day of fasting and abstinence

Wednesday 5 March

Mass times

9am Low Mass

8pm Solemn Mass

Could we all please return to church – **by next Sunday** – last year's **PALM CROSSES** to make the ash that we will use as a mark of our repentance.

Readings and psalm responses

Psalm response

The Lord is compassionate
and gracious.

First reading

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:45-49

Parish Finance

Offertory, Mass stipends, candles,
repository, + average standing
orders and online donations £1,250.84

Notices and events

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Confession is available on Saturday mornings
between 10am and 10.30am and at other
times by arrangement.

Monday evening Mass

Mass in Latin will be celebrated at 6.30pm
on **Monday 24 February**, the feast day of
S. Matthias, Apostle.

Mass intentions

Many dates are available including Sundays 9
and 16 March, 6 April and 4 May. Please
complete a Mass request envelope, available
in the narthex, and give it to Sonia or put it in
the parish letterbox.

Confirmation programme

The next session of the confirmation
programme will take place on **Sunday
9 March**, at 3pm. Our Confirmandi will be
deepening their knowledge of Reconciliation.
The group asks for your prayers as they
continue their preparation for their
Confirmation on Wednesday 1 October.

Legion of Mary

Weekly meetings of active members take
place on most Sundays after the 10am Mass.
Auxiliaries are most welcome to join us.

Living Rosary – intention for February

For vocations to the priesthood and religious
life: let us pray that the ecclesial community
might welcome the desires and doubts of
those young people who feel a call to serve
Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious
life.

Mary, Holy Mother of God, pray for us. Amen.

Our lamps

The Lamp at Our Lady's altar continues to
burn this week for Anton Paul Sivalingam RIP
at the request of Preya Senthel.

S. Joseph's lamp burns this week for Jakub
Jan Rutkowski RIP at the request of Anna and
Piotr Rutkowski.

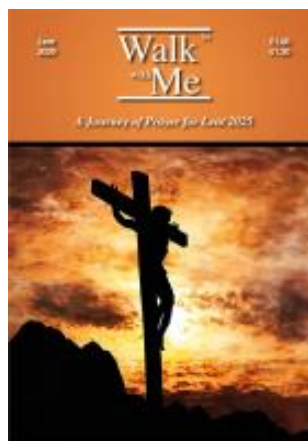
You can sponsor any of our four lamps in the
church – the Sanctuary Light and the lamps at
Our Lady's Altar, Our Lady of Walsingham
and S. Joseph – for an intention of your
choice. Please fill in an envelope from the
narthex – suggested stipend £7 – and give it
to Fr Rob or Sonia.

Eden Gardens project

Please pray and say one Hail Mary every day
for the Eden Gardens project in India, which
assists abandoned and neglected parents. For
further information contact Josef Sehion on
07378 337004.

Redbridge Foodbank

Your gifts of long-life food and drinks,
especially tinned fruit, vegetarian food items
(tins/packets), long-life milk and fruit juice,
jams/spreads, biscuits, pasta sauce, pasta
tinned tomatoes and cereals, as well as
shampoo, sanitary pads and sizes 5 and 6
baby nappies, are greatly appreciated. Please
place your donations on the foodbank table.at



Parish repository

Our repository stocks a
wide variety of gifts,
cards and devotional
items. Open after the
Sunday morning Mass
and at other times on
request.

The Lent *Walk With
Me* booklets will be on
sale **next Sunday**: £1.

Other events

Shrove Tuesday Afternoon Tea

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) is delighted to host a **Shrove Tuesday Afternoon Tea** at the Roslin Beach Hotel in Southend-on-Sea on **Tuesday 4 March**. Guests are invited to arrive at 1pm to be greeted and seated for tea between 1.30 and 3.30pm. This event is open to all and promises to be a lovely afternoon celebration. Tickets are £35 per person and are available to purchase via the BCCS webpage www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/. For any dietary requirements, please contact Julie at jabbott@bccs.org.uk. Guests will be seated at tables of 12, so let Julie know if you are coming in a group.

World Day of Prayer

Join with North Ilford Fellowship of Churches on **Friday 7 March** at 2pm at St Augustine's Barkingside.

International Women's Day celebration

All women are invited to North Ilford Fellowship of Churches' celebration at Ashurst Drive Baptist Church IG2 6QH on **Saturday 8 March** at 5pm. Speaker: Ms Carolyne Mumford of Broadmead Baptist Church on the theme: Accelerate Action. Tickets £5 including a three-course meal. Details of registration and tickets are on the narthex noticeboard.

Lent talks at Brentwood Cathedral

Rev Canon John J Harvey, Dean of Brentwood Cathedral, has organised a series of Lenten talks on the topic of the Holy Eucharist. They will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesdays in the Cathedral.

In the first, on **12 March** Brendan Thompson, a lay theologian and UK Programme Director for Word on Fire Ministries, will speak on the theme: This is my Body – Eucharistic revival.

Lent lunches

North Ilford Fellowship of Churches invite you to their Lent lunches on Wednesdays at 12 noon. The first three are on:

- **12 March** at Holy Trinity, Barkingside
- **19 March** at St Francis of Assisi
- **26 March** at Gants Hill Methodist Church.

Life in the Spirit seminars

Please save the date for the upcoming Life in the Spirit seminars which will be held in Brentwood Cathedral Large Hall over six Tuesday evenings (29 April to 3 June). Come along to hear inspiring speakers, be filled with the Holy Spirit and travel through your own *Holy Door* as we celebrate this Jubilee Year. More details will follow shortly.

Lourdes Pilgrimage

The 2025 Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from **Friday 18 July to Friday 25 July**. The flights will be from Southend to Lourdes. Details, including how to book, will follow.

Job opportunities

Caritas Development Officer

This new role within the Diocese will help develop and strengthen our charitable action and ministry. Working alongside the Director of Caritas, the successful applicant will have excellent digital media, organisation and presentation skills, and a heart for Catholic Social Teaching, helping to share this valuable work in schools and parishes, supporting existing volunteers. £24,000 - £27,000pa depending on experience. Full time, including some evenings and weekends. Closing date 31st March at noon. More information and to apply: caritas@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

Headteacher – St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Romford

The current Head, Mrs Waterfield, is retiring after 20 years. The Governors are seeking to appoint a Headteacher to begin in September to continue the excellent work at this caring, friendly and diverse two form entry primary school. Visits from prospective applicants are warmly encouraged, and can be arranged at a time to suit you. Full details at: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies.

Trinity Catholic High School

The school wishes to recruit:

- Teacher of French, f/t Easter
- Teacher of Science p/t Easter/September

See tchs.org.uk for details.

Mass times and intentions

Sun	23	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Sexagesima) 10.00 Samuel Mensah RIP – for God to give him a peaceful rest (Emelia Mensah) 16.30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 17.00 The People of the Parish
Mon	24	S. Matthias, <i>Apostle</i> 18.30 Private intention
Tue	25	Weekday in Ordinary Time 9.00 All souls in purgatory (Maria Josef)
Wed	26	Weekday in Ordinary Time 9.00 The People of the Parish
Thu	27	S. Gregory of Narak, <i>Abbot, Doctor of the Church</i> 9.00 Michael Josef – thanksgiving and spiritual guidance (Maria Josef)
Fri	28	Weekday in Ordinary Time 9.00 Mrs Hilaria Egegbara RIP & Tunji Adebayo (Tolu Ayeni & Family)
Sat	1	S. David, <i>Bishop</i> 9.00 The People of the Parish National Feast
Sun	2	Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Quinquagesima) Day for the Unemployed 10.00 Tolu Ayeni & Family – thanksgiving (Tolu Ayeni & Family) 16.30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 17.00 The People of the Parish
Tuesday to Saturday		8.00 Office of readings and morning prayer – week 3 (<i>not Wednesday</i>) 8.30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday to Friday		No Evening Prayer this week

Stewards

This Sunday Theresa Valerie, Anne Edwards, Kate Echeazu

Next Sunday Barbara Cheah, Jeffrey Cheah, Tolu Ayeni

Extraordinary Ministers

This Sunday 10am Akash Cheeda, Charles Nwaoha, Antoinette Loroy

5pm Josef Sehion, Maria Josef

Next Sunday 10am Barbara Cheah, Francis Addai, Rita Young

5pm Josef Sehion + volunteer

Ministers taking communion out today John Sarpong, Rita Young, Pauline Brooke, Heather Steadman. *Spiritual communion call* Theresa McDonagh

Ministers taking communion out next Sunday Bernadetta Sharon, Pauline Brooke, Marina Julian, Barbara Cheah, Marilyn Butler, Josef Sehion (5pm)

Spiritual communion call Theresa McDonagh

Readers (Please tell Sonia if you cannot read on your rota day)

This Sunday Naomi Augusto + volunteer (please arrange with Sonia before Mass)

Next Sunday Shahana Senthel, Kanista Jesuthasan

Repository Barbara Cheah

Refreshments Lamisi Narweh

Flowers next Saturday Bernadetta Sharon

Cash counting this Sunday Pauline Brooke