

PARISH DIARY

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

6.00pm Mass People of the Parish

Sunday 24th March 2019

8.30am Rosary

9.00am Mass Maureen Brandon RIP

11.00am Mass Ron Howe RIP

Monday 25th March 2019 – The Annunciation of The Lord

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.20am Mass Anthony Hanks Birthday Intentions

Tuesday 26th March 2019 – Feria of Lent

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.20am Mass Michael Cooney RIP

Eucharistic Adoration – 10am to 7pm

Wednesday 27th March 2019 – Feria of Lent

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.20am Mass Agnes Cuddy RIP

Eucharistic Adoration – 10.00am to 4pm

10.00am Lent Course – Strength to Strength in St Peter's Hall

Thursday 28th March 2019 – Feria of Lent

No Mass

Friday 29th March 2019 – Feria of Lent

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.20am Mass Ned Whelan RIP

Eucharistic Adoration – 10am to 5pm

7.30pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 30th March 2019 – Feria of Lent

9.00am Morning Prayer

9.20am Mass
10am & 5.00pm Confessions

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

6.00pm Mass Ken Adams RIP

Sunday 31st March 2019

8.30am Rosary

9.00am Mass People of the Parish

11.00am Mass John Manning RIP

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



Parish Priest: Fr John Corbyn Ord.

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Third Sunday of Lent Sunday 24th March 2019

Gospel Reflection - Time for Repentance (Luke 13:1-9)



We have seen how St Luke, in his gospel, places great emphasis on Jesus' message of repentance and forgiveness. At the beginning of Jesus' ministry Peter must admit his sinfulness before he is called to be an apostle; at the end, the good thief acknowledges his guilt and is welcomed into Jesus' kingdom. This gospel reading, with its historical examples and its parable, reinforces the Old Testament lesson of repentance. Notice also how, in Luke's account of the Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax-Collector, the latter wins through: his prayer is only 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner'. Every proclamation of the gospel in Luke's Acts of the Apostles ends with an appeal for repentance. Repentance means not simply bewailing our sins but doing something about it, changing our way of life, our scale of values. However, we are made in the image of God, and cannot expect God's forgiveness unless we too follow God's example and show the same forgiveness to others. The sinful woman who loved much was forgiven much (Luke 7:36-50). Nor is Luke the only evangelist to stress this point. Matthew adds at the end of the Lord's Prayer the saying of Jesus which underlines the importance of the single petition, 'Forgive us our sins as we forgive others'.

If you think of yourself as the fig-tree, what do you consider to be the most 'rotten' part of yourself that you really need to change? Would the sacrament of reconciliation help? What sort of injury do you find it hardest to forgive - an affront to your pride, your pocket or your person? Is there anyone you have not forgiven?

Parish Office (Mon, Wed, Fri 9.30am – 2.30pm)

Hall Bookings: email wickfordcatholichalls@gmail.com / 07709 406518

Safeguarding Officer: Esther Leighton 07719 403792

Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092

Notices



STRENGTH TO STRENGTH: Our CaFE lent course is a DVD series designed to give practical help to those wishing to pray more in their daily lives. The course continues on Wednesday at 10am in St Peter's Hall. Tea & coffee provided.



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL meet on Wednesday at 7.30pm.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: During lent we will be extending our period of Eucharistic Adoration on a Tuesday from 5pm to 7pm for those who are unable to come to Adoration during the day time. Come and spend some special time with our Lord.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place this Friday, 29th March at 7.30pm



FAMILY MASS this month falls on 31st March; I know this is Mothering Sunday, but we would like get as many children and young people involved as possible to participate with readings, bidding prays, gifts, baskets etc. Could you please let Dee know as soon as possible if your child/young person can help make this a truly celebratory service." Please contact Dee Young on 07941 497721 either by call, text or WhatsApp or email her ee211@sky.com. Thank you



OUR PARISH LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE takes place on Thursday 4th April at 7.30pm. Several priests from our Parish Partnership will be available to hear confessions. Come and take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to be reunited with your loving Father!



PARISH NEWSLETTER: If you have any notices for the newsletter for next weekend, 30th/31st March please hand them/email them into the parish office by 6pm Tuesday as we will be producing the newsletter on Wednesday rather than Friday this week.



DONATION & GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The new envelope boxes will be available for collection in alphabetical order from the porch. Everyone in the scheme has a box: - Those paying weekly have a maxi box with envelopes for each week plus the 2nd collection envelopes. Those paying by Standing order will have the mini box with only the 2nd collection envelopes. Please collect your boxes before or after mass. With many people now using Internet Banking, if you would like to change from paying weekly to doing a monthly transfer please speak to Karen for the parish bank details. If you are new to the Parish and are a Taxpayer and would like to join the scheme, or if you would like to re-join the scheme, please collect a form or contact me on 01268 733219 or email wickfordcatholic@gmail.com Thanks, Karen Sharp



THE GATEWAY PROJECT food bank is in urgent need of *long life milk, cereals, toiletries, tinned fruit and custard*. If you are able to donate any of these items, please put them in the box at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.



CAFOD EMERGENCY CYCLONE IDAI APPEAL: As you will have seen on the news, Cyclone Idai has swept through Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe, leaving behind a trail of destruction, killing hundreds and affecting an estimated 2.6 million people. Houses, roads and bridges have been ripped apart and agricultural land is completely submerged. Vital humanitarian aid is needed for the millions of people made homeless and CAFOD's priority is to reach the most vulnerable with food and clean water, basic shelter and hygiene kits. There will be a second collection after all Masses next weekend for this special emergency appeal. Please be as generous as you can.



THE TIME HAS COME the Walrus said, to talk of many things...but especially about joining or renewing your membership to **The Parish 100 Club monthly prize draw**. This is the **9th year** of the scheme and you have raised a magnificent £24,048 since inception and half of this...£12,024...has been paid out to the members. And membership of this exclusive club is inflation proof, at £24 per year, the same price as it was in 2011. We will be at several Masses over the next few weeks so please join or renew as soon as possible and raise funds for the parish as well as for the 3 lucky monthly winners. We will be delighted to explain how it works. Please note that, if you win, your name will be published in the parish newsletter unless you have instructed us otherwise. Good luck, Peter and Fionnghuala



BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – Children and families are now able to access direct therapeutic support in one of our clinics. Sessions take place after school or at an evening clinic at our counselling suites in Rayleigh. Our highly

experienced counsellors provide support directly to the whole family or to children and adolescents on a 1:1 basis. If you are concerned that your child may need someone to talk to, please contact Catherine on cmunns@bccs.org.uk. There is a sessional charge, so please enquire.

VICARIATE FOR EVANGELISATION - BEGINNING EXPERIENCE:

There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner from 12th to 14th April 2019 at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. For details please

contact Freda 01322 838415 or Sandra 01293-783965 or email johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk



DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND, LED BY FR JOHN CORBYN on 27th May to 31st May 2019. £649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all taxes, luxury transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full Irish Breakfast each morning and 4 Course Dinner each evening. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours included. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Limited single rooms at supplement of £100. Application forms are available from Fr John or Karen in the Parish Office. For more information contact Patricia on 01268 762278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

LENT TALKS 2019 AT OUR LADY IMMACULATE, CHELMSFORD: The Lent talks this year will centre around the subject of prayer. On Wednesday evenings there will be a Holy Hour and confessions from 6.30pm - 7.30pm with the talk at 7.30pm in the parish hall at Our Lady Immaculate Church, New London Road, Chelmsford.

27th March - "Prayer and Music" - Fr Stephen Morrison o.praem.

3rd April - "Prayer and Scripture" - Fr John Hemer, MHM