

## PARISH MASS INTENTIONS

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

6.00pm Mass Betty & Tommy Bickerstaff's Intentions

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass Tom Lee's Intentions  
11.00am Mass People of the Parish

### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Feria

NO MASS

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – St Patrick

7.00pm Novena to St Anthony of Padua  
7.30pm Mass Christy Daniels RIP  
*Eucharistic Adoration 10am to 5pm*

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Feria

9.00 am Morning Prayer  
9.20 am Mass Elizabeth Sweeney RIP  
*Eucharistic Adoration 10am to 4pm*

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – St Joseph, Husband of The Blessed Virgin Mary

9.00 am Morning Prayer  
9.20 am Mass Bridget O'Leary RIP

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 – Feria

11.20am Stations of the Cross  
12noon Mass Alice Lennon RIP  
*After which, there is continuous Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for 24 hours*

### Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020 – Feria

11.45am Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
5.00pm Confessions

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE SUNDAY

6.00pm Mass People of the Parish

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

8.30am Rosary  
9.00am Mass Phoebe Truelove's Intentions  
11.00am Mass Ivan Ambrose RIP

## OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



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### THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

*Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020*

### Gospel Reflection on - The Samaritan at the Well (John 4:5-15.19-26.39-42)



In today's Gospel, we read about the moving encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman. During it, Jesus tells her about the gift God wants to give her – the gift he calls “living water”. At the Mass, we encounter Jesus and he offers us the same gift – the grace of Christ. Let us prepare ourselves to receive this gift, a gift that ‘wells up to eternal life’.

On these last three Sundays of Lent before Palm Sunday in Cycle A, the Church lays before us the three great symbols of the baptisms which will be celebrated at Easter. This concerns not only those who will be baptised at the Easter Vigil, but all those who are invited to renew our baptismal promise and commitment at Easter. By so doing we enter afresh into the living and nourishing water of God's love which surpasses any food or drink (the teaching given to the Samaritan woman), into the light which enlightens the blind (the Cure of the Man Born Blind) and true life (the Raising of Lazarus).

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

*Hall Bookings: email [wickfordcatholicalls@gmail.com](mailto:wickfordcatholicalls@gmail.com)/ 07709 406518*

*Safeguarding Officer: Esther Leighton 07719 403792*

*Our Sunday masses are live streamed at [www.wickfordcatholic.com](http://www.wickfordcatholic.com) or [www.churchservices.tv/wickford](http://www.churchservices.tv/wickford)  
Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092*

# Notices

**MESSAGE ABOUT CORONAVIRUS:** This week the decision was made nationally that we have reached the next stage (2) of the Coronavirus crisis. You can find the full guidelines on the Diocesan website ([www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/bishops-update-virus-guidelines-parishes](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/bishops-update-virus-guidelines-parishes)). Certain practical changes have already been implemented since last weekend such as no Communion of the Precious Blood from the Chalice, and the recommendation that Communion be received in the hand. Holy Communion under one kind can serve to remind us of the doctrine of concomitance i.e. that Our Lord is present, whole and entire - Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity - under the form of the Host or in the Chalice. By receiving under one kind we are receiving the whole Christ and are not deprived of any graces. Holy Communion under both kinds is simply a fuller expression of the symbol of the Sacrament. When it comes to the Sign of Peace, physical contact is discouraged. The Holy Water stoups will remain empty for the time-being, also as a precaution. Thank you for your understanding and consideration in these unusual times!

The penitential and purifying nature of this Lenten season has been heightened for us with this crisis; let us try to respond with the demeanour of those who have faith and trust in the living God.

**THE LADIES SOCIAL CLUB** meet on Wednesday at 1.45pm in Our Lady's Hall.

**FIRST COMMUNION 2020:** The next meeting for the children **and parents** takes place next Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> March at 10.30am – please arrive at 10.20am for a prompt start.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT:** This week Stations of the Cross will be on Friday morning at 11.20am, but not on Friday evening because of 24 Hours for the Lord.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the repose of the soul of Margaret Carstairs, a former parishioner, who died recently. Margaret's funeral will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh on Sea on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm followed by interment at Pitsea at 3pm. May she rest in peace.

**DEEPEN YOUR FAITH' SESSIONS.** Our next session we will be looking at the Mystical Union of Christ and his Church. Please join us this Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March either at 10.15am in St Peters Hall, or 7pm in Our Lady's Hall. All are welcome.

**LENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE:** Wednesday 25th March, 7.30pm. A number of visiting priests will be available.

**24 HOURS FOR THE LORD:** The Pope's initiative will take place from 12noon on Friday 20th March through to 12noon on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Church. Fr Mark strongly encourages you to take time for prayer and time in the presence of the Lord, to pray for your own personal needs and the needs of our Church and the needs of our world. There is a sign up sheet on the wall in the porch for you to indicate which hour/s you will be spending with the Lord.

**EMBRACING THE CROSS:** Fr Mark will give a talk on Thursday 26th March at 7pm entitled 'Embracing the Cross' as he explores 'how' we should respond to the suffering in our lives, as well as looking at the 'why' of suffering.

**REPOSITORY NEWS:** St Patrick's Day cards and medals are now available in the Repository.

**CAFOD:** Many thanks to those who gave so generously to the CAFOD Lenten Fast Day collection - £762.00 was raised. In addition £200 was raised from the Lenten Lunch. Special thanks to the ladies who served and provided the delicious soups and to all who attended.

**THE GATEWAY PROJECT** are running short of sugar, uht milk, toilet rolls and general toiletries like shower gel or deodorant. If you are able to assist with any of these items please put them in the Gateway collection box in the porch. Thank you.

**Sick Friends and Relatives** - Please pray for Jayne & Danny Balaam, Delores Bilewycz, Frederick Bidnamrodi, Ruby Borien, Arthur Brittain, Mary Caruana, Theresa Eldred, Christina Elliott, Tom & Margaret Fanning, Bob Galloway, Patricia Gammell, Johnny Gee, Celine Guckian, Sharon Guckian, Beatie Harty, Connie Hounslow, Mary Hurley, Mary Jarvis, Kathleen Jennings, Pat Kingham, Rose Kudirka, Gabrielle & Ralphie Langridge, Margaret Livesey, John Maguire, Bridget Mahoney, Norman Miller, Carmella Micella, Elizabeth Mooney, Neil Murnane, Cecile Narbeth, Olivia Nazareth, Diane Neale, Margaret O'Doherty, Joy Orrock, Halina & John Ostrowski, Carmelo Piazza, Maureen Price, Conchita Prime, Barrie Reynolds, Joseph Rodgers, Alan Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry Smyth, Catherine Skully, Gabrielle Wisken, Lucy Woods.

**Anniversaries** – We pray for Kathleen Caffrey, Canon Martin Horkan, Hannah Ingham, Erick Malley, Nell Yetton, Elizabeth Sinkins Brenda Manton, Paul Huggins, Fr Donal Donegan, Christine Warrington, William Lepper, Nick Crowley, Michael Rzeszowski, Margaret Crisp, Fr Sidney Williams, Alexander Caldwell, Ron Anton Robin Adams, and Mandy Hamblin. May they rejoice forever with all the saints in God's Kingdom.

**LENT "GOD WHO SPEAKS" LECTURES BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL:** Four lectures that promise to be thought provoking. An opportunity to deepen our understanding and faith.

**Wednesday 18th March:** Sharing the Good News: Sacred scripture as beacon and promise. Dr Maria Heath, chair of Catholic Charismatic Renewal

**Wednesday 25th March:** The Gospel: the power of God or cause of shame and division? Rev Dr Richard Ounsworth OP, Scripture lecturer, Blackfriars, Oxford Lectures begin at 7.30 p.m. in the Brentwood Cathedral parish hall. All welcome.

**LENT TALKS 2020 IN CHELMSFORD:** These talks have now been cancelled.

**FLAME2021 – exciting event for young adults (age 15-21) Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021** Join 10,000 young people from England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Gibraltar and even Norway at Wembley Arena! The day will be filled with faith filled inspirational speakers, world class music and drama in an atmosphere full of joy! Our Parish Partnership, of Wickford, Billericay and Basildon, have reserved 100 tickets and will provide transport. Fr Mark has reserved 20 tickets for the time being and asks, if you are interested, to let him or the office know. Have a look at the Facebook and Instagram pages *CYMFed Flame Congress* to get a full picture of the event!