

# MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

All Masses are Livestreamed

## Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 - Feria

9.20am Mass and Rosary (*livestreamed only*) Billy Sweeney RIP

10.30am – 11.30am Confessions (*open to Public, in porch of church*)

6.00pm Vigil Mass – First Mass of Sunday (*open to the public, but subject to booking*)  
Patricia Keogh RIP

## Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B) (World Communications Day)

9.00am Mass (*open to the public, but subject to booking*) People of the Parish

11.00am Mass (*open to the public, but subject to booking*) Bella Hernandez (Thanksgiving)

5pm – 6pm Holy hour (incl. Rosary and Benediction) (*livestreamed only*)

## Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Feria

7.00pm Novena to St Anthony of Padua (*livestreamed only*)

7.30pm Mass (*livestreamed only*) Jonathan Hernandez (Thanksgiving)

## Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Feria

9.20am Mass (*open to the public*) Grace Dharmakhan RIP

## Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2021 – Feria

9.20am Mass and Rosary (*open to the public*) Lourdes De Almeida RIP

## Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021 – Feria

9.20am Mass and Rosary (*open to the public*) Nora & Patrick Thomas RIP

4pm - 5pm Holy Hour with Divine Mercy chaplet and Benediction (*open to the public*)

## Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2021 – Feria

9.20am Mass & Rosary (*livestreamed only*) Lotsi Hidveghy RIP

10.30am – 11.30am Confessions (*open to Public, in porch of church*)

6.00pm Vigil Mass – First Mass of Sunday (*open to the public, but subject to booking*)  
People of the Parish

## Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021 – PENTECOST SUNDAY (B) (Day of Prayer for the Church)

9.00am Mass (*open to the public, but subject to booking*) Fr Tony McKentey RIP

11.00am Mass (*open to the public, but subject to booking*) Neil McColgan RIP

5pm – 6pm Holy Hour (incl. Rosary and Benediction) (*livestreamed only*)



# OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



Parish Priest: Fr Mark Reilly

61 London Road, Wickford, Essex SS12 0AW - Tel 01268 733219

Website: [www.wickfordcatholic.com](http://www.wickfordcatholic.com) - Email: [wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

## Seventh Sunday of Easter – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021

**Gospel: John 17:11-19**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'

## Pope Francis' General Audience – 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (English summary)

Dear Brothers and Sisters, In our continuing catechesis on Christian prayer, we now consider the traditional theme of "spiritual combat". The great spiritual masters recognize that prayer is not always easy, for our human nature is frequently distracted or tempted by seemingly more important priorities. The Catechism teaches that prayer, although a free and unmerited gift of God's grace, can be affected by our human experiences of discouragement, sadness or disappointment (cf. No. 2728). Many of the saints in fact experienced long periods of spiritual dryness and even darkness. They teach us that the only response to these temptations is greater perseverance. Saint Ignatius of Loyola uses military imagery to stress the importance of discipline in our efforts to serve under the banner of Christ. Saint Anthony learned from his harsh spiritual battles in the desert that although God may at times seem absent amid these struggles, he remains always at our side. In our daily efforts to persevere in prayer may we trust that our own spiritual combat, like that of Jacob and the angel (cf. *Gen 28:16*), will bear fruit in a deeper and more mature relationship with the Lord.

## **Pope's address at the Regina Coeli: 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter--9<sup>th</sup> May**

In the Gospel passage (*Jn* 15:9-17) after having compared Himself to the vine and us to the branches, Jesus, explains what *fruit* is borne by those who remain united to Him: this fruit is *love*. He again repeats the key-verb: *abide*. He invites us to abide in his love so that his joy may be in us and our joy may be full.

Let us ask ourselves: what this love is in which Jesus tells us to abide to have his joy? It is the love that originates *in the Father*, because "God is love". This love of God, of the Father, flows like a river in his Son Jesus and through Him comes to us, his creatures. Indeed, he says: "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you". The love Jesus gives us is the same with which the Father loves Him: pure love, unconditional, freely given love. It cannot be bought, it is free. By giving it to us, Jesus treats us like friends – with this love –, making us know the Father, and he involves us in his same mission for the life of the world.

And then, we can ask ourselves the question, how do we abide in this love? Jesus says: "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love". Jesus summarized his commandments in a single one, this: "that you love one another as I have loved you". To love *as* Jesus means to offer yourself in service, at the service of your brothers and sisters, as he did in washing the feet of the disciples. It also means going outside of ourselves, detaching ourselves from our own human certainties, from earthly comforts, in order to open ourselves up to others, especially those in greater need. It means making ourselves available, as we are and with what we have. This means to love not in word but in deeds.

To love like Christ means saying 'no' to other 'loves' that the world offers us: love of money – those who love money do not love as Jesus loves -, love of success, vanity, [love] of power.... These deceptive paths of "love" distance us from the Lord's love and lead us to become more and more selfish, narcissistic, overbearing. And being overbearing leads to a degeneration of love, to abuse others, to making our loved ones suffer. I am thinking of the unhealthy love that turns into violence – and how many women are victims of violence these days. This is not love. To love as the Lord loves us means to appreciate the people beside us, to respect their freedom, to love them as they are, not as we want them to be, gratuitously. Ultimately, Jesus asks us to abide in his love, to dwell in his love, not in our ideas, not in our own self-worship. Those who overcome the ambition to control and manage others. Not controlling, serving them. Opening our heart to others, this is love, giving ourselves to others.

Dear brothers and sisters, where does this abiding in the Lord's love lead? Jesus told us: "That my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full". And the Lord wants the joy he possesses, to be in us insofar as we are united to Him. The joy of knowing we are loved by God despite our infidelities enables us to face the trials of life confidently, so as to emerge from them better. Our being true witnesses consists in living this joy, because joy is the distinctive sign of a true Christian. True Christians are not sad; they always have that joy inside, even in difficult moments.

## **Diocesan Virtual Pilgrimage to Walsingham – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> May**

Bishop Alan will lead a virtual pilgrimage from the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, which we can join using the Shrine's live-streaming service via their website [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk) or their YouTube channel 'Walsingham Catholic TV'.

## **The month of May, the month of Mary**

The month of May is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world [pay] to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the [Month of May](#), no. 1).

## **Kathleen Jennings RIP**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kathleen Jennings who passed away recently and for the comfort and consolation of her family at this time. May she rest in peace.

## **Repository:**

In May, the repository will open between 12pm and 1pm on 15<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> May.

## **Brentwood Catholic Children's Society:**

Please see attached link for the BCCS Spring Newsletter which contains news of their latest work.

[https://www.bccs.org.uk/application/files/9516/1409/6364/BCCS\\_Spring\\_Newsletter\\_2021.pdf](https://www.bccs.org.uk/application/files/9516/1409/6364/BCCS_Spring_Newsletter_2021.pdf)

We at the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (bccs) are seeking to appoint new members to our Board of Trustees to help guide and support our work. It is important for us to maintain a broad, diverse Board of Trustees that brings a wide range of expertise and ages to the table. Experience as a trustee is not required as a full induction programme will be provided. We are particularly keen to attract the input of youth trustees (age 18 +) to ensure our provision and services remain contemporary and there is no upper age or gender limitation to the role. Please read our full Trustee Advert and Role Description on our website <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/trustees> and contact our Director, Bernadette Fisher [bfisher@bccs.org.uk](mailto:bfisher@bccs.org.uk) for more information.

## **Congratulations**

to James and Laura Murphy who celebrated the sacrament of marriage on Thursday. We wish them a lifetime of health and happiness together.

**Brentwood Catholic Children's Society** has several charity places for the **Virtual London Marathon** taking place over 24 hours on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021. This can be run anywhere and on completion, runners will receive the official London Marathon Finisher's medal and New Balance T shirt. They will also have access to the London Marathon App allowing them to plot their run on the official London Marathon course. If you would like one of our places and think you could raise a fundraising total of £300, please email Julie [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) for registration details.

## **The Knights of St Columba:**

The Knights of St Columba (K.S.C.) in Province 10 which covers the Diocese of Brentwood invites young people to take part in a photographic competition. The theme for 2021 is '**ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL**' and submissions must be made by Saturday 11th SEPTEMBER 2021.

The competition aims to encourage young people to experiment with their camera or mobile phone, use digital methods of photography, and give an interpretation of the photograph (s).

The age group categories are: Junior 7-10 years old, Year Group 7, 8 and 9 (11-14yrs), and 10-13 (14-18yrs).

Entrants must not be over the age group on 31st JULY 2021. Age must be shown on the entrant form.

Submissions should be made in the first instance to Brother Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer Council 456 via e-mail to: [marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:marting.doyle@blueyonder.co.uk) All the details are on KSC Council 456 Facebook page.

**CAFOD:** Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day during Lent. We featured Marian and her son Svondo in Zimbabwe in Lent 2018. The community vegetable garden that your donations helped provide is growing well and during the pandemic the family has survived on the vegetables. Your support has also helped to provide soap and handwashing stations in the garden and in family homes. This is just one of many long-term development projects that CAFOD has funded with the money from that Fast Day. Thank you for your steadfast support.

**COVID-19 Vaccine Webinar:** A Covid-19 vaccine confidence webinar has been organised for the faithful of Dioceses of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster, with the cooperation of Hertfordshire County Council and Hammersmith & Fulham Council, and other local authorities. It will take place on Saturday 15th May 2021 from 10am to 11.30am and will feature a panel of eminent medical experts led by Prof Kevin Fenton, Regional Director of Public Health London. The panel will share the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccines. There will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions anonymously. To join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/99627319556> Passcode: 546617

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE.** Marriage is not just a relationship but a vocation and a means of holiness. Please pray for married couples, those preparing for marriage (especially those who have had to defer weddings), and those who have been widowed especially in the past year. The Brentwood Marriage and Family Life Facebook page (BrentwoodMandFL) will include interviews with couples from around the diocese. If you are experiencing difficulties in your marriage or would like to deepen your understanding of this vocation and each other, a number of organisations are able to help remotely during the lockdown, such as Retrouvaille, Marriage Care and Smart Loving. Please see attached document on Marriage support during Covid.

## **St Benedict's Catholic College:**

St Benedict's Catholic College in Colchester are currently advertising for the role of "Chaplaincy Worker". If you are interested in applying for the role, please visit their website: [www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk](http://www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk) where you will find the relevant information and an application form.

## **St Bonaventure's school:**

NEW ST BON'S ALUMNI NETWORK - Open to all former students and staff of St Bonaventure's School in Forest Gate. Please join and spread the word - news, events, and opportunities to give back: <https://www.stbons.org/alumni/>

## **Barnardo's Boloh Helpline:**

Barnardo's Boloh Helpline is a response to the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on Black, Asian & minority ethnic communities.

Free tel: 0800 1512 605 [Email: Boloh.helpline@barnardos.org.uk/](mailto:Email: Boloh.helpline@barnardos.org.uk/)

Web: [helpline.barnardos.org](http://helpline.barnardos.org)

## **All Brentwood Diocesan Catholic School Vacancies:**

(for which the Education Services Department are aware) are posted on the Diocesan website. Please use this link address to view current vacancies.

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

The following vacancies are currently being recruited for:

Management Accountant – Our Lady of Grace Academy Trust

Deadline for applications: 12:00 pm on Monday 17th May 2021

Class Teacher, 1 Year Maternity Cover – St Helens Infant School, Brentwood

Deadline for applications: 4:00 pm on Monday 17th May 2021

RE Teacher – Grays Convent High School

Deadline for applications: 12:00 pm on Friday 21st May 2021

KS2 Class Teacher – St Antony’s Primary School, Woodford Green

Deadline for applications: 12:00 pm on Monday 24th May 2021

Chaplaincy Worker – St Benedicts Catholic College, Colchester

Deadline for applications: 12:00 pm on Monday 7th June 2021

## **Annual International Conscientious Objectors’ Day:**

15th May 4.30-5.30pm live-streamed Vigil from Tavistock Sq. London to honour past & current COs -incl. speakers from Israel, Colombia re: working to establish a culture of peace. Visit [www.CO-Day.org](http://www.CO-Day.org) at 4.30pm Sat

## **Fake National Insurance Calls:**

Following a surge in reporting to Action Fraud, Essex has seen an increase in automated National Insurance scams.

Residents have reported receiving an automated telephone call telling them their “National Insurance number has been compromised” and in order to fix this and get a new number, the victim needs to “press 1 on their handset to be connected to the caller”. Please hang up immediately as this is a scam.

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## **Some advice if you are unable to gain access to the sacrament of Confession at this time.**

Recently, the Holy Father Pope Francis said something in a homily which may help someone who is unable to go to confession at this time: *“I know that many of you go to confession before Easter... Many will say to me: ‘But Father...I can’t leave the house and I want to make my peace with the Lord...How can I do that unless I find a priest?’ ...Do what the catechism says. It’s very clear. If you don’t find a priest to go to confession, speak to God. He’s your Father. Tell Him the truth: ‘Lord. I did this and this and this. Pardon me.’ Ask His forgiveness with all your heart with an act of contrition, and promise Him, ‘afterward I will go to confession.’ You will return to God’s grace immediately.”*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church (§1452) also says: *“When it arises from a love by which God is loved above all else, contrition is called ‘perfect’ - contrition of charity. Such contrition remits venial sins; it also obtains forgiveness of mortal sins if it includes the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible.”*

In the event that someone is unable to access confession at this time, the Bishops of England and Wales have asked that all who desire to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation should be encouraged and helped to make a Perfect Act of Contrition at this time as indicated by the Holy Father. A prayer that might help you to do so is as follows:

*O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you, and I detest all my sins, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.*

Despite the foregoing, in the event of an emergency, I will make every effort to give the Sacraments of the Church to the person in need. The only thing that could prevent me from doing so is the internal regulations of the Hospital or Care Home, so please ensure that you tell the doctors/nurses that your loved one would like to see a Catholic Priest in the event of an emergency, *or it may be easier for me to make the call to Basildon Hospital myself as I am one of the on-call Catholic priests there.*

**Sick Friends and Relatives** - Please pray for Jayne & Danny Balaam, Delores Bilewycz, Frederick Bidnamrodi, Ruby Borien, Arthur Brittain, Mary Caruana, Theresa Eldred, Margaret Fanning, Bob Galloway, Patricia Gammell, Johnny Gee, Celine Guckian, Sharon Guckian, Beatie Harty, Connie Hounslow, Mary Hurley, Mary Jarvis, Rose Kudirka, Gabrielle & Ralphie Langridge, Margaret Livesey, John Maguire, Bridget Mahoney, 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, Joseph Rodgers, Carol Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry Smyth, Catherine Skully, Maria Weedon, Gabrielle Wisken, Lucy Woods, Anne Humphrays, Elizabeth Arnold, Jane Williams, Mary Caruana, Douglas Michael Hall, Pauline Muthike and all those suffering with the Coronavirus.

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**Anniversaries** – We pray for Michael Linnane, Emily Hazell, John Dalton, Arthur Rufus Wilton, Margaret Bradley, Antonette Gonsalves, William McDonnell, Margaret Johnson, Fr John Hawes, Maria Glavin, Henry George Ardley, Esme Edith Mattin, Christine McStay, Maisie Berry, Canon Thomas Clarke, John & Kathleen McCarthy, Canon Michael Fitzpatrick, Fr Brendan Sheppard, Elizabeth Rendall, Matthias Tensch, Leonard James Drain, Imelda Preece, Deborah Maxwell, George Hoffman, Mgr William O'Grady VG, Andrejs Lazaris, Constance Baldrey, Madeline Rose Kyle and Peter William Blundell. May they rejoice forever with all the saints in God's Kingdom,