

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

All Masses are Livestreamed

Saturday 24th July 2021 - Feria

NO MORNING MASS/ NO CONFESSIONS

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

Sunday 25th July 2021 – SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

9.00am Mass (*open to the public*) Chris Carey Ints

11.00am Mass (*open to the public*) George Merrin Ints

5.00pm Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction (*open to the public*)

Tuesday 27th July 2021 – Feria

7.00pm Novena to St Anthony of Padua (*open to the public*)

7.30pm Mass (*open to the public*) Angela Corera RIP

Wednesday 28th July 2021 – Feria

9.20am Mass and Rosary (*open to the public*) Fred & Jo Noys RIP

Thursday 29th July 2021 – *St Martha*

9.20am Mass and Rosary (*open to the public*) Bernadette Fernando RIP

Friday 30th July 2021 – Feria

9.20am Mass (*open to the public*) Edward, Elizabeth, Paul Bielicz & Mary Leonard RIP

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

Saturday 31st July 2021 – *St Ignatius of Loyola*

9.20am Mass (*open to the public*) Gabrielle Langridge Ints

10.30am – 11.30am **Confessions**

6.00pm Vigil Mass – First Mass of Sunday (*open to the public*)
Deceased members of the Smyth Family

Sunday 1st August 2021 – EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

9.00am Mass (*open to the public*) People of the Parish

11.00am Mass (*open to the public*) Marie Fitzgerald RIP



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



Parish Priest: Fr Mark Reilly

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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) 25th July 2021

Gospel: John 6:1-15

Jesus went off to the other side of the Sea of Galilee – or of Tiberias – and a large crowd followed him, impressed by the signs he gave by curing the sick. Jesus climbed the hillside, and sat down there with his disciples. It was shortly before the Jewish feast of Passover.

Looking up, Jesus saw the crowds approaching and said to Philip, 'Where can we buy some bread for these people to eat?' He only said this to test Philip; he himself knew exactly what he was going to do. Philip answered, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said, 'There is a small boy here with five barley loaves and two fish; but what is that between so many?' Jesus said to them, 'Make the people sit down.' There was plenty of grass there, and as many as five thousand men sat down. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and gave them out to all who were sitting ready; he then did the same with the fish, giving out as much as was wanted. When they had eaten enough he said to the disciples, 'Pick up the pieces left over, so that nothing gets wasted.' So they picked them up, and filled twelve hampers with scraps left over from the meal of five barley loaves. The people, seeing this sign that he had given, said, 'This really is the prophet who is to come into the world.' Jesus, who could see they were about to come and take him by force and make him king, escaped back to the hills by himself.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

This Sunday, close to the feast of Our Lord's grandparents, Ss. Anne and Joachim, is the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, newly established by Pope Francis. Please pray for all grandparents and all elderly people in our parish family, as we give thanks for all the ways in which they have enriched and continue to enrich our families and parish family, especially for their role in passing on the faith to us. Let us pray in particular for those who are sick or frail, those currently in residential care, and those who have died in the past year.

Pope's address at the Angelus – Sunday 18th July

After a two-week absence, Pope Francis appeared once again at the window of the Apostolic Palace overlooking Saint Peter's Square for the noontime Sunday Angelus. A week ago, he led the Angelus prayer from Rome's Gemelli Hospital, greeting crowds below from the tenth floor balcony where he was recovering from intestinal surgery that took place a week earlier.

In his reflections before leading the recitation of the Angelus, the Pope drew from the Gospel of the Sunday liturgy, which recounts when the Apostles return enthusiastically from their missionary labours and Jesus invites them to "Come away by yourselves to a lonely place, and rest a while" (Mk 6:31). Jesus offers us an important teaching here, the Pope observed, as He is concerned about their wellbeing due to the physical or interior tiredness, even though He rejoices on seeing their happiness over the success of their preaching.

We too can get caught up in the rush of all our activities and be focused always on doing things and achieving results, the Pope said, and this presents a risk of thinking we are the prime protagonists. We see this at times in the Church, he noted, where we are very busy, thinking everything "depends on us", but we risk overlooking Jesus. Jesus' invitation to take time out to rest is "not only physical rest, but also rest for the heart" he added.

To truly rest, we need to "return to the heart of things", the Pope said, and that requires stopping our activities and remaining in silence and prayer to help us stop focusing on all that we have done and need to do. Jesus always served others, but each day He would "withdraw in prayer, in silence, in intimacy with the Father", the Pope said, and "His tender invitation – rest a while – should accompany us." The Pope added, let us learn how to take a break, "to turn off the mobile phone" and look at one another, "cultivate silence, to contemplate nature, to regenerate ourselves in dialogue with God".

As we read further in today's Gospel, the Pope noted, we learn that Jesus and the disciples could not take any rest in the end, given all the crowds coming to them for help. The Lord was moved with compassion, he said, dedicating His time to help the people. The Pope said this may seem a contradiction, but it is not, since a heart that is not overtaken with busyness and focusing only on itself, is a heart that "is capable of being moved" to be being aware of others and their wounds and needs.

"Compassion is born from contemplation", the Pope said, and by learning to truly rest we can be authentically compassionate. By staying close to the Lord and true to who we are, all of our activities and outreach will not have the better of us, the Pope said, summarizing it by saying "We need an 'ecology of the heart', that is made up of rest, contemplation and compassion".

NHS Track & Trace and Face Coverings:

In order to support the NHS Test and Trace programme, we are taking contact details (name and telephone number) for all visitors, as well as recording times entering and leaving Our Lady of Good Counsel.

For those that wish to check in using the app, please scan one of the NHS QR Codes displayed in the entrance to church which automatically register your visit here.

In line with guidance issued by the Department for Health and Social Care, we will keep your details safely and in compliance with GDPR legislation for 21 days before securely disposing of or deleting them. We will only share your details with NHS Test and Trace, if asked, in the event that it is needed to help stop the spread of coronavirus. We will not use your details for any other purposes or pass them on to anyone else.

The requirement to wear face coverings in law has been lifted. However, the Government expects and recommends that people wear face coverings in crowded areas. Therefore, in order to keep you and others safe, please do continue to wear a face covering if you are able to and are not exempt.

Thank you for your understanding.

"Lourdes at Your Local", 26th – 30th July 2021

From Monday 26th - Friday 30th July, the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service will be hosting "[Lourdes at your Local](#)" for Summer 2021. There will be a Mass celebrated each morning at 11am, with Anointing of the Sick and joyful music, followed by coffee and refreshments. These will then be streamed online each evening, as well as Daily Rosary, a Torchlight Procession and Talent Show (which we encourage you to also get involved in!). The Masses will take place in Leigh-on-Sea, Clacton-on-Sea, Canning Town, Wanstead and Brentwood, and we are welcoming all ages, with particular invitation to those who have been housebound or shielding over the last year. Further details and a full itinerary are available on our website www.bcys.net/events or you can email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org for more information.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE WEBSITE has now been launched. This new online resource is the work of the Brentwood Diocese Vicariate for Adult Formation and aims to help adults to deepen their relationship with Christ and His Church. Please have a look at the website and watch it develop over time. Do let us know what you think of it. The website address is www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

Journey in Faith Programme:

The Journey of Faith programme will begin on **Thursday 16th September** in Our Lady's Hall at 7pm. It is designed for Adults, falling into 3 categories — i) for those who are not Catholics but who are interested in finding out a bit more and/or becoming , ii) for those who are Catholics but who have not yet been confirmed (remember if you have not been confirmed, you are not fully initiated as a Christian), and iii) for those who would like to revisit their faith from the ground-up. Please let Fr Mark know if you are interested- just email him on wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org

First Holy Communion Programme:

The First Holy Communion Programme will begin in September 2021 for children in our parish who will be in Year 3 and above *from the next academic year*. If you would like to enrol your child on this course please email Fr Mark on wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org and he will send you some further information.

Confirmation Programme:

The Confirmation Programme will begin in September 2021 for young people in our parish who will be in Year 9 and above *from the next academic year*. If you would like to enrol your son/daughter on this course please email Fr Mark on wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org and he will send you some further information.

Good News about Pro-life initiative

Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues at the Bishops' Conference, has thanked the thousands of people who contacted their MP to register their opposition to an amendment that could have led to abortion on demand in England and Wales. The controversial amendment to the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill was withdrawn on Monday, 5 July.

Bishop Sherrington said: "Thank you to the thousands of people who lobbied MPs and helped to prevent dangerous amendments to the bill from moving forward.

"I welcome the fact that the radical amendment (New Clause 55), which was well outside the scope of the bill, was withdrawn. It would have swept away the few protections remaining for the unborn child and enabled abortion on demand as well as removing the possibility of the doctors' conscientious objection.

"The abortion clinic censorship zone amendment (New Clause 42) was also helpfully withdrawn. We must stay vigilant to attempts to widen access to abortion by hijacking other bills."

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.

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/

Web: helpline.barnardos.org

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society:

Please click on the link for the Summer Newsletter:

https://www.bccs.org.uk/application/files/5916/2315/2865/bccs_Newsletter_Summer_2021.pdf

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) Sponsored Walk:

The purpose of this sponsored walk is to highlight the important message across the Diocese that, as life slowly returns to some sort of normality, our professional team at BCCS begin the huge task of dealing with the after the effects of the pandemic on the mental health and wellbeing of many of our children and families. The very important message we want to relay is that 'We are there for you if, and for as long as you need us'.

Because BCCS has been unable to raise funds i.e. Ladies Lunch and the Spring Ball we have organised a summer community charity event called 'Relay 100'. It consists of 100 legs or routes between each church or Mass centre in our Diocese.

With this in mind Fionnghuala & Peter Griggs, and Joan & Chris Tisi have agreed to undertake a sponsored walk between Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wickford and Holy Trinity, South Woodham Ferrers (leg No. 65 of the relay), a distance of 6.7 miles. We intend to do our 'leg' on Thursday 5th August 2021 and would be grateful for your support by sponsoring us.

So if you feel you would like to donate to this Relay 100 (however small), the Relay Fundraising Page can be found on <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/Team/Relay100>

and we are Team TisiGriggs or you can contact Fionnghuala directly.

Thank you.

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

All the details are on KSC Council 456 Facebook page.

Living *Laudato Si'* – Online Retreat – 15th – 18th October 2021:

Open to all, this retreat will help personal prayer and reflection, and parish action, on the critical issue of care for God's creation. Bishop Alan will open the retreat, which will be led by expert speakers.

For more information email laudatosi@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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, 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, Pauline Muthike, Zoe Gomez, George Merrin, Patricia McEvoy and all those suffering with the Coronavirus.

Anniversaries – We pray for Agnes Moore, Isobel Martin, Colin Hounslow, Harry Poole, Fr John Jones, Fr Dermot Moore, Ada Clements, Fr James Cooney, George Townsend, Mary Eveling, Mary McCourt, Nora Smith, Kathleen Crook, John Gargan, Fr John Harding, Michael Buckley, Jack Reynolds, Anne Spicer, Phyllis McInerny and Fr Michael O'Sullivan. May they rejoice forever with all the saints in God's Kingdom,