

TIMES & INTENTIONS

All Masses are Livestreamed and Open to the Public

Saturday 18th June 2022 – In honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.05am Morning Prayer
9.20am Mass and Rosary Peter John Kent RIP
10.30am – 11.30am Confessions

6.00pm Vigil Mass – First Mass of Sunday David Lepper Ints

Sunday 19th June 2022 – THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (C) (Day for Life)

9.00am Mass People of the Parish
11.00am Mass John Patrick O'Sullivan RIP
5.00pm Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction

Tuesday 21st June 2022 – St Aloysius Gonzaga

10am until 3pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

7.00pm Novena to Anthony of Padua
7.30pm Mass Francisca Oguike RIP

Wednesday 22nd June 2022 – NATIONAL FEAST OF SS JOHN FISHER & THOMAS MORE

9.05am Morning Prayer
9.20am Mass and Rosary Benedict and Ethel Doyle RIP
10am until 3pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Thursday 23rd June 2022 – NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST

9.05am Morning Prayer
9.20am Mass and Rosary Neil Murnane RIP

Friday 24th June 2022 – THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS

9.05am Morning Prayer
9.20am Mass and Rosary Dessie Manning RIP
10am until 5pm Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 25th June 2022 – The Immaculate Heart of Mary NO MORNING MASS

6.00pm Vigil Mass – First Mass of Sunday Danny and Jayne Balaam Ints

Sunday 26th June 2022 – THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

9.00am Mass People of the Parish
11.00am Mass Nolag Foster RIP
5.00pm Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



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THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (Day for Life)

19th June 2022

Gospel: Luke 9:11-17

Jesus made the crowds welcome and talked to them about the kingdom of God; and he cured those who were in need of healing.

It was late afternoon when the Twelve came to him and said, 'Send the people away, and they can go to the villages and farms round about to find lodging and food; for we are in a lonely place here.' He replied, 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' But they said, 'We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless we are to go ourselves and buy food for all these people.' For there were about five thousand men. But he said to his disciples, 'Get them to sit down in parties of about fifty.' They did so and made them all sit down. Then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven, and said the blessing over them; then he broke them and handed them to his disciples to distribute among the crowd. They all ate as much as they wanted, and when the scraps remaining were collected they filled twelve baskets.

Corpus Christi.

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ is also known as the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, which translates from Latin to "Body of Christ." The primary purpose of this feast is to focus our attention on the Eucharist. The opening prayer at Mass calls our attention to Jesus' suffering and death and our worship of Him. At every Mass our attention is called to the Eucharist and the Real Presence of Christ in it. The secondary focus of this feast is upon the Body of Christ as it is present in the Church. The Church is called the Body of Christ because of the close union which Jesus shares with us as his disciples. He expresses this in the gospels by using the metaphor of a body in which He is the head. The Feast of Corpus Christi is commonly used as an opportunity for public Eucharistic processions, which serves as a sign of common faith and adoration.

The Second collection at Masses this weekend will support *Day for Life* as we do our best to protect life from conception till natural death.

Parish Office Opening Hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9am – 1pm

Hall Bookings: email: wickfordcatholicchalls@gmail.com / Tel: 01268 733219 (during office hours)

Sunday 29th May 2022 - Pope at Angelus: Holy Trinity revolutionizes our way of life:

The Holy Trinity, Pope Francis says, "is not so much a theological exercise," but "a revolution in our way of life." The Holy Father began by reflecting on the Gospel passage in which Jesus presents the Father and the Holy Spirit. The Spirit, Jesus explains, "will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears, He will speak, and He will declare to you the things that are to come." The Pope pointed out that the Holy Spirit speaks, but not of Himself, rather He announces and speaks about Jesus and reveals the Father. Likewise, the Father, "who possesses everything, because He is the origin of all things," gives to the Son everything He possesses and keeps nothing for Himself.

What about ourselves? The Holy Father encouraged the faithful to look at themselves and about what we pronounce and possess. He observed how normally, when we speak, we tend to speak about ourselves and what we do. *"How different this is from the Holy Spirit, who speaks by announcing others!"* Moreover, the Pope lamented our tendency to hold tightly onto our possessions, not sharing what we possess with others, "even those who lack the basic necessities!"

Living for others, and shown through our actions The Holy Father stressed that our words must translate into actions. "This is why," Pope Francis said, "celebrating the Holy Trinity is not so much a theological exercise, but a revolution in our way of life." God, in whom each Person lives for the other, not for himself, provokes us to live with others and for others. *"Today we can ask ourselves if our life reflects the God we believe in: do I, who profess faith in God the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, truly believe that in order to live I need others, I need to give myself to others, I need to serve others? Do I affirm this in words or with my life?"* God, One and Triune, the Pope underscored, must be shown with deeds rather than words. God, the Pope continued, "is transmitted not so much through books, but rather through the witness of life." "Think about good, generous, meek people we have met; recalling their way of thinking and acting, we can have a small reflection of God-Love. And what does it mean to love? Not only to wish them well and to do good, but first and foremost, at the root, to welcome others, to make room for others, to give space to others. This is what it means to love..."

We are not islands The Trinity, the Pope said, teaches us that one can never be without the other. "We are not islands," the Holy Father noted, "we are in the world to live in God's image: open, in need of others and in need of helping others." He encouraged the faithful to ask themselves: "In everyday life, am I too a reflection of the Trinity?"

Pope Francis' General Audience– 15th June 2022: Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on the meaning and value of old age in the light of God's word, we now consider the healing of Saint Peter's mother-in-law. The Gospel of Mark tells us that as she lay in bed with a fever, Jesus took her by the hand and the fever left her; and she began to serve them (cf. 1:29-31). The fact that Jesus wished to heal her in the company of the disciples reminds us that the entire Christian community is called to be present to our brothers and sisters in need. We proclaim Christ's salvation and the hope offered by the Gospel precisely by reaching out to those who, like so many elderly people in our communities, feel isolated and even abandoned. Peter's mother-in-law then responds with gratitude for the gift of God's mercy by getting up and immediately serving her guests. Within the Christian community, the elderly offer a precious service by their own example of gratitude for the gift of faith and the experience of the Lord's healing touch in their lives. They teach us that Christian discipleship is expressed in acts of charity, inspired by gratitude for the merciful love that touches and transforms our lives.

Day for Life 2022 - Sunday 19 June 2022 'Day for Life' is the day in our calendar set aside to celebrate life from conception to natural death. This year our focus is on caring for and valuing the elderly. *"Do not cast me off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength is spent."* Psalm 71:9. The COVID pandemic highlighted the desperate plight of many older people, especially those in care homes and those struggling with long-term chronic conditions such as dementia. They carried the highest burden which included prolonged isolation, the distress for families being unable to visit, delayed medical interventions and tragic, isolated, deaths followed by shortened, minimal, funeral rites. Many family members and friends continue to bear the wound of deep grief which hurts and is still in need of healing. The Bishops' Conference has a number of resources to utilise on Day for Life including; *Pope Francis' Day for Life Message, Bishop's message for Day for Life, Prayers for the Elderly, Jesus's Grandparents.*

March for Life: 3rd September This year marks the sad milestone of 10 million abortions in the UK since the 1967 Abortion Act. It is more important than ever that all people of goodwill, and especially Catholics, give public witness to the infinite dignity of human life. We can do so at the annual March for Life held on Saturday, 3 September. Bishop Sherrington will celebrate Mass at 11.00 am at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. LifeFest22 is a pro-life, family-friendly festival held 10.30-1.30 at the Emmanuel Centre, Marsham Street SW1P 3DW. The March itself starts at the Emmanuel Centre at 2.00 pm, proceeding to Parliament Square, where there will be testimony and speeches, with the day concluding at 4.30 pm. More information can be found at <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/> Our witness is vital. Please put the date in your diary.

20 Hours of Adoration begins again with effect from 21st June after the Feast of Corpus Christi. Adoration will be on Tuesdays (from 10am to 3pm), Wednesdays (from 10am to 3pm), Fridays (10am to 5pm), Saturdays (10am to 12noon) and Sundays (from 5pm to 6pm), but please always check the newsletter to make sure that it is still happening on any given day.

Journey in Faith Programme: We hope to begin a new Journey of Faith programme in September. 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 one, 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

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: *First major parish social since the lockdown- Sunday 26th June* Please join us for a parish BBQ after the 11am Mass on Sunday 26th June, as well as an opportunity to discuss Ideas for the Parish post-Covid. Please fill in the form provided with any ideas you might have for the Parish (you can also enter your ideas on the parish website *via* the button at the bottom of the home page). Also, if you can come to the BBQ, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the porch of the church.

YEAR OF THE FAMILY: The 10th World Meeting of Families is taking place in Rome this coming week, with a programme of talks and liturgies which will be live-streamed via Vatican media channels. Our Diocese is marking the close of the Year of the Family at the annual Mass for Marriage and Family Life in July, which Bishop Alan will offer for the intentions of all families in the Diocese. If you would like a particular intention to be placed before the altar at this Mass, please complete the prayer request form which can be found on the new Marriage and Family Life pages of the Diocesan website, where you will also find more information about the World Meeting of Families:
<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life>

Mass of Thanksgiving for Marriage and Family Life on Saturday 16th July at 3pm at Brentwood Cathedral. Please let Fr Mark know if you would like to attend the Mass for Marriage and Family Life at Brentwood Cathedral especially those celebrating significant anniversaries this year (or in the past two years), those who have recently got married, or those who are involved in marriage preparation or support at this time. Prayer cards for Marriage and Family Life are available in the porch of the church- please take one.

Children's Liturgy of the Word. Please contact Fr Mark or Sheila Harcourt, if you are able to help with Children's Liturgy of the Word. Any volunteers would be massively appreciated. The next children's liturgy will be on Sunday 26th June at the 11am Mass.

Sunday Obligation

The Bishops of England and Wales have decided to reinstate the Sunday Obligation to come to Mass, that is, the obligation to come to Mass on a Sunday or Saturday night, now that the challenges of the pandemic have significantly lessened. This will take effect from Pentecost Sunday, 4/5th June. The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that the Sunday obligation is the duty to participate at Mass on Sundays and certain Holy Days, except when prevented by a legitimate reason (such as sickness or care of infants), and if we deliberately fail in this obligation, the Catechism continues, we commit a grave sin, and so, we will need to go to Confession before receiving Holy Communion again. In a press conference, after announcing that the Bishops of England and Wales had decided to reinstate the Sunday Obligation, Cardinal Vincent Nichols said that 'the duty to attend Mass is a privilege' and 'the duty is there to back up the privilege'. When we come to Mass, we come because of our love and commitment to Christ. For us, it is a privilege to come to Mass- and the duty (or the obligation) to come is just there to back it up, to remind us of just how important it is.

Sunday Obligation, as it applies to children

As regards children and the Sunday obligation, parents are always encouraged to bring their children to Mass and especially once they have started school, but the obligation to come to Sunday Mass does not begin for children until they have reached the age of reason, namely First Holy Communion age. Nevertheless, the responsibility to bring them to Mass each week still resides with the parents.

Certificates of Practice for Schools

Fr Mark will be signing certificates for Catholic Secondary school applications in mid-October and for Catholic Primary Schools at the beginning of January 2023. With this in mind, please ensure that you are attending Mass each week with your children, so that Fr Mark will be able to sign them.

First Holy Communion Programme 2022/23:

We are hoping to have a First Holy Communion Programme beginning in September 2022, but Fr Mark wants to gauge the amount of interest there is in having the programme in the next academic year, because, if the interest is very low, we may defer the programme to the following year. So, if you reside in Wickford parish and your children will be in Year 3 or above *from the next academic year*, please contact Fr Mark by email on wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org by 1st July at the latest.

Knights of St. Columba Young Peoples Seminar 2022:

Theme: "Being Your Brother's Keeper"

Date Tuesday July 26th to Friday 29th. Venue: Hinsley Hall Leeds.

An invitation to all young people aged between 16 and 23, 25 **free** places.

Visiting the "Mercy Bus tour" in Leeds, with speakers and organizers

Please see poster with a QR Code for more details.

Why not Join the Knights and, among other things, help support our young people?

Brother Martin Doyle Action and Youth Officer.

Helping those in the Ukraine, and Ukrainian Refugees:

Caritas Brentwood are regularly updating information on their website, covering donations, prayer, and welcoming those who are fleeing the Ukraine. You will find everything at: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine/>

Wickford Holy Ramblers

On Wednesday 22nd June a group of us called the Holy Ramblers are setting off from Our Lady of Good Counsel and walking to Our Lady of Ransom Church (and back if our feet permit) to raise vital funds for BCCS If you are feeling generous and would like to sponsor us the link is

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/relay100>

reference Wickford Holy Ramblers

Or BACs Brentwood Catholic Childrens Society, a/c no 31094130, sort code 401322 and same reference. Any questions please email Fionnghuala Griggs at fionnghuala.m.griggs@btinternet.com

The Relics of St Bernadette will visit the Diocese of Brentwood in October as part of a national tour of Britain. A section of bone from her thigh is to be taken to the major cathedrals and churches of the dioceses of England, Scotland and Wales. It will give British Catholics the chance to make a personal pilgrimage to the French saint, to venerate her and to pray for her intercession. Her relics will be in Brentwood cathedral from 11am on Sunday 16th October till 12noon on Monday 17th October.

Walsingham House Team 2022/23:

Gap Year opportunity starting September 2022:

Just finished A-levels or Uni? Aged 18-22? Interested in working with young people? Join the Walsingham House Team 2022/23 for an amazing Gap Year opportunity starting September 2022. Details on www.bcys.net or contact Joseph Beattie – phone 01277 373959 or email josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org

St. Thomas More High school - Open Evening:

Thursday, 7th July 4.00p.m. to 7.00p.m. - for families who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2023 - come and see the school, meet the staff and pupils.

The Headteachers talk will begin at 6.00pm.

Parents of boys who wish to apply to St. Thomas More School for a place in September 2023 should complete the local education authority single application form (saf) and fill in the supplementary information form (sif) that can be collected at the open evening.

If you are unable to come to the open evening, please contact the school in order to get the supplementary information form. The form can also be downloaded from the school web site: - **WWW.ST-THOMASMORE.SOUTHEND.SCH.UK**

The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral is seeking a part-time Co-ordinator to assume responsibility for the day-to-day running of the charity. If you have strong interpersonal and organisational skills, coupled with the ability to work on your own initiative to implement the plans and actions determined by the charity's governing Council and its subcommittees, this role may be of interest. You will be a good communicator, able to sustain engagement with our members through personal contact, written and digital channels. In addition to being able to plan and execute a range of fundraising events, you will have a keen eye for detail, enabling you to deliver the exacting level of administrative support needed for a successful membership organisation. Full details at <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/the-friends-seek-an-organising-secretary/>

Faith Lift Day:

Sunday 10th July at the Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX. The day will begin with 12.00 noon Mass, (this is optional if people would prefer to attend their parish Sunday Mass) followed by lunch at 1pm. At 2pm there will be prayer and praise, followed by a talk from 2.45 - 3.20. After a short break will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with opportunity for Confession, and Prayer Ministry from 3.45 finishing at 4.45 pm. Tea and coffee will be provided for the day, but please bring your own packed lunch. Everyone is welcome, and please feel able to join in the day at any time. No booking is required.

Keith Williams, Headmaster at The Campion School is retiring at the end of this academic year. In order to celebrate his 40 years of service, there will be a Thanksgiving Mass at the school at 7.00 pm on Friday, 8th July 2022. The Mass will be followed by a buffet in the Main Hall.

If you and any of your family would like to join us on this occasion, please e.mail office@thecampionschool.org giving the numbers expected.

Offertory Contributions & Gift Aid:

Please continue to support the parish financially with your weekly contributions. Where possible, it is easier if donations are made by standing order, quoting your Gift Aid number (if you have one), instead of using the gift aid envelopes. Please email Tori on Wickford@dioceseofbrentwood.org if you would like the parish bank account details to set up a standing order, or to make a bacs donation.

Under the Gift Aid scheme, we can claim tax relief on all donations made to the Parish, which has the effect of raising the value of the donation. Only taxpayers are eligible. If you are a taxpayer and have not already signed a declaration, could I ask you please to contact Tori in the parish office to arrange this.

Choral Director Vacancy – The Diocese of Brentwood Schools Singing Programme:

We are seeking to appoint a Choral Director; this is a new and exciting post which is part of the National School Singing Programme.

Further information about the role can be found on the website <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/NSSP-Choral-Director-Application-Pack-002.pdf>

Closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday 4 July 2022.

St Peter's Catholic Primary School – Catering Assistant Vacancy:

St Peter's Catholic Primary School Billericay, part of The Christus Catholic Trust, are seeking to recruit a Catering Assistant to join our established catering team preparing approximately 250 meals a day.

Candidates must have experience of a similar environment as well as a passion for great food. For more information, please visit Essex Schools Jobs:

<http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=76759>

Closing date: 22/06/22 – midday

Sick Friends and Relatives - Please pray for Jayne & Danny Balaam, Beniamina Bilewycz, Ruby Borien, Arthur Brittain, Mary Caruana, Theresa Eldred, Patricia Gammell, Johnny Gee, Celine Guckian, Sharon Guckian, Connie Hounslow, Mary Hurley, Mary Jarvis, 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, John Ostrowski, Carmelo Piazza, Maureen Price, Conchita Prime, Joseph Rodgers, Carol Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry Smyth, Maria Weedon, Anne Humphrays, Elizabeth Arnold, Jane Williams, Mary Caruana, Gomez, Patricia McEvoy, Danny Curtis, Maureen Sullivan, Susan Freeman, Jane Davenport, Nathalie Ah-key, Amparo Thorogood, George O'Boyle, Pat McEvoy, Ann Parkinson, Valerie Robinson, Nelly Prada and all those suffering with the Coronavirus.

Anniversaries – We pray for Bishop Bernard Patrick Wall, Jan Hajduza, John Backhouse, Thomas Dawson, Fr Vincent Dutton, Lilian English, William (Bob) Bradford, Robert Greaney, Frederick Lucy, Monty White, Leslie Vongyer, Ronald Harrison, Fr Edward Thomas, Michael John Mulqueen, Henry Hayden, John Tilley, Florence McCarthy, Rose Richardson, Eileen Calvert, Rita Humphreys, Daisy Agnes Kinsey, Canon James Dacey, Michael Kozlakowski and Violet Makri. May they rejoice forever with all the Saints in God's Kingdom.