

# MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

All Masses are Livestreamed and Open to the Public

## Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2023 – Our Lady on Saturday

9.05am Morning Prayer  
9.20am Mass and Rosary Alice Curran RIP  
10.30 – 11.30am Confessions

6.00pm Vigil Mass Giovienne and Nietldes Mifsud RIP

## Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2023 – TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

9.00am Mass People of the Parish  
11.00am Mass Claire Clark In Thanksgiving  
5.00pm Holy Hour with Rosary and Benediction

## Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Feria

10am until 4pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7.00pm Novena to Anthony of Padua  
7.30pm Mass Christopher Cullinane RIP

## Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Feria

9.05am Morning Prayer  
9.20am Mass and Rosary Frank & Philomena Grayston Ints  
10am until 4pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

## Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Feria

9.05am Morning Prayer  
9.20am Mass and Rosary Dave Ints

## Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.05am Morning Prayer  
9.20am Mass and Rosary Johnny Palmer RIP  
10am until 5pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

## Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Our Lady on Saturday

9.05am Morning Prayer  
9.20am Mass and Rosary Amanda Pelham Ints  
10.30 – 11.30am Confessions

6.00pm Vigil Mass Mr & Mrs Hurley RIP

## Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

9.00am Mass People of the Parish  
11.00am Mass Charles Catania RIP



# OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



Parish Priest: Fr Mark Reilly

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## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2023

### Gospel: Matthew 16: 21-27

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life?

'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

### A fond farewell

Over the weekend, I will be celebrating my last Masses here as the Parish Priest of Our Lady of Good Counsel, and I hope to be able to say my good-byes to people then. I am still processing the fact that, next week, I will be in another parish, but I just wanted to say that it has been a great privilege for me to serve here in Wickford. I will certainly not forget my time here, especially during Covid. I will miss you all very much, and I hope and pray that the parish will go from strength to strength. I will be leaving on Tuesday morning and Fr Britto will arrive sometime during the afternoon. It is not easy to start at a new parish, but I am sure that you will all make Fr Britto feel very welcome. May God bless you and bless Fr Britto as your new Parish Priest.

Parish Office Opening Hours are Monday's, Wednesday's & Friday's 9am – 1pm  
Hall Bookings: email: [wickfordcatholicalls@gmail.com](mailto:wickfordcatholicalls@gmail.com) / Tel: 01268 733219

## **Angelus Message of Pope Francis on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August**

Taking his cue from the Gospel of Matthew in which Jesus asks the disciples: "Who do men say that the Son of Man is?" (Mt 16:13-20), Pope Francis said it is a question we too ask ourselves. Addressing the faithful gathered in St. Peter's Square for the Angelus prayer, the Pope noted that generally Jesus is seen as "a great teacher, a special person: good, righteous, consistent, courageous..." But, he continued, this is not enough for Jesus who is not just an agent of history, a distant prophet: He is here for us today, He is God who is close to us! The Holy Father went on to explain that Christ is not a memory of the past, but the God of the present.

### ***Christ is the God of the present.***

Jesus, he added, is alive and accompanies us. "He is at our side, He offers us His Word and His grace, which enlighten and refresh us on the journey." *"He, an expert and wise guide, is happy to accompany us on the most difficult paths and the most inaccessible slopes."*

### ***We are never alone***

Assuring believers that they are never alone on the path of life, he said Christ is with us and helps us on our way, as he did with Peter and the other disciples. It is Peter, in today's Gospel, he added, who understands this and by grace recognises in Jesus "the Christ, the Son of the living God", not a character from the past, but the Christ, that is, the Messiah, "the Son of the living God, made man and come to share the joys and the labours of our journey."

### ***Nothing is impossible with Jesus at our side***

Pope Francis said that if sometimes "the summit of Christian life seems too high and the path too steep," look to Jesus who walks beside us, welcoming our frailties, sharing our efforts and resting his firm and gentle arm on our weak shoulders. "With Him close at hand, let us also reach out to one another and renew our trust: with Jesus, what seems impossible on our own is no longer so!" he concluded, inviting Christians to renew their trust in Him, to cultivate His presence through the Word and the Sacraments, and allowing themselves to be guided by Him together with their brothers and sisters, in the community.

**March for life UK** happens in London on Saturday 2 September. Many are concerned about restrictions on freedom but it's often not until these restrictions affect us personally that we speak up. Abortion destroys the most fundamental freedom, the freedom to live, and leaves so many women and men deeply hurting. Join thousands of others at this family-friendly event to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

**Pope Francis General Audience 30<sup>th</sup> August 2023.** Dear brothers and sisters: In our continuing catechesis on apostolic zeal, we have been reflecting on the spread of the Gospel through the witness of men and women of every time and place. Today we consider Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the first native American saint of North America. The daughter of a Mohawk chief and an Algonquin mother, Kateri was scarred by smallpox at an early age; her sufferings drew her to a great love of the cross and a close identification with Christ in his redemptive love for humanity. Persecuted for her faith, she found refuge in a Jesuit mission. Her deep piety and prayer, marked by devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, the Rosary and acts of penance, was accompanied by charitable concern for the elderly and the sick, and for the instruction of children in the faith. A year before she died, Kateri sealed her complete dedication to the Lord by taking a solemn vow of perpetual virginity. Saint Kateri Tekakwitha's example shows us the power of the Gospel to bear rich fruit in a holiness expressed in quiet, everyday actions that nonetheless have the power to transform our world.

**Sycamore Group - strengthening our faith-** the next meeting will be on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September at 7:30pm in St Peter's hall. The format will be a short video by Bishop Robert Barron followed by a group discussion. These are informal sessions and all adults from the parish are welcome to join as many of the meetings as they would like.

**RCIA / Journey in Faith Programme:** We begin a new Journey of Faith programme with Fr Britto from October 2023. It is designed for Adults, falling into 3 categories — i) for those who are not Catholics but who are interested in becoming one or just want to find out a bit more, ii) for those who are Catholics but who have not yet been confirmed, and iii) for Catholics who would like to revisit their faith from the ground-up. Please let the Parish Office know if you are interested stating which category you fall into - just email us on [wickford@brcdt.org](mailto:wickford@brcdt.org)

### **First Holy Communion Programme 2023/24**

If your child or children will be in Year 3 or above from September this year, and you would like them to join the First Holy Communion programme here at Our Lady of Good Counsel starting in September, please send Fr Britto an email letting him know of your interest. Email: [wickford@brcdt.org](mailto:wickford@brcdt.org)

**BCYS YOUTH MASS** – *Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September, from 6pm at Brentwood Cathedral.* Pizza & refreshments in the Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall from 6pm, with a chance to catch up with those from pilgrimages this Summer or perhaps find out more if you are thinking about joining the BCYS Lourdes or World Youth Day Pilgrimages in the future. Youth Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! No need to book!

**Diocesan Mass to celebrate Missio at Our Lady of Light and Saint Osyth Catholic Church, Clacton on Sea CO15 6AG.** Fr Patrick Daly, Diocesan Director of Missio invites Red Box Holders and all supporters of Missio to a Diocesan Mass to celebrate Mission on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 11 am – 3pm. The mass will be followed by Mission Animation. The venue is Our Lady of Light and Saint Osyth Catholic Church, Church Road, Clacton on Sea. Tea, coffee and cakes will be provided – please bring a packed lunch. For planning and catering please RSVP by email to [redbox@missio.org.uk](mailto:redbox@missio.org.uk) or tel. 07593 544622

### **Catechist Training and Resources Day, Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

The BCYS will host our Annual Catechist Training and Resources Day once again this November at Sacred Heart of Mary School in Upminster! With a number of incredible workshops, input, networking and welcoming back the fantastic David Wells as keynote speaker, this is a day not to miss if you are a Confirmation Catechist, First Holy Communion Catechist, Children's Liturgy or Youth leader in the Diocese of Brentwood! Visit [www.bcys.net/events/catechistday23/](http://www.bcys.net/events/catechistday23/) for details on how to book your place now!

**THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH:** The next Gidea Park Faith Talk is due to take place at 7 pm on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September in the hall at Christ the Eternal High Priest Catholic Church, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Parish priest and liturgical scholar, Fr David Manson, will be speaking about 'the Dedication of a Church', explaining how this rare ceremony takes place, and pointing to its deeper significance. All are welcome. Tea and coffee will be available from 6.30 pm. The event can also be viewed on line simply by going to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**Year 13 Retreat at Walsingham House: Made for a purpose.** Will you be in Yr13 in September 2023? Are you currently making decisions about your next steps? Would you like some time to step back, reflect, pray and think about the different pathways ahead of you? Then if so, the Yr13 retreat at Walsingham House is just the opportunity to do that. There will be two retreats on offer, either 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> Sept or 22<sup>nd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> Sept. The cost is £35 and there is more information on the website [www.bcys.net/events/](http://www.bcys.net/events/) or email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org)

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate,** London is hosting a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Co Mayo from November 9 to 14 to Pray for the Holy Souls. It will be led by the Marian Fathers. Package includes: Return flights by Aer Lingus from Heathrow Airport, half board, 5 nights, accommodation in en suite twin rooms, hand-luggage (10 kgs), all transfers and Airport Development fee. The Retreat will include daily Mass and Hour of Mercy and retreats at Glendalough and Kylemore Abbey. Cost £800. All Welcome. Please call millie on [07957594646](tel:07957594646) for more information

**Stallholders needed for Christmas Craft & Gift Fair:** The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society are seeking stallholders for their Christmas Craft and Gift Fair being held at The Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh SS6 7ED on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November from 10.30-4pm. Pitches are £30 and all profits made on the day are the stallholders' own. For further information please contact Damian: [dillon@bccs.org.uk](mailto:dillon@bccs.org.uk) / 07912 308000

**The Jumbulance Trust** is delighted to be able to offer a new pilgrimage date for Lourdes 2023 for those who would love the opportunity to travel with us. We can take children, young people and adults of all ages, who may need assistance of any kind (subject to assessment for a suitable place). If you have never seen a Jumbulance it is a custom-built coach, which has wheelchair access, trolley beds for the overnight stretch for those who need it, an accessible toilet, and a kitchen. We are also looking for helpers, with or without experience, but willing to be trained and able to help with assisting others. Some funding is available to help if the cost is prohibitive and fund-raising ideas may also help you to meet such costs. The dates are 29 September - 6 October 2023 and the cost is £1,100, inclusive of travel and half-board accommodation. Day trips out may include Gavarnie and The Glacial Lake of Lourdes and there will be ample opportunity to attend Masses in Lourdes. Please contact Caroline Southgate for more information on 07775773805 or [info@jumbulance.org.uk](mailto:info@jumbulance.org.uk)

**BCYS Youth Gather, 21<sup>st</sup>/ 22<sup>nd</sup> October, Essex Outdoors on Mersea Island** Youth Gather is back for 2023 and the BCYS are absolutely thrilled to be joined by the fantastic Adenike, semi-finalise on the voice, who many of you will have seen perform and heard from at Flame back in March. Taking place at Essex Outdoors on Mersea Island, there is cabin accommodation and a brilliant range of outward bound activities to keep you challenged and entertained, plus performances, input and workshops from Adenike and the SVP! All meals are included, plus two Mersea activities, 2 BCYS workshops, accommodation and travel to and from Mersea Island – all of this for just £70! The event is open to those in school year 9 and above, including opportunities for young leaders (age 18 and above) in the Brentwood Diocese. Apply now at [www.bcys.net/events/yg23/](http://www.bcys.net/events/yg23/)

### **Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages:**

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work. For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Virtual weekend on 6 - 9 July 2023 or a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 13-15 October 2023, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### **Newham Partnership Youth Co-Ordinator**

The successful applicant will build and develop a Partnership Youth Leadership Team. Full Job description is attached. Hours: 35 hours per week (to include evening and weekend work). Salary: £25,000 p/a . Contract: A fixed 2 year contract. Start Date: Early October 2023. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to [frdanielkelly@brcdt.org](mailto:frdanielkelly@brcdt.org) Closing date for applications is 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Interviews – Week commencing 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023

### **Property Administrator – Cathedral House**

The successful applicant will provide comprehensive, effective, and efficient administration support. Full Job description is attached.

Hours: 35 hours per week- Office Based.

Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to [recruitment@brcdt.org](mailto:recruitment@brcdt.org)

Closing date for applications is 15th September 2023.

### **Vacancies**

There are a range of vacancies for staff in our parish schools across the diocese. Please find further information by following this link <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

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**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, Gabrielle & Ralphie Langridge, Margaret Livesey, John Maguire, Bridget Mahoney, Carmella Micella, Elizabeth Mooney, Cecile Narbeth, Olivia Nazareth, Diane Neale, Margaret O'Doherty, Joy Orrock, Carmelo Piazza, Maureen Price, Conchita Prime, Joseph Rodgers, Carol Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry Smyth, Maria Weedon, Elizabeth Arnold, Jane Williams, 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, Michael Fitzgerald, May and Chris Carey, Doreen Green, Conrad Gomes, Peter Turner, Sr. Sior Cosgrave Una, Clairin Molloy, Celine Wells, Patricia Graves and Keith Bottjer.

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**Anniversaries** – We pray for Canon Cyril Sheperd, Mary Jennings, Gillian Harrison, Bernard O'Shea, Anne O'Malley, Dennis Thorogood, Sipora Arnold, Johanna Howard-Simpson, Mary Elizabeth McCourt, Barbara Kester, Roy Dixon, Frances Whiddett, John Buchanan, Nellie Saunders, Grace Teresa Elizabeth Wing, James McTaggart, Mary Newing, Dorothy Kentish, Eric Merrin, Denise O'Sullivan, Mgr Michael Wilson, Margaret Bone, Elizabeth Hurley, Patrick Choo I, Paul Bielicz, Iris Margaret Ringshall, Pat Parkes, Hazell Austin and John Bernard Glynn. May they rejoice forever with all the Saints in God's Kingdom.