



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS



Saturday 06TH April 2024– SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER (Easter Saturday)

9.00am Morning Prayer
 9.20am Mass and Rosary
 10.00 – 11.00am Confessions
 6.00pm **Vigil Mass** Christina Elliot RIP

Sunday 07TH April 2024 – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

9.00am **Mass**
 11.00am **Mass** Barbara Hollick RIP
 5.00pm **Holy Hour**

Tuesday 09TH April 2024 – Tuesday after the Second Sunday of Easter

7.00pm Novena to Anthony of Padua
 7.30pm **Mass** Michael Cooney RIP

Wednesday 10TH April 2024 – Wednesday after the Second Sunday of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer
 9.20am Mass and Rosary John & Mary Bidnamrodi RIP
 10am until 5pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday 11TH April 2024 – St Stanislaus, Bp, M

9.00am Morning Prayer
 9.20am Mass and Rosary Herman & Henry Hernandez RIP
 10am until 4pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 12TH April 2024 – Friday after the Second Sunday of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer
 9.20am Mass and Rosary Michael & Kathleen Cooney (Wedding Anniversary)
 10am until 5pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday 13TH April 2024– Saturday after the Second Sunday of Easter

9.00am Morning Prayer
 9.20am Mass and Rosary Billy Sweeney RIP
 10.00 – 11.00am Confessions
 6.00pm **Vigil Mass**

Sunday 14TH April 2024 – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

9.00am **Mass** Meera & Joseph Mervyn RIP
 11.00am **Mass** Charles & Mary Hurley RIP
 5.00pm **Holy Hour**



OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL



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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

07TH APRIL 2024

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY

On this Second Sunday of Easter, the Liturgy of the Word begins with a most beautiful and idealistic text from Acts. Of special significance is the description that the Jerusalem community “was of the heart and mind,” with “everything in common.” How many of us struggle daily to live for the common good!

The reading from the First Letter of John, like our responsorial psalm, invites us to reflect on the incomprehensible love of God. God’s commandments are not intended to be a burden for us; rather, they have been given to us as guides for living faith-filled lives.

While locked behind closed doors, Jesus appears to the disciples and offers them peace. Upon recognizing Jesus. The disciples rejoice. Jesus extends peace to them a second time, then bestows the Holy Spirit on them. In yet another encounter behind locked doors, Jesus appears again. This time, after extending peace to the disciples, Jesus invites Thomas to touch him and to believe in him. This scene concludes with reference to other signs that Jesus performed so that we might have life in Jesus’ name.

God’s mercy endures forever. Peace and forgiveness God graciously and freely gives us through the death and resurrection of Christ. With Thomas, we exclaim this day, “My Lord and my God!” We recognize Christ’s presence among us, but also the times and places in which we have not held God’s mercy out to those in need.



PARISH NEWS

Next 100 Club Draw

Our next 100 Club draw will take place this **Sunday on the 07th April** after the 9am Mass.

Please see attached a note from Gerry O'Doherty who will be taking over the 100 Club Administration from Peter and Fionnghuala Griggs.

Readers Group Meeting

Fr Britto would like to invite all readers - regular Sunday readers and occasional readers to a meeting of a new Readers Group on **Wednesday 17th April at 7pm** in St. Peter's Hall (back hall).

Confirmation Programme 2023/24

The next Confirmation class will be on **Thursday 18th April 2024** in the back hall (7:30pm-9:00pm). Please attend without fail if you wish to be confirmed this year.

The First Holy Communion Session

The next Session will be on **Saturday 20th April 2024** followed by the obligatory Mass Attendance on the **21st**.

To all participants, please regularly bring the booklets that were issued to you for signing by the Parish Priest.

Parish Bake Off

An exciting event, our very own Parish Bake Off will take place on **Saturday 20th April** starting at 1pm – there will be two categories, Under 14 and Adults (over 14).

All are welcome to participate!

Teas and Coffees

We will have two Teas & Coffees which will be held on **Sunday 28th April** after the 9AM Mass & the next one after the 11AM Mass; you are all welcomed to join.

Gift Aid

We are yet to receive our new batch of Gift Aid Envelopes; there will be blank envelopes temporarily made available for you to use. Should you wish to make a donation, kindly write your details & Gift Aid Number on the Envelope.

Thank you.

Sick Friends and Relatives - Please pray for Jonathan Fabri, Jayne & Danny Balaam, Beniamina Bilewycz, 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, Carol Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry Smyth, Maria Weedon, Elizabeth Arnold, Jane Williams, Gomez, Patricia McEvoy, 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, Robert Turner, Patricia Price, George Ross, Paul Grayston, Frank Daniels, Geoff Ebdon.

Anniversaries –We pray for Deacon Geoffrey Piper, Patrick James, Matthew Dunn, Thomas Moriarty, Fr. Thomas Adkins, William Holden Pound, Richard John Wetton, Magdalene Mary Molloy, Fred Simpson, Marjorie Lunnis, Thomas Sandford, Ethel Dragoni, Frank Matthews, Kathleen Braham, Margaret Morris, Natalia Wszola, John Edward Cummins, Fr. Patrick O'Donoghue, Helen Smith, Alice Lavin, Jessie Chant, Stanley Newland, John Thomas, William Guckian, Ann Grant, Dominic Cummins, Vincent Gillet, Lucy Woods.



DIOCESAN NEWS

1. Events:

Knights of St. Columba Youth Competitions - Easter Grand Draw

Please see the notices in the porch for the 3 current Youth Competitions. The categories are Painting, Photo, and Essay, for different ages and with cash prizes. Any problems please contact Brother Martin Doyle.

2024 Caritas Networking Day

Interested in the Catholic response to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost of Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change?

You are invited to the 2024 Caritas Brentwood Networking Day, Saturday **27th April, 10am – 2.30pm**, at the St Edward the Confessor Church Hall, Romford (10-minute walk from Romford Station on the Elizabeth line, Bus routes from London are regular, parking is available but limited and a bike rack is also on site). This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (for free!) at www.caritasbrentwood.org/network

Catholic Parish Summit:

The Catholic Parish Summit is taking place in Harrogate from the 12th to the **14th of June** with over 1,000 parish leaders from across the country. Our diocese has booked some places for the Summit which are available to anyone who is interested in attending. These places are free but they are limited and you will need to make arrangements for accommodation while you are in Harrogate. For more information about the Summit please visit their website: <https://catholicparishsummit.com/>

If you would like to find out more please email Father Dan Mason, the Episcopal Vicar for Parish Renewal at billericay@brcdt.org

BCCS 40th Anniversary Newsletter and invitation to Anniversary

You are warmly invited to attend our Anniversary Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan, on Friday 14th June at the Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, Billericay at 6pm: There will be light refreshments after Mass in the pastoral centre and so it would be very helpful if you could RSVP to this email address to let us know if you plan to attend.

Lourdes Pilgrimage

Join Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (**Friday 19 – Friday 26 July**). To book, please go online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com)) If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please e-mail Kathryn Young: kathrynyoung@mail.com

The Campion School

Would like to warmly invite parents/carers and year 5 boys to our Open Evening on **Wednesday, 26th June** from 4.30pm to 7pm.

The Headteacher's talk will be at 5pm and repeated at 6.30pm. Please visit our school website for more details www.thecampionschool.org.uk

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE – Last week of July 2024 (exact dates TBC)

Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July.

Serve the main Diocesan pilgrimage, assist the elderly and infirm, with times of retreat, reconciliation, visit the baths, take part in the beautiful Processions, as well as an afternoon in the mountains, party and social nights - all with other young Catholics from around our Diocese.

The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10 – 13, with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend). All details and applications can be found on the website www.bcys.net/events/sl24

40yrs of Walsingham House Teams

2024 marks 40 years of retreat teams at Walsingham House. There will be a celebration Mass with Bishop Alan on **Saturday 31st August 2024** at Walsingham House at Abbots wick. Please save the date as it would be wonderful to see Walsingham House and BCYS alumni and friends gather to mark this milestone. More information to follow in the new year.

A Day with Mary pilgrimage to Fatima & Italy

A Day with Mary 2024 Pilgrimages to Fatima (7-14 June) and Italy (4-12 September).

For more information, email: adwmary.uk@gmail.com, web: www.adaywithmary.org or phone +(0)20 8641 6418.

Booking forms are available at any DWN venue.

FLAME 2025 “Unstoppable” – Fan the Flame of Hope

Although it may feel like months away, we are excited to be preparing for Flame in March 2025, following on from the incredible experience that 1000 young people from the Brentwood Diocese had at the event earlier this year.

Once again, the BCYS will purchase a block of early bird tickets on behalf of the Diocese, to enable us to allocate seats together, in a very desirable area as close to the front as possible.

These early bird tickets are £29 each, a saving of £5 per ticket on the full price of £34, and will be purchased in January, which is why we are asking for your ticket requests now!

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood

is inviting you to take part in several activities during Lent. We have a photo challenge for all ages, Stations of the Cross for teenagers, a Giving Calendar to help collections for local foodbanks, suggestions on how to raise awareness for the homeless within Essex and East London and some great resources from charities such as SVP and CAFOD. All information and resources can be found at

www.caritasbrentwood.org/lent or by emailing sianthomas@brcdt.org.

2. Programme:

Retrouvaille – Do you need help in your marriage?

Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment, and growth in their marriages. If you want to uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that brought you together and work through difficult times in your marriage contact Retrouvaille confidential for more information about our 2024 programmes. There is no group therapy or group work. Our next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City on **14-16 June 2024**. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com - or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR LENT

Commentary on every Scripture reading from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday by Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, is available free of charge on www.whatgoodnews.org Click on ‘Scripture Readings’ and ‘Lent

Readings’. The commentaries are also available in book form from Darton, Longman and Todd www.dartonlongmantodd.co.uk

Apprenticeships at Walsingham House

Walsingham House are offering a two-year apprenticeship course in Youth Ministry and Chaplaincy (Yr13 school leavers). Participants will live and work at Walsingham House, running retreats for young people across the diocese whilst studying with St Mary’s University, Twickenham. For more information please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or visit the website www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/

Bishop’s Certificate in Catechesis and Youth Ministry

is an online course is designed to be an entry level qualification to help in the ongoing formation of adults involved in sacramental preparation (First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation) or youth ministry in the Diocese of Brentwood. It includes both the development of practical skills & the deepening of theological knowledge. For more information or to register your interest please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or see the website <https://bcys.net/bishops-cert/>

BCCS FREE SELF-HARM WORKSHOP FOR FAMILIES

Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society (BCCS) is aiming to deliver free Self-Harm support groups to both parents/carers and their teenagers should they wish to attend. The workshops will be held on a Wednesday evening for four consecutive weeks at their premises at 133 High Street, Billericay between 6.30 and 8pm. The parents’ group will run alongside a separate group for the young people and will be an opportunity to think about how self-harm is affecting you, your child, and your family. The young people will attend a separate group session with a BCCS Child and Adolescent Therapist. Parents will come together with their teenager at the end where they will be supported to communicate, reflect, and connect. Parents are welcome to attend without their child or young person if that is a more comfortable option. To book your space, please contact Catherine Munns asap; places are likely to fill quickly: cmunns@bccs.org.uk (A Flyer of the event is displayed on the Church Notice board).

BISHOP ALAN LISTENS’ RESEARCH REPORT

Understanding why Catholics in the Diocese of Brentwood no longer come to Church.

Last summer Bishop Alan invited Catholics who no longer regularly come to Church to get in touch so that he could seriously listen to their stories and experiences and begin to understand why so many Catholics no longer feel as though they belong in the Church.

This report presents a moving and challenging insight into how our Church and the covid-19 pandemic have contributed to a movement away from a regular practice of faith for many Catholics and offers our Church a rich repository of wisdom that might enhance and inform our ongoing journey of renewal in the diocese.

Thank you to all those who so generously and thoughtfully participated in this research. Please share this link/report with those whom you know have participated in this research. Go to the home page of <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/> to see the responses of hundreds of Catholics across our diocese and hear what Bishop Alan heard.

3. Appeals:

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood

In the Gospel narratives, we hear of the family displaced from their home, finding solace in a humble stable, cradling their newborn amidst the simplicity of their surroundings. This Holy Family, vulnerable yet resilient, resonates profoundly, urging us to reach out to those facing hardships during this Advent season. It prompts us to remember that amidst the festivities, there are individuals and families across Essex and East London experiencing great difficulties, requiring our support, kindness, and care. Numerous charitable organisations persist in their efforts to aid the most vulnerable in our communities, and they rely on our collective support. Please visit the Caritas website to access links to the many charities in need of generosity and volunteers.

[Caritas Diocese of Brentwood \(caritasbrentwood.org\)](https://www.caritasbrentwood.org)

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water, and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

4. Job adverts:

The Canonesses of the Holy Sepulchre

are recruiting a couple/two adults to support the nine elderly sisters who live in the main house. The role is residential in a two-bedroom bungalow, adjacent to the main home in Colchester. Precise role, and salary are dependent on the skills of the successful applicants.

For further information please contact: crssuk@canonesses.co.uk

Cleaner - Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School

16 hours per week cleaning vacancy. Please see the website for details <https://www.olorcps.net/school-info/vacancies>. All positions are subject to statutory safeguarding checks.

HCPT Easter Lourdes Volunteers Wanted

Are you, or do you know anyone who is 18 - 30 years old and would like the opportunity to travel with The Brentwood Group on Pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter? HCPT Group 709 are an all-adult service group who are looking for enthusiastic, hard-working individuals to join us between **1st-6th April 2024** in Lourdes to help facilitate an unforgettable week for disabled and disadvantaged children from all over the world. If you would like more information or think this is something you may want to get involved in, please contact us at group709@hcpt.org.uk or via Instagram by searching HCPT Group 709. Sign up deadline for new group members is February 7th, 2024.

VOLUNTARY TREASURER NEEDED

Do you have financial experience and a couple of hours per week to spare?

If so, the National Justice and Peace Network would like to hear from you. Due to the sad passing of their Treasurer, they are now in urgent need of a new one. If you are looking for some voluntary work, and share their passion for social action, please email: - admin@justice-and-peace.org.uk

Supply Teachers - Our Lady of Ransom Catholic Primary School

We are also looking to build a team of Supply Teachers

Please Contact Mr Parascandolo via info@olorcps.net for further details.

Vacancies for Foundation Governors

have arisen at several Catholic schools across the Diocese and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry.

The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by the Bishop to Diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community.

Our schools would benefit from people with a range of skills and experiences including Finance, Education, Special Needs, Legal and Administration.

Anyone interested in the role and mission of Foundation Governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service.

If you are interested in becoming Foundation Governor please email your expression of interest to governanceappointments@brcdt.org or call: 01277 265216



This Week's Article:



Pope Francis: A priest's primary obligation is to keep love alive

Speaking with members of the Pontifical Latin-American, Brazilian, and Mexican Colleges, Pope Francis reflects on love, calling it “a central theme in the life of priests.”

By Christopher Wells

“Love, the first love, is what has called us all here, and keeping it alive is our principal obligation,” Pope Francis said Thursday to Latin American formators and seminarians.

In prepared remarks consigned to members of the Latin-American, Brazilian, and Mexican Pontifical Colleges, Pope Francis said, “Every vocation is born of a love of predilection,” while reminding priests that God “has given us a special task which draws us closer to Him: to give ourselves for others.”

Acting in persona Christi

To act, as priests do, *in persona Christi*, “in the person of Christ,” is to be “a true icon of Jesus,” he continued, through prayer, the generous offering of one’s very self, and humility.

Pope Francis explained that prayer means presenting “each concrete situation to the presence of God.” Self-giving, Eucharistic, offering of one’s whole being, the Pope said, involves not just a “theoretical readiness for martyrdom, but a radical acceptance that we are here to do His will and renounce our own.”

Finally, humility means “knowing that I myself am on the journey, in need of prayer, even more than those I have been called to serve.”

The Holy Father invited priests and seminarians not “to underestimate the power of the intercession of those whom God has placed in your path.” In a word, he said, “rely on the prayers of all the members of the faithful people of God; and do not forget to pray for your pastors and for me.”

Pope Francis concluded by invoking upon them Jesus’ blessing and the watchful care of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Empress of the Americas.

