

Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel

Website: www.wickfordcatholic.com

Tel: 01268 733219 Email: wickford@brcdt.org



Parish Priest

Fr Damien J. Wade

PARISH OFFICE

Opening Hours

Open Tues-Fri

9:30-13:30pm

Address

61 London Road

Wickford

Essex

SS12 0AW

Parish Administrator

Alexandra Nagle

Deadline for inclusion of items in the Newsletter: Thursday 9am to the Parish Office

If you wish to make an offering online the QR code below can be used by scanning it on your phone.

Please note Gift Aid cannot be used when donating through the QR code.



Brentwood R.C. Diocesan Trust Reg.
Charity No : 234092

First Sunday of Lent 2026

Saturday 21st Feb 2026	
6pm	Vigil Mass: Parish – Sheila Perrett
Sunday 22nd Feb 2026 First Sunday of Lent	
9am	Mass: Jo and Fredrick Arthur Noys RIP
11am	Mass: Rachel Lunn RIP, Jeffrey Bench RIP
5pm	Holy Hour
Monday 23rd Feb 2026 Lent	
Private Prayer in the Home	
Tuesday 24th Feb 2026 Lent	
7pm	Novena to St Anthony
7.30pm	Mass: Maureen O Grady RIP
Wednesday 25th Feb 2026 Lent	
9am	Mass: Baby Neil Sean Arnold RIP
10am – 5pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Thursday 26th Feb 2026 Lent	
9am	Mass: Marty Stokes RIP (Birthday)
9.30am	Rosary
10am – 4pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
Friday 27th Feb 2026 Lent	
1pm – 5pm	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
7pm	Stations of the Cross
7.30pm	Mass: Kathleen Sheerin RIP
Saturday 28th Feb 2026 Lent	
9am	Mass: Antionette Ambrose Ints
9.30am	Rosary
6pm	Vigil Mass: Marian Swirkowski RIP 3 rd Annv
Sunday 29th Feb 2026 2nd Sunday of Lent	
9am	Mass: Parish – Roger Buxton Smith RIP
11am	Mass: Artemio Hernandez RIP
5pm – 6pm	Holy Hour

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturdays: 9:30am-10:30am or call the Parish Office

Baptism, Marriage and becoming a Catholic enquiries:

Please email or telephone the Parish Office.

For Hospital or Sick Visits:

Please contact the Parish Office if you or a family member are sick or housebound or would like to be added to the sick list for prayer

Live-streamed Masses:

<https://wickfordcatholic.com/live-streaming/>

For Hall Booking Enquiries:

Phone 01268 733219 or email: wickfordcatholicalls@gmail.com

The Parish Safeguarding enquiries:

Email Safeguarding-wickford@brcdt.org **Amanda Pelham** or speak to the Parish Priest

Setting up a standing order for weekly offerings:

Account Name: Catholic Church Our Lady of Good Counsel

Account Number: 71026216 **Sort Code:** 40-13-22

Reference: (Your surname followed by your weekly offering number)

Fr Damien writes: As we begin Lent, the Gospel shows us Jesus in the desert, facing temptation with trust in His Father. Before beginning His public ministry, He spends forty days in prayer and fasting. Lent invites us to enter that same desert — a quiet space where we rely more fully on God. Through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we open our hearts to renewal. Fasting reminds us that only God truly satisfies. Prayer deepens our relationship with Him. Almsgiving turns our hearts toward others in love. This first week is an invitation to begin simply and faithfully. Take one small step: attend an extra Mass, spend time in quiet prayer, or seek the grace of Reconciliation. The Lord walks with us. “Return to me with all your heart.” (Joel 2:12) May this Lent be a season of grace and deeper trust in Christ.

Second Collections: There will be an ongoing second collection taken up after masses in the parish to raise some money for key building works that will need to be carried out across the parish in the coming year. Please give as generously as you can. If you would like to mark a donation online (**Account Number:** 71026216 **Sort Code:** 40-13-22 **Ref:** Building Fund)

Parish Meeting for all parishioners: will take place on Saturday 28th Feb at 10am (After the morning mass in the back hall) – please put this date in your diary now. This meeting will allow us to discuss the parish going forward.

Lourdes with the Diocese: Join Bishop Alan and pilgrims from across our diocese in Lourdes this summer: Friday 17th - Friday 24th July 2026. Booking details shortly.

CuppaCakeChat: will take place in the back hall at 10am on Tuesday 24th Feb. All welcome to come and see us.

Lent: Each Friday evening in Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place at 7pm followed by the evening

mass. If you haven't attended before, maybe this could form part of your Lenten journey.

Fasting Lunch: We will hold a Fasting Soup Lunch on Friday 20th March at 12.30pm, if you would like to attend please sign up in the porch so that we can arrange numbers. Mass will take place at 12noon before this.

Parish Office: We have appointed a new parish administrator Alex this week and will welcome her this week. The Parish office will reopen on Wednesday 25th Feb 2026. The new hours will be Tue – Friday from 9.30-1.30pm.

Lent Lectures at Brentwood Cathedral: commencing Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 7.30pm. The theme this year is: “What does it truly mean to be Catholic?” All are welcome to attend!

Talk 1. Abbot Hugh Allan, O Praem. “I Believe...” Living and Proclaiming the Catholic Faith. Talk 2. Wednesday 4th March. Rev Msgr Kevin W Hale, VG. Being Catholic and the call to holiness as seen in the lives of some recently canonized saints. Talk 3. Wednesday 11th March. Mr Mauro Iannicelli. Prayer as the Foundation of our Catholic Life. 7.30pm Talk 4. Wednesday 18th March. Rev Msgr John Armitage. The uniqueness of Catholicism for British Society. 7.30pm

In quiet ash and tender light,
We turn our hearts from noise and pride.
Small sacrifices mark the days,
Like stones set gently in our way.

We walk the desert, stripped and bare,
With whispered hope in fasting prayer.
From dust we rise, made new within—
A softer heart, a turning from sin.

RCIA: Please keep in your prayers our RCIA parishioners who are preparing for welcome here at Easter.

IN YOUR CHARITY, PLEASE PRAY FOR ANNIVERSARIES AT THIS TIME AND FOR ALL WHO MOURN.

Anna Winterhalter, Adelaide Marsello, Charles Amey, George Hatch, Evelyn Moore, Sister Therese O Grady, Mary Short, James McCormack, Deacon Dwight Hayter, James Daly, Canon Aloysius Roche, Keith Unwin, Patricia Daly, Patricia Doyle, Fr Gerard Murphy, Mgr Jules van Meenan, John Quinlan, Fr Clifford Beecroft, Gordon Brooke, Teresa Rumsey, Monica Eley, Fr David Chapman, Bridget Daly, Joseph Hatch, Fr John Wall, Johanna McCarty, Harry Bathte, Tony Freshwater, Annie Fox, Oliver Pratt, Fr Lawrence Bright, Mary White, Violet Ellis.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND OF OUR PARISH (AND ALL WHO ARE SICK).

Jayne & Danny Balaam, Beniamina Bilewycz, Arthur Brittain, Mary Caruana, Theresa Eldred, Patricia Gammell, Johnny Gee, Sharon Guckian, Gabrielle & Ralphie Langridge, Margaret Livesey, John Maguire, Bridget Mahoney, Carmella Micella, Elizabeth Mooney, Cecile Narbeth, Margaret O'Doherty, Joy Orrock, Carmelo Piazza, Maureen Price, Conchita Prime, Carol Rushbrook, John Sheridan, Gerry and Pat Smyth, Maria Weedon, Elizabeth Arnold, Jane Williams, Paddy Gomez, Patricia McEvoy, Maureen Sullivan, Susan Freeman, Jane Davenport, Nathalie Ah-kye, Amparo Thorogood George O'Boyle, Pat McEvoy, Ann Parkinson, Nelly Prada, Michael Fitzgerald, May and Chris Carey, Doreen Green, Conrad Gomes, Peter Turner, Sr Sior Cosgrave Una, Clairin Molloy, Patricia Graves, Keith Bottjer, Robert Turner, Patricia Price, George Ross, Geoff Ebdon, Joan Fitzgerald, Sandra Fitzgerald, Clifford Foxwell, Pat Kent, Antoniette Ambrose, Esther Leighton.