



**Sacred Heart**  
Southend-on-Sea  
**St John Fisher**  
Prittlewell

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## PARISH NEWSLETTER

**17<sup>th</sup> September 2017 – Twenty Fourth Sunday of the Year (A)**

### Dear Friends

Today's Gospel raises the question of forgiveness between brothers and sisters. Jesus makes clear that if we want God to forgive us, we must forgive others. We all know how hard it can be to forgive. At the same time we also know how lovely it is to be forgiven. Anyone who is forgiven has an obligation to forgive. If we cannot bring ourselves to do this it is an indication that we haven't experienced God's forgiveness. The position of the servant in Jesus' story was hopeless. He owed the king so much money that even if he had worked for the rest of his life he would not have been able to repay him. This is our situation before God, we can't win God's forgiveness, all we need to do is forgive others and accept God's forgiveness in return.

**Fr Graham**

### This is Home Mission Sunday

There will be a Second Collection this weekend Sunday to fund the Home Mission Office, the Catholic Faith Centre and the work of Evangelisation in England and Wales.

Collections of Food and Toiletries		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	30 <sup>th</sup> September and 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Coffee, teabags, sugar and toiletries.
Foodbank	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> September 23 <sup>rd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> September	Long life milk, tinned potatoes, packet mash, tinned vegetables, long life fruit juice, squash, packet noodles, tinned meat meals (pies, curry, chilli etc.), tinned meat (ham, corned beef, Spam etc.), packet rice and tinned custard.

### Baptism Preparation

The next Course for parents and expectant parents who wish to have a child baptised at Sacred Heart or St John Fisher will be on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm in Sacred Heart Hall. Please pick up a form from the church porch to register for the course and request the Baptism. For a child to be baptised, at least one of the parents must be a baptised catholic and a copy of the parent's baptism certificate must be attached to the application for the child's baptism. Parents are expected to attend a Preparation Course prior to the baptism of each of their children.

### Masses and Services this Week

There are some changes to Masses and Services this week. Please see the table at the end of the newsletter for details.

### Applications for Catholic School Places

If you will be applying for a place in a catholic school from September 2018 you will need a Certificate of Catholic Practice. The Certificates are only issued to families known to your Parish Priest, who are practising Catholics and the child has been baptised. For the purposes of the Certificate of Catholic Practice, a person is deemed to be a practising Catholic if they observe the Church's precept of attending Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation (see Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 2041 - 2042).

Appointments for parents seeking a Certificate of Catholic Practice from Fr Graham (Sacred Heart and St John Fisher) will be held as follows:

For **Secondary School** applications – during week commencing 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

For **Primary School and Nursery applications** – during week commencing 16<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

Please sign up on the sheets at the back of Sacred Heart Church. St John Fisher parishioners should ring the Sacred Heart Presbytery on 01702 465720 to arrange an appointment.

**Parents will need to bring the child's original baptism certificate to the appointment.** If you do not have it, please contact the parish of baptism and request a duplicate – it is best to do this sooner rather than later!

In the meantime, if you will be asking for a Certificate of Catholic Practice, please introduce yourself to Fr Graham after Mass.

## **Change of Time for the Thursday Evening Mass at Sacred Heart**

With effect from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October, the Thursday evening Mass at Sacred Heart will start at 6.30pm (and not the current 7.00pm).

### **Alpha Course**

This is for people who wish to know more about the Christian Faith and Catholics who want to know more.

Alpha Course sessions will be at 7.30pm (straight after Mass) in Sacred Heart Hall on the following dates:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November

(No session on 26<sup>th</sup> October.)

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November

Sessions will continue in the New Year following the RCIA Programme for people who wish to be received into the Catholic Church at Easter 2018.

### **Advertising the Alpha Course**

Please help advertise the Alpha Course by taking some leaflets away to give to friends, family and neighbours.

### **Confirmation 2018**

For young people in school year 10 or above. Application forms are now available in the porches. The initial meeting for parents and young people will be on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

### **First Holy Communion 2018**

This is for children in school year 3 and above. Application forms are available in the porches. Before handing in the application form, you will need to attach the child's baptism certificate. If you do not have it, please obtain a duplicate from the parish of baptism. The closing date for applications is Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November. The initial parent's meeting is on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

### **Parish Newsletter**

If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please send an e-mail to [parish@catholicsouthend.org.uk](mailto:parish@catholicsouthend.org.uk) quoting "Request to receive newsletter via e-mail" in the subject box.

### **Appeal for Volunteers to help with the Sacred Heart Taxi Minibus**

I am planning on re-starting the mini bus pick-ups for the 11.00am mass at Sacred Heart, so we won't need the taxi firm that often. To do this I am in need of helpers. If you can spare 1 Sunday a month to assist with the clamping down of the wheelchairs, as this is something I have been told I should not do, Please contact me or leave your name and number with Father Graham. Thank You in advance. *Peter Wake*

### **Milly's Book by her friends**

Copies of this book are still available at £5.00 each. All money raised goes to the Lourdes fund for Sacred Heart and St John Fisher.

### **Walsingham House at Abbotswick Funding Appeal: Target £430,000**

Each year, over 5,000 young people from our schools and parishes enjoy a retreat with the Walsingham House Team. In January 2018 this work is moving to Abbotswick, a beautiful house near Brentwood, set in 14 acres of grounds. In school holidays, Abbotswick will also continue to be used by parish groups seeking a time of retreat, resting with the Lord. However, Abbotswick is in need of a significant refurbishment, and we seek your help. An appeal will be made on 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> September. Please support it as generously as you can; in the words of Bishop Alan "This project builds a prayerful and inspiring future for the young people of the Diocese." Members of the Gift Aid scheme should use one of the spare envelopes from their box. Thank you.

### **Dinner & Dance In Aid of Nazareth House**

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at Nazareth House Main Hall. Doors open 6.30pm for 7.00pm start. Fish 'N' Chips, live music and dancing. All profits go to the Sisters of Nazareth to aid them in the wonderful work they do with the elderly in many cases our loved ones. The evening will conclude at 9.30pm so as not to disturb the residents. Ticket price £10 from Sandy or Liam, 07952 954833 or email: [liam.rand@btopenworld.com](mailto:liam.rand@btopenworld.com) - Please inform us when booking if you have specific dietary requirements.

### **Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor RIP**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor who died recently. His funeral was held on Wednesday. Please take a prayer card from the porch.

## Calling Married Couples!

Could you give 2 hours once to change the lives of 20 students? The Explore project brings together married couples with young people to have an open conversation about the realities of both marriage and family life. This exciting project is running in Catholic schools in your area and this is an invaluable and also fun way for you and your spouse to give back to your local community. Please call 07972 438179 or e-mail [anna.mccormick@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:anna.mccormick@dioceseofbrentwood.org) if you would like to get involved or hear more..

## Essex Recusant Society (Brentwood Diocesan Historical Society)

The next meeting will be at 2.30pm on Saturday 30 September at The Grange, 93 Queens Road, Brentwood CM14 4EY, when Jennie Guthrie-Stevens will speak on 'The Final Days of St John's Abbey, Colchester (1539).' All are welcome to attend. Further details from Tony Galcius (Chairman) on 01708 346219.

## 20th Pan-African Annual Mass

Celebrated by Bishop Alan Williams, sm, on 17<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm, at St George's Catholic Church, 132 Shermhall Street, Walthamstow, London E17 9HU. There will be six African Choirs (Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Uganda Congo DR). Refreshments will be served. Everyone is welcome!

## Royal School of Church Music Choral Festival

In Brentwood Cathedral on 21<sup>st</sup> October. All singers are invited to take part. There will be a workshop from 10.00am to prepare the music which will be used in the Centenary Celebration Service at 4.00pm. The specially chosen music for the occasion is all contained in a book. (Cost £5). For further details please email [shirleytimmins@btinternet.com](mailto:shirleytimmins@btinternet.com) or ring 01277 233302 (answerphone).

## Memorial Mass for Sister Mary Stephen at St Bernard's High School

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 11.30am. If you knew Sister Mary Stephen and wish to come to the Memorial Mass you are very welcome. We ask that you let us know so seating is adequate and the venue is appropriate. Please email [sboga.stbernards@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:sboga.stbernards@yahoo.co.uk) if you would like to attend.

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## Money

Offertory – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2017

£1027.15

Catholic Education Service

£383.90

There is a second collection this weekend for Home Mission Sunday.

There is a second collection next weekend for the renovations of Walsingham House at Abbotswick.

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## Shirley Corboy RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Shirley Corboy who died on 10<sup>th</sup> September. Her Requiem Mass will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 11.00am at St John Fisher.

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## Susanne Mitchell RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Susanne Mitchell who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will be on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 11.45am at Sacred Heart.

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## Baptism Congratulations

Congratulations to the family of Chloe Velleman who was baptised last weekend.

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## Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Cecelia Rawnsley, Michael Gibbons, Bridget Childs, Catherine Wood, Fr John Bergin, Fr Anthony Mayston, Canon Frederick Gahaghan, Louisa Kirk, Rebecca Downey, Terry Daniels, Doreen Kylyn, Molly Counce, Jacoba Forbes, Olive Attrill, Amelia Ebbs, Terrence Melvin, Stephen Szentes, Gerard Cox, Alfred Victor Dunthorne, Bridget Wood, Fr John Ryan, William Godwin and Mary Elizabeth McHugo.

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## Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, especially; for Jack Allen, Val Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Marie Biner, Andrew Bines, Julie Borg, David Bunce, Richard Campbell-Carr, Eric Carpenter, Sena Carson, Jenny Chappell, Paul Clark, Chris Coath, Ann Cummings, Mary Curtis, Emily Davis, Bernadette Dawson, June Deighton, John Dermody, Richard Dixon, Pam Dobson, Helen Escott, (baby) Harleigh Farrar, Roy Fitchew, Katie Fitzpatrick, Dorothy George, Margaret Gibbons, Clare Giffen, Lesley Googe, Joseph Honeyands, Katie Honeyands, Ann Husk, Bartley Igoe Jnr, Teresa Igoe, Alex Jackson, Margaret Lee, Tony Lee, Elaine Liddon, John Lovett, "Dana" Danuta Luniewski, Barbara Ann McLoughlin, Joy May, Carol Middleton, James Moloney, Patrick Moroney, Dr Johnson Odufuwa, Margaret Parsad, Mary Rand, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Irene Reynolds, Jane Richardson, Anita Rogers, Geraldine Scraggs, Kaisha Secre, Françoise Simpson, Jane Smart, Daniel Snelling, Bill Spencer, Bob Stephens, Geraldine Stephens and Patricia Walford.

<b>Masses and Services</b>		<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>
<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>	First Mass of Sunday	<b>5.30pm</b> <i>Wally, Maggie and Dermot Smith RIP</i>	
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>Polish Mass</i> <b>11.00am</b> <i>People of the Parish</i> <b>1.00pm Baptism</b> <i>Erin Farrell</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <i>Intentions of Jennifer Warren</i>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	Feria	<b>11.30am Requiem Mass</b> <i>Mollie Keeble RIP</i>	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> September	Feria		9.30am <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> September	St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, and Paul Chong Ha-sang and Comps	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group <i>in the hall</i> 12 noon <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>	
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September	St Matthew	7.00pm <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Feria	9.00am <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>	
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padro Pio)	Sorry but confession is not available today.	9.00am <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	First Mass of Sunday	<b>5.30pm</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>	
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<b>9.00am</b> <i>Polish Mass</i> <b>11.00am</b> <i>Very Rev Canon Joseph Whitfield RIP</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <i>St Cosmos and St Damian</i>

**The Angelus** will be recited 5 minutes before Sunday (and Saturday 5.30pm) Masses from next weekend.  
**Rosary** - The Rosary is said in both Churches before the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. It is also said at Sacred Heart after 9.00am weekday masses and 6.30pm when there is evening Mass.  
**Morning Prayer** begins 15 minutes before weekday Masses

### **Mass Text for 17<sup>th</sup> September – 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year (A)**

**Entrance Antiphon** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

**First Reading** Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7

**Psalm 102 Response** **The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy.**

- 1 My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being bless his holy name.  
My soul, give thanks to the Lord, and never forget his blessings.
- 2 It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills,  
who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion.
- 3 His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever.  
He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults.
- 4 For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him.  
As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

**Second Reading** Romans 14:7-9

**Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, Alleluia! Speak Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Matthew 18:21-35

**Communion Antiphon** How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

**Next Sunday's Readings:**

- Isaiah 56:6-9  
Philippians 1:20-24. 27  
Matthew 20:1-16