



Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea
St John Fisher
Prittlewell

Parish Priest. Fr Graham Smith
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PARISH NEWSLETTER

24th September 2017 – Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year (A)

Dear Friends

Our first reading states that 'God's ways are not our ways, God's thoughts are not our thoughts.' Just how vast the difference between God's ways and our thoughts is illustrated in the Gospel. God's generosity utterly transcends human generosity. The parable of the workers in the vineyard was aimed at the Pharisees. These legalistically minded men were critical of Jesus because he befriended sinners and outcasts. In the parable Jesus faces up to his critics, and shows the what God is like, God is generous and full of compassion for the poor and outcast.

Fr Graham

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 5th October

Thursday 12th October

Thursday 19th October

(No session on 26th October.)

Thursday 2nd November

Thursday 9th November

Thursday 16th November

Thursday 23rd November

Thursday 30th November

Thursday 7th December

Thursday 14th December

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.

Collections of Food and Toiletries

	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	30 th September and 1 st October	Coffee, teabags, sugar and toiletries.
Foodbank	23 rd -24 th September 7 th -8 th October	Long life milk, tinned potatoes, packet mash, tinned vegetables, long life fruit juice, squash, noodles, tinned meat and packet rice.

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 will be held as follows:

For **Secondary School** applications – during week commencing 9th October 2017.

For **Primary School and Nursery applications** – during week commencing 16th 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!

Second collection for the Redevelopment of Walsingham House at Abbotswick

There will be a second collection this weekend.

Change of Time for the Thursday Evening Mass at Sacred Heart

With effect from Thursday 5th October, the Thursday evening Mass at Sacred Heart will start at 6.30pm.

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 6th 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 5th November. The initial parent's meeting is on Monday 13th November at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

Thank you from Mollie Keeble's Family

Mollie's family would like to thank everyone for their kind words, cards and Mass Intentions – it was heartening to see so many people at her funeral. Mollie will be sorely missed.

Thank you from Laura at St John Fisher

Laura would like to thank everybody who donated to and supported her fundraising night for Macmillian Cancer Support. It was a successful night. The final figure raised will be published once it is known.

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*

Pray and Fast for the End of Abortion

On Thursday 28th of September, please join with The Good Counsel Network and pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting see www.goodcounselnetwork.com.

Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor RIP

Please take a prayer card from the porch.

Essex Recusant Society (Brentwood Diocesan Historical Society) Meeting

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.

Royal School of Church Music Choral Festival

In Brentwood Cathedral on 21st 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 or ring 01277 233302 (answerphone).

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

On Saturday 7th 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 if you would like to attend.

Diocesan Centenary Concert, Brentwood Cathedral, Saturday 28th October

We are recruiting a choir for this concert where Parish choirs and individual singers can join the Cathedral Choir and a professional orchestra. An ability to read music is essential. The two rehearsals are - Monday 9th and Wednesday 25th October, at 7.30pm in the Cathedral. Brentwood Choral Society will join the concert – singers are welcome to join their regular Monday evening rehearsal at Brentwood School (7.30pm to 9.30pm). Hire cost for the music is £2 per score, or £5 for all three. If you want to take part please contact Shirley at shirleytimmins@btinternet.com. Tickets are £12.00 from music@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

St Thomas More High School - Open Days,

For parents who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2018 - come and see the school during a normal school day. By appointment on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th October (01702 344933). Parents of boys who wish to apply to St. Thomas More School for a place in September 2018 should complete the Local Education Authority single application form (SAF) and fill in the supplementary information form (SIF) that can be collected from the school or downloaded from www.st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk

Job Vacancy – Walsingham Trust Development Officer

Details available via email to hr@walsingham.org.uk.

Midday Supervisor Vacancy at St Bernard's High School

Details available at www.stbernardswestcliff.org.uk.

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Upminster - 60th Anniversary

Anyone who has had involvement with the school is invited to a celebration on Friday 6th October, between 4.00pm and 7.00pm. We invite you to bring along any mementos you have of your time at St Joseph's to share with others. Light refreshments will be available. Please email office@st-josephs.havering.sch.uk by Monday 2nd October if you will be able to join us.

Afternoon Tea for People with Dementia and Their Carers

You are invited to Afternoon Tea on Saturday 28th October from 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Avenue Baptist Church, Westcliff, SS0 7JX. Please book via parishnurse@avenuebaptist.com or 07894 162016.

Knights of St Columba Community Fayre - Saturday 21st October

At Nazareth House, 111 London Road, Westcliff, SS1 1PP, with 20 stands showcasing local charities, help groups and businesses. Exhibitors will include Christians Against Poverty, Catholic Clothing Guild, Storehouse Direct, CAFOD Brentwood, Southend in Transition and Southend Older People's Association. The Mayor of Southend will open the Fayre at 10.30am (finishing at 1pm) and there will be a Fairtrade raffle, Fairtrade light refreshments, 2nd hand book sale, and recycling points for your unwanted spectacles for VisionAid Overseas, currency, used stamps and mobile phones; all for charity. Come and meet some great local people and get some help and ideas whilst having a decent cuppa. Entrance is free.

Study Day at Christ the Eternal High Priest Gidea Park

Led by Mgr David Manson, former Vicar General of the Diocese of Brentwood. He will take as his topic 'The Significance of Sunday', and will explain the contents of Pope John Paul II's Apostolic Letter Dies Domini (The Day of the Lord). On Saturday 28th October, starting with coffee at 10.30am and running to 3.00pm. Please book by email to gpstudydays@gmail.com. No charge - please bring a packed lunch.

Money

Offertory - Sunday 17th September 2017

£1056.98

Home Mission Sunday

£342.18

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

Shirley Corboy RIP

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

Susanne Mitchell RIP

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

Margaret Gibbons RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Gibbons who died on 17th September. Her funeral details are not yet known.

Baptism Congratulations

Congratulations to the family of Erin Farrell who was baptised last weekend.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Maureen Patchett, Francesco Giudici, Edith Dyer, Mabel Barker, Charles Greggains, Michael Hamm, Patrick O'Dea, Dennis Wood, John O'Brien, Eileen Ebbs, Maureen Mason, Vera O'Sullivan, Patrick Hilley, Terence McLoughlin, John Chapman, Edward Slade, Christopher Wildor, Pope John Paul I, George Penna, Jeremiah O'Driscoll, Patrick Crosbie, Ethelreda Faircloth, Betty English and Queenie Lloyd.

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, Clare Giffen, Lesley Gooze, Joseph Honeyands, Katie Honeyands, Cassie Hoxha, 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.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 23rd September	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 24th September	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Very Rev Canon Joseph Whitfield RIP</i>	9.00am <i>St Cosmos and St Damian</i>
Monday 25 th September	Feria	11.45am Requiem Mass <i>Susanne Mitchell RIP</i>	
Tuesday 26 th September	Feria		9.30am <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Wednesday 27 th September	St Vincent De Paul	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 28 th September	Feria	7.00pm <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>	
Friday 29 th September	SS Michael, Gabriel and Raphael Archangels	9.00am <i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i>	
Saturday 30th September	St Jerome	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am <i>Lillian Fitzgerald RIP</i>
Saturday 30th September	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Gerald Sullivan RIP</i>	
Sunday 1st October	Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>People of the Parish</i>	9.00am <i>Intentions of Charmaine Arnold</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 24th September – 25th Sunday of the Year (A)

Entrance Antiphon I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Collect O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading Isaiah 56:6-9

Psalms 102 Response **The Lord is close to all who call him.**

- 1 I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised, his greatness cannot be measured.
- 2 The Lord is kind and full of compassion, slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all, compassionate to all his creatures.
- 3 The Lord is just in all his ways and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him, who call on him from their hearts.

Second Reading Philippians 1:20-24. 27

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

Gospel Matthew 20:1-16

Communion Antiphon You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Ezekiel: 18: 25-28
Philippians 2: 1-11
Matthew 21: 28-32