



Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea

St John Fisher
Prittlewell

Parish Priest. Fr Graham Smith
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PARISH NEWSLETTER

8th October 2017 – Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year (A)

Dear Friends

The Old Testament tells us that God cared for his people as a good gardener cares for his vineyard, yet they failed to produce the desired fruits. We are the new people of God, the vineyard planted and cared for by Christ. God looks to us to produce the fruits of justice, holiness and peace. This is a great privilege and a great challenge too. Today's readings pose a question: how are we tending the vineyard? We have received so much from God, but are we making the world fruitful? Are we responding to the Lord's invitation with the works of justice, love, peace, chastity, respect for others? Or are we more or less killing the messengers?

Fr Graham

Alpha Course

The Alpha Course continues this coming Thursday at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall. Why not come along to the 6.30pm Mass and then go straight into the Alpha Course? It is for people who wish to know more about the Christian Faith and Catholics who want to know more. 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.

CAFOD Harvest Day

There is a second collection this weekend for the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day.

Harvest Breakfast - St John Fisher – Today - 8th October

Please join us in the hall, after Mass today, for warmed waffles and pancakes which will be served with a variety of fruit, jams and honey. Cost: Waffles: 50p each. Pancakes: 50p each. Fruit and toppings 50p a portion. All proceeds go to CAFOD. We look forward to seeing you.

Harvest Festival at St John Fisher – Today - 8th October

Although we support the work of CAFOD throughout the world, we have, as a parish, also looked to the needs of the poor within our own community and have, at this time of year, given additional help to HARP, who provide food for the homeless in this area. We invite you to donate 'one' item of non-perishable food and place it in the Harvest Box in the porch.

Sacred Heart Hall – Replacement of the Floor

The floor in Sacred Heart Hall is going to be replaced during week commencing Monday 23rd October. This means that the hall will be "out of bounds" from Monday 23rd October to Sunday 29th October (when, sorry, there will not be a Coffee Morning). We will try to keep disruption to a minimum, but please bear with us while this essential work is being carried out.

The cost of this essential work is over £6000.00 – and we would appreciate any donations towards the cost. Please put donations in an envelope marked "Sacred Heart Hall Floor" and put it in the normal offertory collection. Members of the gift aid scheme are asked to use a spare gift aid envelope. If donating by cheque, please make it out to "Sacred Heart Church". Thank you.

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.

Collections of Food and Toiletries

	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	4 th -5 th November	Coffee, teabags, sugar and toiletries.
Foodbank	7 th -8 th October 14 th -15 th October	Long life milk, tinned potatoes, packet mash, tinned vegetables, long life fruit juice, squash and tinned meat.

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

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*

Missio Red Boxes – Sacred Heart

Please bring your box to Mass as soon as possible – replacement red boxes are in the porch for collection.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal

Leaflets are now available at the back of both churches. Please remember all items need to be new and appropriate for the age and sex of the child, please read the leaflet carefully as there are restricted items. Boxes will need to be handed in by mid November. Any questions please see Karen and Helen at St John Fisher or Steve, Madeleine Herman, Marie Lang or Maria Tighe at Sacred Heart.

November Prayers for the Faithful Departed

Envelopes and forms are now available in the church porches if you wish to include your departed friends and loved ones in our November prayers. The first three names on your list will be read out at Mass on 11th and 12th November. A donation is not required or requested: any donations will be treated as a Mass stipend for the Mass offered on All Souls Day (Thursday 2nd November).

Some Future Dates.....

Wednesday 1st November – All Saints Day and Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be at Sacred Heart at 9.30am and St John Fisher at 7.30pm

Sunday 12th November – Blessing of the Graves at Sutton Road Cemetery from 3.00pm

Sunday 10th December – Christmas Sing-a-Long in St John Fisher Hall.

Sunday 17th December – Carols by Candlelight at 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church, followed by refreshments in the hall.

Report on the St John Bosco Camp

We were picked up by coach. I started to make friends before we reached camp. Eight girls shared a tent. I liked the fact we all called each other sister, this made me very happy. Our meals were delicious. I enjoyed queueing up for our hot chocolate before bed. Our helper was very kind and read a story every evening. We joined in many activities, even when it rained. The disco on our last evening was great. I felt part of something wonderful. The fact we were sisters joined together in the love of Jesus. Thank you to Jenny of the SVP for giving me a wonderful experience.

Teyla (aged 9)

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School Nursery

The nursery runs each day during term time with morning sessions and afternoon sessions which are led by experienced and outstanding qualified teachers. Staff in Reception class are amazed about how ready for school children are who have attended Sacred Heart Nursery. We currently have places for children to start once they have turned three. We also have a waiting list for admission in January and April 2018. We are able to advise you on funding issues to help you secure your place. Ring/email the school office to register. Tel: 534546 Email: office@sacredheart.southend.sch.uk

Music Day - Saturday 14th October 2017

10.00am to 3.00pm at the Church of the Most Holy Trinity, Wickhay, Basildon, SS15 5AD. Led by Frances Novillo and Andrew Wright. The cost is £5 (pay on the day) – please bring a packed lunch and tea/coffee will be provided. It would be most helpful if you could book your place before the day if possible – please contact the Music Office on music@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Instrumentalists – please bring music stands.

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).

Priests and People Revue

As part of the celebrations to mark the centenary year of the Brentwood Diocese, we are holding a Priests and People Revue with compere, Des Kelly. This will take place on Friday 3rd November at 7.30pm at St John Payne School, Chelmsford. Tickets: £5 per Adult, £1 per child (first come, first served). Tickets can be booked in advanced by contacting Hannah Kelly via email: hab@sjp.essex.sch.uk detailing names and number of tickets required. All proceeds will go towards funding the training of priests in our diocese.

Diocesan Centenary Concert, Brentwood Cathedral, Saturday 28th October

This is an ideal opportunity for Parish choirs and individual singers to join together with the Cathedral Choir to perform with a professional orchestra. The rehearsals are on Monday 9th October and Wednesday 25th October, at 7.30pm in the Cathedral. The Brentwood Choral Society are joining the concert and singers are welcome to join their rehearsals on Monday evenings at Brentwood School (7.30pm to 9.30pm). If you would like to take part please contact Shirley Timmins at shirleytimmins@btinternet.com. Hire cost for the music is £2 per score, or £5 for all three. Tickets for the concert are available from music@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 01277 265288 at a cost of £12 all unreserved.

Retreat Weekend for young adults (20s and 30s)

In London from 20th to 22nd October with the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be input, prayer, reflection and discussion with other young adults. You are welcome to come for the day or the whole weekend. The cost is £35. For more information contact Sr Lynne fcJ at lynnefcj@hotmail.com

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.

Money

Offertory – Sunday 1st October 2017

£1066.94

There is a second collection this weekend for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

Margaret Gibbons RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Gibbons who died on 17th September. Her Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 12th October at 11.00am at Sacred Heart.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Canon Edward Heary, Simon Diab, Robert James, Patricia Singleton, Fr Harold Cahill, Ellen Chapman, Ellen Denny, Kathleen Rickard, Fr Alfred Clements, Emilie Giordmaina, John Sheridan, Patrick Griffin, Doris Ogden, Gloria Dermody, Nellie Schad, Jeanette Meadows, Margaret Meehan, Mary Dowsett, Fr John Dempsey and Maria Foot.

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 Googe, Anthony Herman, 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, Patricia Walford and Jenny Warren.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 7th October	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Christine Sambrook RIP</i>	
Sunday 8th October	Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>People of the Parish</i>	9.00am <i>Intentions of Liz and Ron Newman</i> 10.00am Baptism <i>Max Hockley</i>
Monday 9 th October	Feria	9.00am <i>Ann and Tony Christmas RIP</i>	
Tuesday 10 th October	Feria		9.30am <i>Intentions of Jenny and Mike Warren</i>
Wednesday 11 th October	St John XXIII	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group <i>in the hall</i> 12 noon <i>Teresa and Douglas Joslin RIP</i>	
Thursday 12 th October	Ss Ethelburga, Hildelith and Cuthburga	11.00am Requiem Mass <i>Margaret Gibbons RIP</i> 6.30pm <i>Harry and Betty Shipman RIP</i>	
Friday 13 th October	St Edward the Confessor	9.00am <i>Intentions of Andrew McGregor</i>	
Saturday 14th October	Our Lady on Saturday	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am <i>Mr and Mrs W L Pearce RIP</i>
Saturday 14th October	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Rosina Welch RIP</i>	
Sunday 15th October	Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>People of the Parish (to include the baptism of Orion James Patrick Smith)</i> 1.00pm Baptism <i>Layla Banks</i>	9.00am <i>Intentions of Eve and Alan Bell</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 8th October – 27th Sunday of the Year (A)

Entrance Antiphon Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; and you are the Lord of all.

First Reading Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 79:9, 12-16, 19-20 response Isaiah 5:7 **Response** The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

- 1 You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots.
- 2 Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest devoured by the beasts of the field.
- 3 God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted
- 4 And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name.
God of hosts, bring us back: let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

Second Reading Philippians 4:6-9

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! I call you friends, says the Lord, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. Alleluia!

Gospel

Matthew 21: 33-43

Communion
Antiphon

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah: 25: 6-10;

Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20;
Matthew 22: 1-14