



Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea
St John Fisher
Prittlewell

Parish Priest. Fr Graham Smith
The Presbytery
418 Southchurch Road
Southend-on-Sea
Essex SS1 2QB
01702 465720
parish@catholicsouthend.org.uk
www.catholicsouthend.org.uk

PARISH NEWSLETTER

31st December 2017 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (B)

My dear friends

Thank you for all the kind cards, gifts and offerings you gave me for Christmas. Thanks, too, from Puss for all the moggie treats!

As always, lots of people worked very hard to make our Christmas celebrations so special. Thanks to all our altar servers, cleaners, crib and tree assemblers, ministers of communion, flower arrangers, musicians, readers, sacristans, singers, welcomers and providers of refreshments.

I wish you all a very happy New Year.

Father Graham

New Year's Eve Party – Tickets still available!!!!

Welcome in 2018 together at Sacred Heart Church Hall – an evening of fun and laughter kicked off by Laurel & Hardy in their classic 'Saps at Sea', followed by plenty of fun and games including pitting your detecting skills against the murderer in the classic Cluedo game, Murder before Midnight, and much, much, more... Due to restricted funds this year the Social Committee will provide a basic buffet but encourage you all to bring a plate of your favourite something to add to the buffet table to share with everyone. Bubbly at midnight! Free entry, but a ticket is required to control numbers, available from Sandy or phone Liam 07952 954833 or email: liam.rand@btopenworld.com - Bring the family for an evening of entertainment for the young and old alike. Bring on 2018!

Appeal for Raffle Prizes and Bring and Buy Sale Items

If you have any items you wish to donate, please give them to an usher at Sacred Heart or place in the box under the repository at St John Fisher. The items will be used for fundraising towards the Parish Maintenance Fund.

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.

St John Fisher Bring and Buy Sales and Hamper Raffle

Thank you very much for your support. We raised £230.00 plus £90 from the hamper raffle in aid of the Parish Maintenance Fund. The raffle draw took place during the Coffee Morning on 17th December. The winning tickets were: 1st prize, **white 23**. 2nd prize, white 192 (claimed). 3rd prize, blue 180 (claimed). 4th prize, **blue 45**. 5th prize, **blue 40**. 6th prize **white 107**. If you have the winning ticket for an unclaimed prize, please contact Phyllis on 07789 555401.

Thank you once again. We will have another Bring and Buy on the first weekend of February in aid of the Parish Maintenance Fund. Please place any items for the sale in the box under the repository table.

RCIA

For those wishing to learn more about the Catholic faith, RCIA sessions will start this coming Thursday (4th January) at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

First Holy Communion Programme – First Session next Sunday!

The first Children's Session will be on Sunday 7th January at 9.30am in Sacred Heart Hall. The First Holy Communion children will be Presented to the Parish during the 11.00am Mass on that day. It is important that all children on the Programme attend the session and Mass.

Confirmation Programme

The first session will take place on Wednesday 10th January at 6.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group

The Prayer Group will reconvene on Wednesday 10th January at 10.00am in Sacred Heart Hall. If, during the holidays, you have an urgent prayer need please call Marianna on 07813 207497.

Faith Study Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday 4th January at 1.30pm. For further details please call Sandy Stidston on 01702 467188. Everyone is very welcome.

St John Fisher Eucharistic Ministers

Will all Ministers please read the instructions on the back of the new rotas. If you have any queries, please discuss with Brian or Karen.

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 15th January 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. **Please note that in order 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.**

Collections of Food and Toiletries		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	6 th and 7 th January	Coffee, teabags, sugar and toiletries.
Foodbank	30 th and 31 st December 13 th and 14 th January	Tinned puddings and tinned custard

Appeals for Volunteers to help our Parish

We need some more volunteers to help with Parish Activities. If you can help with any of the following please contact Fr Graham or Sue in the Parish Office.

Children's Liturgy Leaders. Leaders are needed to help with Children's Liturgy at the Sunday 11.00am Mass at Sacred Heart.

Calligraphy. We need to bring the Parish Memorial Books up to date and are hoping someone with calligraphy skills could do it for us.

Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2018

Now available in the Church Porches - £2.75 or £4.00 for spiral bound.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid is linked to basic rate tax (payable on income over £ £11,500.00 in 2017-18). If your circumstances have changed and you are no longer a tax payer please notify Sue in the Parish Office as soon as possible. Additionally, if you pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in any tax year that the amount of Gift Aid claimed on your donations, it is your responsibility to pay any difference.

Are You Going into Hospital?

If you go to hospital, make sure you tell the staff that you are Catholic and that you would like a priest to visit, otherwise the Chaplain has no way of knowing that you wish a visit. If you know of a relative or friend who is in hospital, make sure your parish priest knows, and he can arrange for the Chaplain to visit. The Chaplain for Southend Hospital is Fr Gerry Drummond, who can be reached through the hospital switchboard at 01702 435555.

Parish Newsletter

For those who wish to receive it electronically, the newsletter can be sent via e-mail. If you would like to receive it in this format, please send an e-mail to parish@catholicsouthend.org.uk quoting "Request to receive newsletter via e-mail" in the subject box.

Catholic Marriage Convalidation

If you got married in a civil ceremony and would like to investigate having your marriage fully recognised by the Catholic Church, please speak to Fr Graham.

Parish Mass Books, Hymn Books, etc.

If you have inadvertently taken home any of the books that belong in the church, please return them. A few seem to have gone missing.

Church Kneelers

To help avoid accidents and bruised legs, please ensure that kneelers are kept in the "down position". Thank you.

Parking at St John Fisher

When parking at St John Fisher, please ensure that you do not park outside the Church fire escape ramp or in front of the Presbytery garage.

Walsingham House at Abbotswick – Open Afternoon

Come any time from 12noon to 4.00pm on Saturday 13th January to see the newly restored and refurbished house, and the new chapel. There will be refreshments in the dining room, tours of the house, and peaceful prayer in the chapel, with Adoration from 2.30pm to 3.30pm. Everyone is warmly welcome. For more information about the project, or to donate, please visit www.bcys.net/abbotswick. The address is Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, Near Brentwood CM14 5SH. It is less than 40 minutes from most of East London and Essex. Come and see!

Part time Bookkeeper Vacancy at Cathedral House, Brentwood

To support the Diocesan Finance Office. Sage Accounts experience essential. The role is part-time - two days a week (14 hours). If you – or any of your family or friends – are interested in this role, please e-mail finance-recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org for details. The closing date for CVs/applications is Friday 12th January. Interviews week commencing 22nd January.

Vacancy – Diocesan Representative - Medaille Trust

Do you want to be part of the Church's fight against Modern Slavery? Could you help us raise awareness of Human Trafficking in our midst? Want to be part of a growing Catholic charity? We are now looking for Diocesan Representatives with good people skills, the ability to make presentations in schools and churches, plus sympathy with a charity such as ours. It is an enjoyable and flexible people-facing fundraising role that would suit a range of individuals. For an application pack, please visit the website www.medaille-trust.org.uk, or e-mail recruitment@medaille-trust.org.uk.

Money

Offertory – Sunday 24th December 2017

£1083.09

Mark O'Connor RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mark O'Connor who died recently. His funeral will be on Friday 5th January at 1.00pm at Southend Crematorium.

Kenneth Hayter RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kenneth Hayter (a former parishioner of St John Fisher) who died on 17th December. His Requiem Mass will be at 10.00am on Friday 5th January at St John Fisher.

Catherine Ely RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Catherine Ely who died recently. The funeral arrangements are not yet known.

Kevin Cossey RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kevin Cossey who died on 28th December. The funeral arrangements are not yet known.

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, John Dermody, Richard Dixon, Pam Dobson, Helen Escott, (baby) Harleigh Farrar, Roy Fitchew, Katie Fitzpatrick, Dorothy George, Lesley Googe, Paul Gunn, Anthony Herman, Joseph Honeyands, Katie Honeyands, Ann Husk, Bartley Igoe Jnr, Teresa Igoe, Alex Jackson, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Tony Lee, Elaine Liddon, "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, Jane Smart, Daniel Snelling, Bill Spencer, Geraldine Stephens, Patricia Walford, Jenny Warren and Monty Wood.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Maurice Bowers, Mary Parker, Patricia Fitzgerald, Margaret Doherty, Canon John Byrne, Jacqueline Brooks, Nora Loughrey, Fr Brian Reeves, Andrew Watson-Walls, Gianna Lancaster, Florence Brown, Delia Rayner, Mary Liona, Edward Ehn, Joseph Carter, Michael Horgan, James Stanton, Stanley Douglas May, Annie Glynn, Francisco Narciso, Teresa O'Brien, Len Cleaver, Emily Cootes, George Shelt, Norah McRoberts, Domenico Trevisai, Richard Barron De Burgh, Iris James, Maureen Regan, Nellie Flint, Louie Holborn, Karen Taylor, Francis Brendan McLynn, Dennis Waskett, Canon Patick McKenna, John Glynn, Rita White, Thomas O'Neill, Fr Francis Heenan, John Higgins, Valesda Kurland, Alice Winters and Margaret Power.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 30th December	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Mary and Patrick Greene RIP</i>	
Sunday 31st December	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>James O'Sullivan RIP</i>	9.00am <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 1 st January 2018	Mary, Mother of God	10.00am <i>George Coffi RIP</i>	11.00am <i>Polish Mass</i>
Tuesday 2 nd January	St Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen		9.30am <i>Maxine Carter RIP</i>
Wednesday 3 rd January	Feria of Christmastide	12 noon <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i> <i>(No Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group this week)</i>	
Thursday 4 th January	Feria of Christmastide	6.30pm <i>Patrick Callaghan RIP</i>	
Friday 5 th January		<i>(No Mass today)</i>	10.00am Requiem Mass <i>Kenneth Hayter RIP</i>
		<i>1.00pm - Funeral Service at Southend Crematorium - Mark O'Connor RIP</i>	
Saturday 6th January	Feria of Christmastide	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am <i>John Lovett RIP</i>
Saturday 6th January	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Joe Lough RIP</i>	
Sunday 7th January	The Epiphany of the Lord	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Miklos Lovas RIP</i>	9.00am <i>People of the Parish</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 31st December – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Entrance Antiphon The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

First Reading Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalms 127:1-5 response of v5 **Response: O Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.**

- 1 O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You shall be happy and prosper.
- 2 Your wife like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
Your children like shoots of the olive, around your table.
- 3 Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life!

Second Reading Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 2: 22-40

Communion Antiphon Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.