



Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea
St John Fisher
Prittlewell

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

4th February 2018 – Fifth Sunday of the Year (B)

My dear friends

We are told in the Gospel that Jesus went off to a lonely place to pray. He told us to do the same, "When you pray, go into your room, and pray to your father in secret." This means that the lonely place is not necessarily a place far away, or that by 'room' he meant four walls that separates us physically from others. The room is the room of our innermost heart. The room is with us at all times. We should make it a place to which we can go to find rest and spiritual recovery when the world is too much for us. Then we will discover that the inner room is not empty after all, but is occupied by the love of God who dwells in us.

Father Graham

St John Fisher Bring and Buy Sale – Today!!!

During the coffee mornings after the 9.00am Mass. Come, get some bargains and help with the Parish Maintenance Fund. See you there!

Appeal for Raffle Prizes and Bring and Buy Sale Items

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

RCIA

For those wishing to learn more about the Catholic faith, RCIA will continue this coming Thursday at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

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 14th May 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.**

KSC Charity Breakfast in aid of the Parish Maintenance Fund – next Saturday!

The Knights of Saint Columba are hosting a charity breakfast in aid of the Parish Maintenance Fund at Sacred Heart Church Hall on Saturday 10th February – doors open 9.30am for 10.00am start. Cereal, toast, orange Juice, bacon, sausages, scrambled eggs, tomatoes, beans and of course tea or coffee and a guest speaker – all for £5. Tickets available from Liam or Sandy, liam.rand@btopenworld.com or 07952 954833. If you have specific dietary requirements please let us know when buying your tickets. Come and enjoy a wonderful morning with friends and raise money to support our beautiful churches...

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.

Some Future Dates.....

- .. Ash Wednesday – 14th February. Mass at 9.30am at Sacred Heart and 7.30pm at St John Fisher.
- ... Women's World Day of Prayer Service. Friday 2nd March at 10.30am at the Salvation Army, Clarence Street, Southend.
- ... Deanery Lent Reconciliation Service – Monday 12th March at Sacred Heart and 7.30pm
- .. Palm Sunday – Sunday 25th March
- ... Easter Sunday – Sunday 1st April
- ... Ascension of the Lord, **Holyday of Obligation** - Thursday 10th May - Mass at 9.30am at Sacred Heart and 7.30pm at St John Fisher.
- ... Confirmations – Sunday 20th May
- First Holy Communion Masses – Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June – Mass at 2.00pm on both days.
- ... Ss Peter and Paul, **Holyday of Obligation** - Friday 29th June - Mass at 9.30am at Sacred Heart and 7.30pm at St John Fisher.

Ash Wednesday and Good Friday – Days of Fast and Abstinence

Two days in the year – Ash Wednesday (14th February this year) and Good Friday – are given a special penitential character by the Church's tradition of "fast and abstinence" on these days.

"Abstinence" means that we do not eat meat on these days (this is the same traditional penance that is now encouraged for every Friday of the year). Vegetarians could consider cutting out dairy products or some treats as a way of taking part in the spirit of abstinence. Abstinence from meat on Fridays is expected of every adult Catholic (age 14+).

"Fasting" means that we eat only one main meal, although it is acceptable to have one or two light snacks to replace the other main meals that are not eaten. The practice of fasting on these two days is expected of every adult Catholic (age 18-58) who does not have a medical need to eat more.

These disciplines remind us of the special nature of Good Friday and Ash Wednesday and they unite our prayers and fasting with other Catholics throughout the world.

Shroud of Turin Exhibition – Our Lady Immaculate Church, Chelmsford

An exhibition about the Shroud of Turin, including a full sized replica of the Shroud, will take place at Our Lady immaculate Church, Chelmsford from 5th to 11th March. The exhibition opens with Mass at 7.30pm on Monday 5th March. Each day there are confessions, Stations of the Cross and Mass. The week culminates with Mass at 12noon on Saturday 10th March. The exhibition will remain in place on Sunday 11th March. The church is open from 7am until 8pm each day. If you would like to know more about this, please contact the parish office on 01245 352898, or simply come along to church that week. Everyone is very welcome.

Fr Graham is planning to visit the Exhibition on Monday 5th March. If you would like to go with him please either email the Parish Office or put your name and contact details on a piece of paper and put through the Sacred Heart Presbytery letterbox. It is hoped that some people will drive and offer lifts to others who want to go.

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.

Collections of Food and Toiletries		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	3 rd and 4 th February	Coffee, teabags, sugar and toiletries.
Foodbank	27 th and 28 th February 10 th and 11 th March	Tinned vegetables

St John Fisher Children's Liturgy

The next sessions will be on Sundays 4th and 18th February.

2018 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bishop Alan will lead our annual pilgrimage from Monday 23rd to Saturday 28th July. We shall be accompanied by an experienced medical team and there is plenty of help for those with mobility needs. The pilgrimage is no less ideal for couples, individuals, and groups of friends; all are welcome. There is a full programme to opt in and out of. Brochures will soon be available. For more information or for a brochure, please 'phone the pilgrimage administrator Cathy O'Connor: 01206 735623.

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.

Mass for Deceased Altar Servers

At St Vincent de Paul Church, Becontree on Saturday 10th March at 11.00am (please arrive by 10.30am. Vesting and entrance procession will be from St Vincent's Catholic Primary School, Burnside Rd, Dagenham, Essex RM8 2JN). Please bring your own alb / cassocks and cottas. Light lunch and refreshments will be provided after Mass. Great opportunity to meet your fellow Altars Servers in the Diocese. All welcome. Please email to becontree@dioceseofbrentwood.org by 28th February if you and your priest wish to attend.

Mass for the Sick at Brentwood Cathedral - Today (Sunday 4th February)

At 3.00pm on Sunday 4th February, Bishop Alan will celebrate Mass at Brentwood Cathedral. This is a diocesan celebration; all are invited. During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be given to those who are unwell. This Mass is also an opportunity for those who attended the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2017 to give thanks for graces received.

Mass for People with Special Needs, their Carers and Others

Bishop Alan will be celebrating a special Mass at Brentwood Cathedral on Saturday 17th February at 3.00pm. All are welcome, especially, those with Special Needs and their Carers. We hope to see many of you there.

Evening for Young People - Wednesday 7th February, 6.30pm, Brentwood

For young people aged 14-25, with Barry and Margaret Mizen speaking at 6.30pm at Brentwood Cathedral, then the BCYS monthly Youth Mass at 8.00pm. Come and hear a story of amazing forgiveness and hope. Come and be introduced to SiLent. Come and enjoy the company of young people from across the Diocese. Pizza and drinks provided. If you are bringing a group please email gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org. If you want to know more about SiLent please visit www.millionminutes.org/brentwood

Spirituality Seminars

"The Mass Explained" - Saturday 10th February - 10.30am-12.00noon. Bishop Emeritus Thomas McMahon.

"Lent" - Saturday 24th March - 10.30am-12.00noon. Fr Martin Boland, Cathedral Dean.

At Cathedral House, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT. Contact jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 01277 265285.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society Annual Charity Ball

At The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge on Saturday 10th March. Tickets cost £55 per person, which will include a drinks reception and three course dinner along with a full evening of entertainment. Tickets available from Julie 01268 784544, 07912 277413 or jabbott@bccs.org.uk.

St Helen's Catholic Primary School (Canning Town) at 110 years

The school is appealing to all past pupils or their relatives. They are seeking copies of old school photographs, reports and records as part of the preparations for their 110th anniversary. The school is particularly looking for photographs and information from 1907-1941 as original documents were destroyed in the blitz. Please contact 020 7476 1785 or email: info@st-helens.newham.sch.uk.

Hospitality, Retreats and Facilities Co-ordinator Vacancy

Living on site, the person in this full time role will enable the smooth running of Walsingham House at Abbotswick, ensuring a welcoming, safe and Christ-centred environment for all retreatants and visitors. To include leadership of some youth retreats and excellent team working with staff and volunteers. 2 year fixed contract, from August. £18,000pa + accommodation. Details at www.bcys.net/vacancy-abbotswick/

Money

Offertory – Sunday 28th January 2018

£979.59

Racial Justice Sunday

£181.05

There will be a second collection next weekend for the Diocesan Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund.

Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, especially; for Jack Allen, Val Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Marie Biner, Andrew Bines, Julie Borg, Barbara Briggs, 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, Eileen Lovas, "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, Michael Smith, 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: Catherine Coombs, Paul Ravinet, Joyce Downes, Patrick O'Sullivan, John Froget, Fr Eric Blindloss-Smith, Marguerita Conroy, Jim Woods, Nellie Green, Trevisan Pierino, Martha Glean, Angela Murphy, Kathleen Conway, Peter Saward, Mary Whitwell, Catherine Nash, William Thompson, Fr Frank Richardson, Gloria Smith, Caroline Ceues, Philip O'Neill, James Fullerton, Mary McArdle, Elizabeth Millard, George Nicholls, Fr Alan Wilcox, George Burns, August Moresi, Olive Dwyer and Milly Wake.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 3rd February	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Catherine Hickey RIP</i>	
Sunday 4th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Mollie Keeble RIP</i>	9.00am <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 5 th February	St Agatha	9.00am <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i>	
Tuesday 6 th February	St Paul Miki and Comp		9.30am <i>Gloria Smith RIP (first anniversary)</i>
Wednesday 7 th February	Feria	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group (<i>in the hall</i>) 12noon <i>Miki Lovas RIP</i>	
Thursday 8 th February	Feria	6.30pm <i>Norah O'Boyle RIP</i>	
Friday 9 th February	Feria	9.00am <i>Deceased relatives of the Patchett and Almond families</i>	
Saturday 10th February	St Scholastica	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am <i>Mary and Thomas Cotter RIP</i>
Saturday 10th February	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 11th February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Miklos Lovas RIP</i>	9.00am <i>Shirley Corboy RIP</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 4th February – Fifth Sunday of the Year (B)

Entrance Antiphon O Come, let us worship God and bow low before the God who made us, for he is the Lord our God.

First Reading Job 7: 1-4, 6-7

Psalm Psalm 146:1-6 response v3 Response: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.

- 1 Praise the Lord for he is good; sing to our God for he is loving:
to him our praise is due.
- 2 The Lord builds up Jerusalem and brings back Israel's exiles, he heals the broken-hearted,
he binds up all their wounds. He fixes the number of the stars; he calls each one by its name
- 3 Our Lord is great and almighty; his wisdom can never be measured.
The Lord raises the lowly; he humbles the wicked to the dust.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 9: 16-19. 22-23

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 29-39

Communion Antiphon Let them thank the Lord for his mercy, his wonders for the children of men, for he satisfies the thirsty soul, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Next Sunday's Readings

Leviticus 13: 1-2. 44-46

Psalm 31:1-2, 5, 11 response v7

1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1

Mark 1: 40-45