



Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea
St John Fisher
Prittlewell

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

25th March 2018 – Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

My dear friends

We have followed our Lenten journey from the far north up to the gates of Jerusalem, and now the Great Week begins. At each stop on the road - at each Gospel reading at daily mass - we have witnessed, like the disciples, the sayings and doings of the master. We watched the young man go sadly away 'for he was a man of great wealth'; we watched the poor, the sick and the despised welcomed and healed. Jesus has taught us many things: to forgive our brother more than seventy times seven; to pray constantly and simply and humbly; to search for justice and to work for peace. Above all, we have come to marvel at the man himself as the embodiment of all that he teaches. Out of the depth of the ancient faith he proclaimed that we must love the Lord our God with all our heart and all our soul and all our strength, and that each must love his neighbour as himself. Now, in this last week, we shall see him fulfil this double commandment faithfully. He will die, with the same love with which he lived, praying 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit', and, with his arms outstretched on the cross for his neighbour, he will say 'Today you will be with me in paradise' and 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do'. This king, blood-red on the cross, serving God and our neighbour. We servants are not greater than our master, and he has said: 'Go thou and do likewise.'

Father Graham

Changes to Mass and Service Times this Week

There are many alterations (additions and cancellations!) to services this week. Please see the table at the end of the newsletter for details.

Holy Week Posters

Holy Week posters are now available in the porches – please take one.

Maundy Thursday

The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper commemorates the events of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed his disciples' feet as an act of service, and when he gave us the gift of his body and blood in the Eucharist. The Mass will be held at St John Fisher at 7.30pm. Following the Mass, there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the altar of repose until 11.00pm, when we will conclude with Night Prayer.

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross for Children

This service will be aimed specifically at children and will explain the Easter message to them in a special way. It will be held at Sacred Heart at 10.00am on Good Friday.

Good Friday – Solemn Liturgy

On Good Friday we remember the events of Our Lord's suffering and death. The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday, with Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion, will be held at 3.00pm at Sacred Heart. There will be a simpler Passion Service at St John Fisher at 7.30pm.

Good Friday – Day of Fast and Abstinence

Good Friday is given a special penitential character by the Church's tradition of "fast and abstinence". This discipline reminds us of the special nature of Good Friday and unites our prayers and fasting with other Catholics throughout the world.

Morning Prayer and Office of Readings

There will be Morning Prayer and Readings at 9.00am at Sacred Heart on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

The Easter Vigil Mass

This begins shortly after sunset, when we light the Easter fire and bless the Paschal candle which will be used at baptisms and funerals throughout the coming year. After processing into the church, the Vigil continues with the singing of the Easter "Exsultet" and an extended series of some of the most uplifting passages of scripture. Paula, Farida, Laura, Kolade and Maria will be baptised, received and/or confirmed during this moving occasion, which should be a true highlight of the parish's year. The Vigil begins at 8.00pm – gather in the school playground next to Sacred Heart Church. After the Vigil, you are welcome to join us in the hall for refreshments.

Good Friday and Easter collections

The retiring collection on Good Friday is for the support of the Holy Places and Church in the Holy Land. The offertory collection at Easter is your personal gift to Fr Graham.

Sacred Heart Church Big Easter Clean

This will take place on Maundy Thursday (29th March) from around 9.30am ie. straight after Office of Readings and Morning Prayer. Please come along to help if you possibly can – many hands make light work!

Sacred Heart Easter Flower Appeal

If you wish to donate some yellow and/or white flowers to decorate the Church for Easter, please bring them along after one of the Good Friday Services or Morning Prayer on Holy Saturday. Thank you.

St John Fisher Easter Flowers in Memory of a Loved One

If you would like to donate some flowers for the Garden of Gethsemane in memory of a loved one, please bring them along to the Church on Maundy Thursday either between 10.00am and 12 noon or immediately prior to the 7.30pm Mass.

Easter 2018

Passion (Palm) Sunday – 25th March

Mass 5.30pm (Saturday) at Sacred Heart

Mass 9.00am at St John Fisher followed, in the hall, by the Passion Play performed by pupils from St Bernard's High School

Polish Mass 9.00am at Sacred Heart

Mass 11.00am at Sacred Heart

Stations of the Cross 4.00pm at Sacred Heart

Holy (Maundy) Thursday – 29th March

Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 9.00am at Sacred Heart

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm at St John Fisher

(no 6.30pm Mass at Sacred Heart)

Polish Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.00pm at Sacred Heart

Good Friday – 30th March

Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 9.00am at Sacred Heart

Children's Stations of the Cross 10.00am at Sacred Heart

Polish Solemn Liturgy 2.00pm at St John Fisher

Solemn Liturgy 3.00pm at Sacred Heart

Passion Service 7.30pm at St John Fisher

Holy Saturday – 31st March

Office of Readings and Morning Prayer 9.00am at Sacred Heart

(no 9.00am Mass at St John Fisher)

Polish Blessing of Easter Food at 10.00am at St John Fisher

Polish Easter Vigil Mass at 7.30pm at St John Fisher

Easter Vigil Mass 8.00pm at Sacred Heart (no 5.30pm Mass)

Easter Sunday – 1st April

Mass 9.00 am at St John Fisher

Polish Mass 9.00am at Sacred Heart

Mass 11.00 am at Sacred Heart

First Communion Programme Parents Meeting – Reminder!!!

The next Parents Meeting takes place tomorrow evening (26th March) at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall. It is important that all children on the Programme are represented. If you find that you are unable to attend, please ring Geraldine O'Ryan on 07763 935674.

Sacred Heart Repository

The Repository has a good selection of gifts and cards for Easter as well as items for First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

Film for Palm Sunday – The Way (Cert. 12) – Today!

Sunday 25th March at 5.00pm (immediately following Stations of the Cross) in Sacred Heart Hall, we will be screening The Way. A father heads overseas to recover the body of his estranged son who died while traveling the "El camino de Santiago," and decides to take the pilgrimage himself. Martin Sheen's character rediscovers his faith in this poignant, though provoking film.

Parish Magazine

My apologies but delayed one week due to work commitments – will now be on sale at the Vigil Mass, Easter Sunday and the following weekend at both churches. Liam Rand.

Gift Aid Envelopes

Members of the Gift Aid scheme are asked to collect their envelopes from the porch.

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.**

Appeal from the SVP

A local family need two single beds and a wardrobe. If you can help please ring Pete on 01702 300870

Catholics Plan Mass-Rosary Prayer around the British Coast

On Sunday, April 29, at 3.00pm parishioners and priests from the Southend deanery will gather on the beach at the Crowstone, Chalkwell Beach at the bottom of Chalkwell Avenue to pray the rosary. This prayer event is taking place all around the coast in the UK. The date will mark 50 years since the Abortion Act coming into effect. Organisers say the mass-rosary prayer will help combat the "present threats to faith, the dignity of the human person and to peace", and encourage a "re-flourishing of our Faith". The organisers said "We believe that if the rosary is prayed by about a million along the borders of the country, it may not only change the course of events, but open hearts of our compatriots to the grace of God," If you want to know more then please visit <https://www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk>.

Charity Dinner In Aid of the Parish Maintenance Fund

Join us at the Ashiana Indian Restaurant on Wednesday 11th April for an evening of great food, friendship and fun. £15 per head all profits to benefit the Sacred Heart and Saint John Fisher Maintenance Fund. Please speak to Sandy or Liam after Mass or phone 07952 954833 or email: liam.rand@btopenworld.com

Collections of Food and Toiletries		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	31 st March – 1 st April	Coffee, teabags, sugar and toiletries.
Foodbank	24 th and 25 th March	Tinned vegetables.

Bishop Alan goes #SiLent!

For 12 hours, from 8am to 8pm, on Tuesday 27th March, the Tuesday of Holy Week, Bishop Alan will be completely silent (except for occasional communication with his cat, Delia). This is part of a national initiative, "Million Minutes," adopted this year by the BCYS, to encourage all of us to (re)discover the peace, tranquility and value of silence: within the stillness, God speaks. Every minute of silence can also be sponsored, raising money for projects led by young people in our Diocese. For more details, and all the resources, look at www.millionminutes.org/Brentwood. To sponsor Bishop Alan go to <https://be.wonderful.org/bishop.alan/2018/staysilent>. To find out more about all our opportunities for young people go to www.bcys.net

Women's World Day of Prayer 'All God's Creation is Very Good' – NEW DATE!

This year's Women's World Day of Prayer planned for 2nd March was cancelled due to the bad weather and has now been rearranged for Friday 27th April. It will be at 10.30am at The Salvation Army, Clarence Street, Southend. Praying for Suriname. A Service for Everyone. Please come along and be part of a great wave of prayer encircling our globe.

Suriname is a beautiful country in South America. This year the women of Suriname urge us to cherish God's exquisite gift of Creation and commit ourselves to caring for God's world responsibly, so that we may pass it on, unspoiled, to future generations. 'Lord God, listen to our prayer. Masra Gado, arki ie begi.'

A Day with Mary – Saturday 7th April at Canvey

A day of instruction, devotion and intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. From 10.00am to 5.30pm on Saturday 7th April at Our Lady of Canvey and the English Martyrs, 224 Long Road, Canvey Island SS8 0JS. Please bring a packed lunch.

Admin Manager Vacancy – Holy Family Parish, Benfleet

Person required for paid position of Admin Manager in the offices of Holy Family Parish, Benfleet. 20 hours per week and timing of work can be negotiated. If you – or any of your family/friends – are interested, please first contact Fr Eduard Fartan on [01268 792082](tel:01268792082) or the office on [01268 799649](tel:01268799649) – or send an email to priest@holyfamily-church.org for a job description and person specification. You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements and attributes of the role. Closing date for CVs/applications is Tuesday 3rd April.

Teacher Vacancies at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery

Required from September 2018. Applications welcome from NQT or experienced teachers. An application pack is available from office@sacredheart.southend.sch.uk or 01702 534546. The closing date is 26th March and interviews will take place during week commencing 30th April.

Vacancy – Diocesan Education Office in Brentwood

PA/Executive Assistant required (PA or Senior Secretarial experience essential) required to support the Director and Deputy Director in the education Department. The role is for 35 hours a week, working five days a week over 42 weeks a year. If you – or any of your family or friends – are interested in this role, please first contact: recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org for a copy of the job description and person specification. You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements and attributes of the role as per the job description and person specification. Closing date for CVs/applications is Friday 30th March 2018. Interviews and tasks to take place on 4th or 5th April 2018.

Minibus Driver Required – St Thomas More High School

To drive pupils before and after school to/from Chalkwell Station. Details available from 01702 606763 or recruitment@st-thomasmore.southend.sch.uk.

Money

Offertory – Sunday 11^h March 2018

£1030.12

The retiring collection on Good Friday is for the support of the Holy Places and Church in the Holy Land.

The offertory collection at Easter is your personal gift to Fr Graham.

Baptism Congratulations

Congratulations to the family of Isaac Piper who was baptised at Sacred Heart last weekend.

Maureen Hare RIP

Please pray for the repose of Maureen Hare who died on 21st March. Her funeral arrangements are not yet known.

Lesley Googe RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Lesley Googe who died on 22nd February. Her Requiem Mass will be on Monday 26th March at 10.00am at St John Fisher.

Eydokia Miszczak (known as Alla Micsha) RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Alla Micsha who died on 7th March. Her Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 27th March at 10.00am at Sacred Heart.

Patrick Moroney RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patrick Moroney who died on 16th February. His Requiem Mass will be on Friday 13th April at 1.00pm at St Helen's, Westcliff.

Guisseppa (Joseph) Bellini RIP

Please pray for the soul of Guisseppa Bellini who died on 26th February. His Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 12th April at 2.00pm at St John Fisher.

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, Lynn Chua, Paul Clark, Ann Cummings, Emily Davis, Bernadette Dawson, John Dermody, Richard Dixon, Pam Dobson, Helen Escott, (baby) Harleigh Farrar, Roy Fitchew, Katie Fitzpatrick, Dorothy George, 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, Ron Newman, Barbara Ann McLoughlin, Joy May, Carol Middleton, James Moloney, 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: James Fitzpatrick, Canon Arthur Holmes, Hayley Cole-Wilkin, Toluwalaju Adebayo, Fr John Sherlock, Winifred Fairweather, Michael Curran, Catherine Curwood, Mgr Alfred Gilbey, Andrew Lovell, William Smart, Alfred Jackson, Albert Budden, Paul Bygrave, James Joseph McFall, Jack Meadows, Joseph Dhesham, Mary Tomkin, Rachel McCarthy, Mary Forde, Mary Coffey, Carlo Abicella, Mary Doughan, Fr Joseph Touhey, Ellen O'Sullivan and Wasyl Kowal.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 24th March	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Kevin Cossey RIP</i>	
Sunday 25th March	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Manolito B. Manaig RIP</i> 4.00pm Stations of the Cross <i>(no 9.00am Mass)</i>	9.00am followed, in the hall, by the Passion Play performed by pupils from St Bernard's High School <i>Edward Gillham RIP</i>
Monday 26 th March	Monday in Holy Week		10.00am Requiem Mass <i>Lesley Googe RIP</i>
Tuesday 27 th March	Tuesday in Holy Week	10.00am Requiem Mass <i>Eydokia Miszczak (known as Alla Micsha) RIP</i>	<i>(no 9.30am Mass)</i>
Wednesday 28 th March	Wednesday in Holy Week	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group <i>(in the hall)</i> 12 noon <i>Mother Angela RIP</i>	
Thursday 29 th March	Maundy Thursday	9.00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer <i>7.00pm Polish Mass of the Lord's Supper</i>	7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper <i>Ellen "Mischa" O'Sullivan RIP</i>
Friday 30 th March	Good Friday	9.00am Office of Readings and Morning Prayer <i>(no 9.00am Mass)</i> 10.00am Children's Stations of the Cross 3.00pm Solemn Liturgy	2.00pm <i>Polish Solemn Liturgy</i> 7.30pm Passion Service
Saturday 31st March	Holy Saturday	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions <i>No 5.30pm Mass</i>	<i>No 9.00am Mass</i>
Saturday 31st March	The Easter Vigil	8.00pm The Easter Vigil <i>Intentions of the RCIA candidates</i>	
Sunday 1st April	The Resurrection of the Lord	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>People of the Parish</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.

Mass Text for 18th March – Fifth Sunday of Lent (B)

Entrance Antiphon Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you oh God, are my strength.

First Reading Isaiah 50: 4-7

Psalms 21:8-9, 17-20. 23-24 response v 2

Response: *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

- All who see me deride me. They curl their lips, they toss their heads,
"He trusted in the Lord, let him save him; let him release him if this is his friend."
- Many dogs have surrounded me, a band of the wicked beset me.
They tear holes in my hands and my feet. I can count every one of my bones.
- They divide my clothing among them. They cast lots for my robe.
O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me!
- I will tell of your name to my brethren and praise you where they are assembled.
"You who fear the Lord give him praise; all sons of Jacob, give him glory. Revere him, Israel's sons."

Second Reading Philippians 2: 6-11

Gospel Acclamation Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel Mark 14: 1-15: 47

Communion Antiphon Father, if this chalice cannot pass without my drinking it, your will be done.