



**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](http://www.catholicsouthend.org.uk)

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

**23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018 – Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year (B)**

*My Dear Friends*

We have a vivid picture in today's Gospel. Having arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples enter a house. In this private place, Jesus asks his disciples about the argument they had while they were journeying. Again, the disciples are uncharacteristically silent and afraid to answer because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.. They have been found out. Jesus then summons the Twelve, whom Mark identified earlier in his Gospel as those chosen by Jesus to preach and to drive out demons. To this select group of disciples, Jesus teaches that those who would be first in God's kingdom must be servants of all. Jesus then calls forward a child and teaches the Twelve that to receive a child in Jesus' name is to receive both Jesus and the One who sent him. In first-century Palestine, children were without status or power, possessing no legal rights. In this action, Jesus is teaching his disciples and us that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus himself.

This weekend we welcome Fr John O'Brien SCA (Parish Priest of St Thomas More in Barking) to say our weekend Masses.  
*Fr Graham*

### **Faith Study Group**

At the end of Mass this weekend, Alan will give a few words about the Faith Study Group.

**Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about your Faith?  
If so, please join us for the**

### **ALPHA Course followed by the ABC (About Becoming Catholic) Course**

The Alpha Course will run from Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October until Christmas and, for those wishing to become Catholic, **CONTINUE as the ABC Course** in the New Year until Easter 2019. New Catholics will be received into the Catholic Church at Easter 2019.

In our Alpha course we explore some of the really important questions of life and look at the basic questions of the Christian faith surrounding the person of Jesus Christ.

For those who are interested in becoming Catholic – they must attend both the Alpha Course and the ABC course.

All sessions will be on Thursday evenings in Sacred Heart Hall at 7.30pm (ie. straight after the 6.30pm Mass.)

If you are thinking of becoming a catholic, please complete an application form **up to question 6** and bring it to the first session on 4<sup>th</sup> October. Application forms are available in the Church porch or from the Sacred Heart Presbytery.

### **Appeal for "Caterers" for the Alpha Course**

We would like to be able to offer a meal to the people attending the Alpha Course. Are there any cooks out there who are willing to volunteer to cook a meal for one or more of the sessions? We are looking for "one-dish" meals for example lasagne or shepherd's pie. The cooking can either be done in Sacred Heart Hall kitchen or done at home and then warmed up at the Hall. The meals will be needed for twelve Thursday evenings starting on 4<sup>th</sup> October. If we get enough volunteers, we hope to set up a rota. If you can volunteer, please contact Theresa Donaghy on 01702 306893 or 07956 628213.

### **Advertising the Alpha Course**

We have produced publicity leaflets for the ALPHA Course and need people to leaflet drop within the parish borders. Bundles of leaflets corresponding to roads or buildings are now available in the porch. Please take a bundle (or 2) that is convenient (your road or building or near where you work perhaps) for you to deliver.

### **Changes to Mass and Service Times**

There are some changes to Mass and Service times next week. Please see the end of the newsletter for details.

### **Red Boxes at St. John Fisher**

If you haven't already done so, please bring your Red Missio Box next weekend and collect a new one. Please make sure that your name is written on the label when you hand it in. Thank you very much. Phyllis.

## **Baptism Preparation Course – Tomorrow – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September**

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 24<sup>th</sup> September 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.

## **First Holy Communion 2019**

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 the child is not a baptised catholic, you will need to attach a copy of the catholic parent's baptism certificate. If you do not have the relevant baptism certificate, please obtain a duplicate from the parish of baptism.

If you are from a non catholic family then one or both of the parents will need to become a catholic. This is done by following the ALPHA and ABC course (detailed earlier in this newsletter) – the first session of which is on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October. The family will also be expected to regularly attend Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass.

The closing date for applications is Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November (but non catholic families will need to join the Alpha-ABC course on 4<sup>th</sup> October). The initial parent's meeting is on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

## **Faith Group - A new study programme 'The Pivotal Players'**

Would you be interested in learning more about the lives and faith of some of the most important people who have shaped the church and changed the course of civilization? If your answer is yes, why not come along to the Faith Group which resumes on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> October, with an exciting new DVD 'The Pivotal Players' which explores the lives of six of Catholicism's most influential figures: St Francis of Assisi, St Thomas Aquinas, St Catherine of Siena, Blessed John Henry Newman, G K Chesterton and Michelangelo. The DVD has been described as an opportunity to "deepen our understanding of the Faith and be inspired in new and lasting ways". Everyone is welcome to join us for one or all of the sessions. Refreshments are provided.

We meet the first Thursday of the month (during term time) 1.30pm – 3.00pm. For further information please call Sandy Stidston on 01702 467188.

## **New Youth Choir at Sacred Heart**

If you are school year 4 and up and interested in music and singing we will be meeting every Sunday at 10.15am in Sacred Heart hall. The first session will be next Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> September). Any questions to Lucy Wake on 07975 506646.

## **Southchurch & Prittlewell Parish Players Present 100 years since the end of WW1**

Please join us on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November to honour those that gave their time and some their lives for our future. We will sing, remember and celebrate this very special anniversary. More details to follow but please save this extraordinary date.

## **Applications to Catholic Schools – September 2019 intake**

If you will be applying to a Catholic School for a place in the September 2019 intake you may want to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice. This will only be issued to families known to your Parish Priest, who are practising Catholics and the child has been baptised. (The child's baptism certificate will need to be shown to the Priest when asking for the Certificate of Catholic Practice.) 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).

**If you want to request a Certificate of Catholic Practice from Fr Graham, please see him after Mass next weekend to arrange an appointment.** (Appointment lists will not be at the back of the Church this year.)

In the meantime, please ensure that you already have the child's baptism certificate. If you do not have it, please **URGENTLY** request a duplicate from the Parish of baptism.

## **Appeal for Baby Hangers**

The Craft Group are busy making items to sell for the Maintenance Fund and need some baby hangers on which to display hand knitted items. If you have any you no longer need, please give them to Theresa Igoe or June O'Driscoll at Sacred Heart or Karen at St John Fisher.

## **Date for you Diary – Craft Fayre at Sacred Heart**

Run by the Craft Group in Sacred Heart Hall on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November – details to follow!

## Meal at East Asian Restaurant – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October

The Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group invite you to join us for our final fundraising bash for Milly Wake, our dear friend who passed away in February of last year. Any monies raised will go towards sending members of our parish to Lourdes. It's on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October at East Asian Restaurant, in Alexandra Street in town at 7.30pm. The Knights of St. Columba are going to the same place 3 weeks earlier, so feel free to come to both as the food is so tasty, once is never enough! £15 per person for an "Eat as much as you Like" buffet. Drinks available at the bar, paid for separately. There will be a raffle on the night and we really hope you can make it. Please contact Marianna 07813 207497 or Madeleine 07837 215757 to book your place. We still have a few copies left of Milly's Book for £5 if you're looking for an early Christmas gift.

## Parish Race Night

Apologies but this has been postponed until the New Year.

## Parish Christmas Fayre – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December – Appeal for Donations

Do you knit or sew clothes and gifts? Do you make jam? Do you pickle your own onions? If you do please consider making some extras and donating them to the Christmas Fayre.

We are also looking for donations of toys or gifts for the "Christmas stalls". Please donate what you can. At St John Fisher please give your donations to Charmaine, Karen, Helen or Malcolm. At Sacred Heart please give your donations in to the Sacristy.

Collections of Food and Toiletries		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Coffee and sugar.</b> <i>(Due to previous generous donations, HARP currently have enough tea bags and toiletries.)</i>
Foodbank	22 <sup>nd</sup> - 23 <sup>rd</sup> September 29 <sup>th</sup> - 30 <sup>th</sup> September	<b>Tinned potatoes or packet mash</b>

## Charity Meal in aid of Nazareth House - Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September

The Knights of Saint Columba are organising a charity meal to support the work of the Sisters of Nazareth. At the East Asian Restaurant, 33 Alexandra Street, Southend SS1 1BW, at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm. Eat as much as you like buffet Asian cuisine (some English dishes available). £16 per person. Drinks extra available from the bar. Raffle, tickets sold on the night. Please book by contacting – Liam Rand 07952 954833 – Mark Moulding 01702 344965 – Sandy Rand 07875 124159 or email: [liam.rand@btopenworld.com](mailto:liam.rand@btopenworld.com)

## Harvest Festival - St John Fisher Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October

We have, as a parish, always supported the needs of the poor around the world and 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. The harvest donations help them to stock their cupboards for the forthcoming winter months.

We invite you to donate 'one' item of non perishable food and place it in the Harvest Box in the porch.

Please also join us for home made cakes, sausage rolls and coffee in the hall after Mass. All proceeds will be sent to CAFOD.

## CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 5 October

On Family Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to share in the abundance that GOD has given us. We are asked to fast, pray and give help to people like Longora, who lives in a remote village in Uganda. The area is hot and dry, people used to struggle to get enough clean water to survive. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners in England and Wales, CAFOD has made sure Longora and her neighbours now have a reliable supply of clean, safe water.

On Family Fast Day (Friday 5 October), CAFOD invites us to eat simply - perhaps having a bowl of soup instead of a meal - and give the money we save to help people like Longora. Please give what you can. Thank you.

## Some Future Dates.....

All Saints Holy Day of Obligation - Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> November. Mass will be at Sacred Heart at 9.30am and at St John Fisher at 7.30pm.

Christmas Sing-a-Long - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in St John Fisher Hall.

Carols by Candlelight – Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church.

## 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.

## **"Let it be done unto me according to your word" – Sessions at Nazareth House**

"Mary once gave us the Saviour of the World, today she helps us to be filled with the Spirit of God". Join the Deanery Stewards of the Gospel Group for an inspiring TV quality exploration of Mary, past and present. Filmed on location in Walsingham, the Holy Land, Ephesus, Rome, Montserrat, Lourdes and Knock. Six sessions starting on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October at Nazareth House – 7.30pm start in the main hall. Each film is around 25 minutes long to be followed by a Q&A discussion. Entrance is free but donations towards the running costs of Nazareth House would be welcome.

## **St. Thomas More High School - Open Days**

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> and Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October by appointment. Telephone 01702 344933- for parents who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2019 - come and see the school during a normal school day, meet the staff and pupils.

Parents of boys who wish to apply for a place from September 2019 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 the website [www.st-thomsmore.southend.sch.uk](http://www.st-thomsmore.southend.sch.uk).

## **Coffee Morning at Nazareth House (111 London Rd, Southend-on-Sea SS1 1PP)**

On Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September from 10.30am. Jewellery, clothing, bags, books and toys all available.

## **Beginning Experience**

There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner. From Friday 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell. Details from Freda 01322-838415, Sandra 01293-783965 or [johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk).

## **Please Pray and Fast for the end of Abortion**

Moves are afoot to bring in anti- Christian censorship zones around abortion centres in the UK. On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this Country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed, and it really does save lives. [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)

## **Governance Development Officer Vacancy Brentwood Diocesan Education Service**

Details are available on the Diocesan Website in the Education section under Vacancies or can be requested by calling Sophie Russell on 01277 265284. The deadline for applications is 9.00am on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October.

## **The Catholic Church and the European Project**

A study day on this theme will be held at the Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> October. The speaker will be Fr Ashley Beck, priest of the archdiocese of Southwark, and Senior Lecturer in Pastoral Ministry at St Mary's University, Twickenham. The day begins at 11 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. Please make your booking by email to [GPstudydays@gmail.com](mailto:GPstudydays@gmail.com)

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## **Money**

16 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 Offertory	£1076.07
Home Mission Sunday	£335.80

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## **Baptism Congratulations**

Congratulations to the family of Teodor Caplin who was baptised last weekend.

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## **Rosina Valente RIP**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rosina Valente (ex parishioner of St John Fisher) who died on 9<sup>th</sup> September. Her Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2.45pm at Nazareth House.

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## **Mary Rand RIP**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Rand (mother of Liam Rand) who died on 6<sup>th</sup> September. Her Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 11.00am.

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## **Sick Parishioners**

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, especially; Valerie Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Christina Arnold, Marie Biner, Guilda Brett, Barbara Briggs, William Bryan, Eric Carpenter, Alfosina Carson, Richard Campbell-Carr, Patricia and Richard Dixon, Pamela Dobson, Helen Escott, Harleigh-Jo Farrar, Roy Fitchew, Paul Gunn, Peter Hopkins, Bartley Igoe Jr, Maria Kintu, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Bernard Lovell, Jacqueline Lovett, Joy May, Peter May, Sheila Norris, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Anita Rogers, Maria Scinto, Geraldine Stephens and Jenny Warren.

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## **Rest in Peace**

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Fr John Ryan, William Godwin, Mary Elizabeth McHugo, Maureen Patchett, Francesco Giudici, Edith Dyer, Mabel Barker, Charles Greggains, Michael Hamm, Patrick O'Dea, Dennis Wood, John O'Brien, Walter Cosgrove, 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 and Patrick Crosbie.

**Mass Text for 16<sup>th</sup> September 2018 –Twenty Fourth Sunday – B  
(Divine Office Week 1)**

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

**First Reading Wisdom 2:12, 17-20**

**Psalms 53:3-6, 8 response v 6**

**The Lord upholds my life.**

1 Oh God, save me by your name; by your power, uphold my cause.

O God, hear my prayer; listen to the words of my mouth.

2 For proud men have risen against me, ruthless men seek my life.

They have no regard for God.

3 But I have God for my help. The Lord upholds my life.

I will sacrifice to you with willing heart and praise your name for it is good.

**Second Reading James 3:16-4:3**

**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 9:30-37**

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

**Next Sunday – Numbers 11:25-29, Psalm 18:9, 10, 12-14 response v 9, James 5:1-6, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48.**

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
<b>Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>	<b>5.30pm</b> <i>Very Rev Canon Joseph Whitfield RIP</i>	
<b>Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September</b>	<b>Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> <b>11.00am</b> <i>Ronald and Maureen Patchett RIP</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <i>St Cosmas and St Damian</i>
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> September	Our Lady of Walsingham	9.00am <b><i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i></b>	
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Feria		
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Ss Cosmas and Damian	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group ( <i>in the hall</i> )	10.00am <b><i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i></b>
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	St Vincent De Paul	6.30pm <b><i>Service of the Word and Holy Communion</i></b>	
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> September	St Wenceslaus	12 noon <i>David and Sarah Louisa Sweeney RIP</i>	
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am <b><i>Holy Souls</i></b>
<b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>	<b>5.30pm</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>	
<b>Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September</b>	<b>Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year</b>	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> <b>11.00am</b> <i>Chris Sammon RIP</i> <b>12.30pm Baptism</b> <i>Lorenzo Lodge</i>	9.00am <i>Franco Giudici RIP</i>