

Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea

 Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Southend on Sea



St John Fisher
Prittlewell

 St. John Fisher Catholic Church, Prittlewell

Parish Priest: Fr Graham Smith

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 4th August 2019 – Eighteenth Sunday of the Year (C)

Dear friends

In today's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples and the crowd on how to be ready for the coming judgment. A crowd of many thousands has gathered to hear Jesus. At first he speaks only to the disciples, reminding them that it is not persecution they should fear but the judgment that is coming for all who do not acknowledge him. Suddenly a man in the crowd shouts out to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." He seems to have grown tired of Jesus speaking only to the disciples. Jesus offers the man no help. Instead he uses the question to teach what, in light of the coming judgment, life really consist of.

Jesus tells the crowd a parable. A rich man's lands have yielded more crops than expected. His response is not to consider how he might share all the extra food with others but to wonder how he can possibly store it all. He has what he thinks is a brilliant idea: to tear down his present barns and build larger ones. Then he will have many things stored up for years of eating, drinking, and making merry.

"You fool" is God's response to this man because that very night his life will be taken away. To whom will everything belong then, God asks. The rich man's world is small, just him and his possessions, and now he learns that he is to lose his life. What good are his possessions now? Jesus states the moral of the story. This is how it will be for everyone who stores up treasure for himself or herself but is not rich in what matters to God.

Centuries later St. Gregory the Great taught that when we care for the needs of the poor, we are giving them what is theirs, not ours. We are not just performing works of mercy; we are paying a debt of justice. Life does not consist in possessions but in sharing what we possess with others. The goods of the earth have been given to everyone.

Fr Graham

Changes to Mass Times this Week

All weekday Masses at Sacred Heart (Monday, Thursday and Friday) during this week will be at 9.30am. On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday Mass at St John Fisher will be at 9.30am. The Wednesday Mass at St John Fisher will remain at 10.00am.

Next Weekend we Welcome Fr Raphael Frempong to the Parish

Fr Ralph from Ghana will be joining us for the weekend Masses next weekend. There will be a second collection towards helping support seminarians in Ghana. Fr Ralph writes *"May the peace of Christ be with all. Once again, I write to seek your generous contributions to assist the many young men and women, who desire to answer God's call to Priestly and Religious Life, yet have no one to support them respond to this divine call. With the shortage of priests and religious in other parts of the world, while there is an increase in Vocations in Africa, your contributions today would train them to come and serve you one day, as Priests and Religious. I urge you to help this noble duty just as the Widow of Zaraheth helped Elijah (cf. 1 Kings 17:8-24). Thanks in advance and God richly bless you in all your endeavours."*

Learning About the Catholic Faith

We are starting a new programme about the Catholic faith in our parish. It is called Sycamore, named after the tree that Zacchaeus climbed to see Jesus.

Sycamore is an informal course about the Christian faith and its relevance for life today. Each session involves a short film and some time for discussion. There's no pressure and no commitment. You can be yourself without any fear of being judged. There's a real sense of community, a spirit of friendship, some great conversation, and some delicious food. Everyone is welcome.

If you are interested then there is a 'come and see' session on Thursday 19th September at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart hall.

"An amazing experience... The questions asked were incredibly relevant... Interesting and thought-provoking discussions... It's a great programme!"

University Student Group

Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group

The Prayer Group will not be meeting again until after the summer holidays and will reconvene on Wednesday 11th September at 10.00am in Sacred Heart Hall. If, during the holidays, you have an urgent prayer need please call Marianna on 07813 207497.

Applications to Catholic Schools for September 2020 Places

If you will be applying to a catholic school for a September 2020 place, you may want to approach Fr Graham for a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CPP). Please note that the process for requesting a CPP from Fr Graham will be announced in the newsletter in the Autumn – please watch the newsletter at that time for details. Please wait until then before approaching Fr Graham or the Parish Office for a CPP.

In the meantime, please remember that you will need the child's baptism certificate as part of the school application process – if you do not have it, please request a copy from the church of baptism as soon as possible.

Collections of items for HARP and the Southend Foodbank		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	3 rd -4 th August	Instant mash and microwave rice pouches
Foodbank	10 TH -11 TH August 17 th -18 th August	Rice and tinned tuna

June 2019 200 Club Results

Congratulations to our winners. 1st prize £30 - James Walker number 13. 2nd prize £15- John Rice number 59. 3rd £10 - Louise Evans number 92.

Fire Exits

Will all users of our buildings please ensure that all fire exits are kept clear so that safe escape routes are maintained.

Parish Newsletter

If you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please send an e-mail to parish@catholicsouthend.org.uk quoting "Request to receive newsletter via e-mail" in the subject box.

Some Future Dates.....

Thursday 15th August – The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Holy Day of Obligation. Mass at Sacred Heart at 9.30am and at St John Fisher at 7.30pm.

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

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.

***** Around the Deanery, Diocese and Beyond *****

BCCS Barleylands (Billericay) Fun Walk

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting families to join us at the Barleylands Fun Walk on Sunday 8th September 2019 to increase awareness of our work. This is a great fun, family event with a choice of walks on the Barleylands site in Billericay, the longest being no more than 2 miles and a shorter walk which is suitable for children & toddlers. There will be stalls serving cakes/biscuits and ice-cream available from 12 noon and the community walk will start at 12.45pm and finish around 2.00pm. This is an ideal opportunity for families or parish groups to get together & have a fun afternoon while raising much needed funds for 'bccs'. For a sponsorship form and more information, please go to <https://www.bccs.org.uk/fundraising-and-events> or contact Julie on jabbott@bccs.org.uk. Look out for our 'bccs' pitch at the start line and come and say hello!

Study Day on the Permanent Diaconate – Saturday 14th September

At the Church of the Immaculate Conception, 11 Church Hill, Epping, CM16 4RA, from 9.30am to 1.00pm (preceded by Mass in the church at 9.0am).

BCYS Youth Gather, Mersea Island, 26th-27th October 2019

The Youth Gather is for anyone in school year 9-13, and includes a mix of inspiring speakers, reflection and prayer, together with outward bound activities like zip wires, high ropes and climbing walls. The cost of £50 includes coach from Stratford, Romford, Basildon, Brentwood, Chelmsford or Southend, as well as all meals and activities. Full details and online booking at <https://bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2019/>

Diocesan Vision Document – Shaping our Future

Copies of the July e-bulletin are available in the porches.

*** *Our Catholic Schools* ***

Foundation Governors & Trustees – St Thomas More High School

It is that time again when we begin to look forward to next academic year and we are looking to recruit Catholic individuals who share our passion and mission for Catholic education, that might consider serving at a local level as a Foundation Governor of St Thomas More High School or at Trust Level as a Trustee of the Assisi Catholic Trust. If you think you have the skills (particularly safeguarding, finance, human resources or legal background), dedication and motivation we would love to have you on board. Please do speak to either your Parish Priest or contact Mrs Gemma Ackred, Headteacher at St Thomas More High School and Chief Accounting officer for The Assisi Catholic Trust (gackred@assiscatholictrust.com) to find out more about the roles we have available. I really hope many of you will consider your potential to serve our schools in this way and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Money

Offertory 28th July 2019

£1099.31

There will be a second collection next weekend to support catholic education in Ghana

Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, including; Valerie Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Christina Arnold, Marie Biner, Guilda Brett, Barbara Briggs, William Bryan, Eric Carpenter, Alfosina Carson, Richard Campbell-Carr, Margaret and Tom Cullen, Patricia and Richard Dixon, Pamela Dobson, Patrick Doherty, Helen Escott, Harleigh-Jo Farrar, John Fiore, Roy Fitchew, Danielle Honeyands, Katrina Honeyands, Peter Hopkins, Bartley Igoe Jr, Teresa Igoe, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Bernard Lovell, Jacqueline Lovett, Sheila Norris, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Anita Rogers, Maria Scinto, Geraldine Stephens, Penny Stiles, Jenny Warren and Sally Wray.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Nellie Grout, Percy Rowe, Frederick Cullender, Bridget Cairns, Martin Kavanagh, Helen (Cissy) Macdonald, Roy Rinaldi, Patrick McMahon, Pope Paul VI, Mary Alston, Ronald Bundy, Francis Parsad, Elizabeth Leach, Gwendolyn Coe, Stanley Upson, Lillian O'Callaghan, Joan Miles, Fr Henry Tilley, Fr David Coughlan, Fr Hugh Verity, John Murray, Tina Avery, Julie Cain, Lorna Mary Richards, Thomas Sullivan and Barbara McHugo.

Mass Text for 4th August 2019 – 18th Sunday of the Year (Divine Office Week 3)

Entrance Antiphon O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make hast to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

First Reading Ecclesiasticus 1:2, 2:21-23

Psalm 89:3-6, 12-14, 17 response v1

Response: O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

1 You turn men back into dust and say: 'Go back, sons of men.'

To your eyes a thousand years are like yesterday, come and gone, no more than a watch in the night.

2 You sweep men away like a dream, like grass which springs up in the morning.

In the morning it springs up and flowers by evening it withers and fades.

3 The Make us know the shortness of our life that we may gain wisdom of heart.

Lord relent! Is your anger for ever? Show pity to your servants.

4 In the morning, fill us with your love; we shall exult and rejoice in our days.

Let the favour of the Lord be upon us: give success to the work of our hands.

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-9, 9-11

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia, Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 12:13-21

Communion Antiphon: You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Next Sunday's readings

Wisdom 18:6-9, Psalm:32: 1, 12, 18-20, 22 response v12, Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19, Luke 12:32-48

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 3 rd August	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm Mass <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i>	
Sunday 4 th August	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(9.00am Polish Mass) 11.00am Mass <i>Letecia Moalam RIP</i> 12.30pm Baptism <i>Donald Mills</i>	9.00am Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 5 th August	Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major	9.30am Mass <i>Elizabeth Wise RIP</i>	9.30am Mass
Tuesday 6 th August	Transfiguration of the Lord		9.30am Mass
Wednesday 7 th August	Feria	(No Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group today)	10.00am Mass <i>Nora Stumbke RIP</i>
Thursday 8 th August	St Dominic	9.30am Mass <i>Joan Butcher RIP</i>	9.30am Mass
Friday 9 th August	St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	9.30am Mass Very Rev Canon Joseph Whitfield	9.30am Mass 2.30pm Tea, Cake and Reflection on the Mass (in the hall)
Saturday 10 th August	St Lawrence	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am Mass <i>Intentions of Norma and Alan Humphries</i>
Saturday 10 th August	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm Mass <i>Peter Axup RIP</i>	
Sunday 11 th August	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(9.00am Polish Mass) 11.0am Mass <i>Joan Butcher RIP</i>	9.00am Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>

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 at 6.00pm when there is evening Mass. **The Angelus** is recited 5 minutes before Sunday (and Saturday 5.30pm) Masses.