

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 15th September 2019 – Twenty Fourth Sunday of the Year (C)

Dear friends

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells three parables about losing, finding, and rejoicing. The outcasts of society, the taxpayers, and the sinners approach Jesus eager to hear what he has to say. The Pharisees and scribes, still suspicious of Jesus, complain about him associating with sinners. So he tells them these three parables.

In the first story, the parable of The Lost Sheep, the shepherd leaves behind the 99 sheep to search for the 1 lost sheep. When he finds it, the shepherd rejoices. In the same way, God rejoices more over 1 sinner who repents—like the outcasts who have come to hear Jesus—than over the 99 righteous like the Pharisees and scribes.

The second story, about a poor woman who will not stop searching until she finds her lost coin, makes the same point. Why are the Pharisees complaining? They should rejoice when the lost are found.

Finally we come to what is probably the most memorable parable in the Gospels, the story we know as The Prodigal Son. The loving father is at the centre of this parable. Even though his son runs off with his father's inheritance and squanders the money, the father waits for him, hoping for his return. Upon his son's return, the father, "full of compassion," runs out to embrace and forgive him before the son can utter one word of repentance. At this point the rejoicing begins.

The father's response teaches us that God's care and compassion extend to the righteous and sinner alike. When we are lost, God doesn't wait for our return. He actively seeks us out. And when the lost are found, how could we not celebrate and rejoice?

Fr Graham

Learning About the Catholic Faith – Introductory Session on 19th September!

We are starting a new programme about the Catholic faith in our parish. It is called Sycamore.

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. Please pick up a card from the porch for more information.

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

University Student Group

Applications to Catholic Schools - September 2020 Places – Primary & Secondary

If you will be asking Fr Graham for a Certificate of Catholic Practice (CPP), please see him after Mass. He will give you a "contact details note" on which you are asked to write your contact details before giving it back to him. Fr Graham will then contact you within six weeks to arrange a time to meet with you to discuss the CPP.

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

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 23rd 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.**

Harvest Festival – St John Fisher Sunday 6th 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 food 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 join us in the hall after Mass when we will serve homemade soup with crusty bread, followed by apple cake and tea/coffee.

Children's Liturgy at Sacred Heart

Thanks to extra volunteers as leaders, this year we are able to offer Children's Liturgy every Sunday (except during school holidays and when it is a children's Mass). Children's Liturgy is intended for children from Reception to Year 2. Any child below that age MUST be accompanied by an adult.

May we take this opportunity to thank those who volunteer to run the Children's Liturgy - without them it couldn't happen.

Rock and Roll Evening - Saturday 5th October

Come and join us for an evening of Rock and Roll music and dance from 7.15pm on Saturday 5th October in St John Fisher Hall. Prizes awarded for best dancers and for best dressed. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets are £5, contact Madeline Carey-Herman tel: 07837 215757 or Lynda Davis tel: 01702 300382. All proceeds for Parish Funds.

SVP Party for the over 60s – Sunday 22nd September

This will take place in Sacred Heart hall from 3.00pm. If you would like to go along, please ring Pete on 01702 300870.

Christmas Fayre – Saturday 2nd November in St John Fisher Hall

It may seem a little early to think about Christmas, but the festive season is not too far away. We are planning another Christmas Fayre, after the success of last year, and are looking for donations of new toys and gifts for the Christmas stalls. Also, donations of wines, spirits and beers for the Tombola stall. You were all so amazingly generous and supportive of the event in 2018 and we hope you will be again this year. Thank you. At St John Fisher, please place donations in the box in the porch. At Sacred Heart please place donations in the box at the back of the Church.

Knights of St Columba (KSC) Nativity Painting Competition.

The KSC are organising a Christmas Painting competition of an event occurring around the Nativity for school year groups 3-4 and 5-6. Entries certified as to age group by a Catechist or teacher to Brian Dillon, c/o Sacred Heart Presbytery, 418, Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 2QB by the 31st January 2020. Judges will be; Fr Graham Smith, a teacher from Sacred Heart School and the Grand Knight of Council 192, Southend.

Havens Hospice

We will be having a second collection towards the building of the new Havens Hospice over the weekend of 16th-17th November.

Collections of items for HARP and the Southend Foodbank		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	5 th -6 th October	Instant mash and microwave rice pouches
Foodbank	14 th -15 th September 21 st -22 nd September	Jam, pasta sauce, cuppa soup, juice and rice

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

Friends of Nazareth House Coffee Morning & Sale – Saturday 21st September

The Friends of Nazareth House welcomes all to a coffee morning and Bric-a-Brac sale at Nazareth House Hall on the 21st September, from 10.45am to 12.30pm. Money raised will contribute to the repair of the chapel ceiling and roof. New volunteers are very welcome and donations of home made cakes would be appreciated.

Essex Recusant Society (Brentwood Diocesan Historical Society) Meeting

At The Grange, 93 Queens Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4EY, on Saturday 28th September at 2.30pm. Father Bob White of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham (and formerly Vicar of St Thomas of Canterbury, Brentwood) will speak on 'From Anglicanism to Catholicism.' All are most welcome.

Beginning Experience Weekend

A healing weekend for men and women who are separated, divorced or widowed will be held from 18th to 20th October at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. For more details please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk

Healing Mass of Resurrection, Tuesday 17th September, Our Lady of Canvey

Starting at 7.00pm with Divine Mercy chaplet, followed by Mass at 7.30pm then family tree prayers with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and prayers for healing

Those who wish to do so are invited to sketch out their family lines on paper and place this on the altar, otherwise just come and submit them in your hearts. All are welcome

Study Day on the Book of Genesis

The 'Year of the God who Speaks', which runs from 2019-2020, is promoted by the Bishops of England and Wales. Bishop Alan Williams will open the Year at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Brentwood Road, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) at 10.30am on Saturday 12th October. This will be followed by the launch of our renewed evangelisation website www.whatgoodnews.org The main part of the day will be dedicated to two talks by Fr Adrian Graffy entitled 'Beginning with Genesis', which will provide a fresh reading of the opening chapters of the Book of Genesis. The day will conclude at 3.00pm. Admission is free, but please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com or by phone to 01708 449914. Copies of the newly-published 'Revised New Jerusalem Bible' will be on sale at the discounted price of £30 (RRP £39.99). Refreshments will be available but please bring your own packed lunch. There is ample free parking at the church, which is three minutes' walk from Gidea Park station. Easy connections by bus and by TfL to Stratford, Liverpool Street, and Brentwood.

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/>

Lift Up Your Voice!

At Our Lady of Lourdes, Cambridge Park, Wanstead, E11 2PR 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Registration from 7.00 pm. Tuesday, 29th October 2019. Cost £7.50. A key issue that often unites all Christian communities is a lack of the musical resource called for on so many occasions, particularly, perhaps, in the oncoming Advent and Christmas seasons. This is a short course aimed at those perhaps without trained organists, substantial choirs or worship bands; in short anyone with limited musical resources or needing of can-do and encouragement. It offers some straightforward musical ideas to get your parishioners singing - with or without instruments. We will include hymns, songs, rounds and settings of the set texts for singing during the Eucharist, Mass or other formal service. Above all we will demonstrate techniques for teaching all sorts of new music to your parishioners in a simple and achievable way. Book on line at rscm-eel.org.uk, ring 01277 233302 or e mail shirleytimmins@btinternet.com.

Come and Sing Compline by Candlelight

A candlelit service of music and prayers on the Feast of St. Luke based on the liturgy used for centuries by monastic communities. A serene and contemplative end to the bustle of the day in psalmody and hymnody at Corpus Christi, Collier Row, RM5 2AP on 18th October. Come and sing with us (Rehearsal time 7.30pm) or join us for the service (9.00pm) Musical director James Davy Retiring Collection. For further information or to book if singing please contact Shirley Timmins by e mail to shirleytimmins@btinternet.com or leave a message on the answerphone 01277 233302. Or book on RSCM Website rscm-eel.org

Vocations Weekend for Young Women: Discernment and Vocation

From 29th November to 1st December in Liverpool and organised by the sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There is nothing quite like religious life - it's an extraordinary adventure into a deep relationship with God. If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. For more information contact Sr Lynne fcj at lynnecj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

Rick Egan RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rick Egan who died on 5th September. The funeral arrangements are not yet known.

Christopher Breakey RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Christopher Breakey who died on 18th August. His funeral will be on Wednesday 18th September at 12 noon at Southend Crematorium.

Money

Offertory 8th September 2019

£1357.04

Catholic Education Service

£353.07

There will be a second collection this weekend for Home Mission Day

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, Paul, Peter Hopkins, Bartley Igoe Jr, Teresa Igoe, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Bernard Lovell, Jacqueline Lovett, Peter Murphy, 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: Fr Theophilus Borer, Abp George Beck, Canon James Hemming, William Ashford, Deacon Arthur Woods, Angela Clark, Wilfrid Spearman, Fr Louis Heston, Jane and Vera Lloyd, Cecelia Rawnsley, Michael Gibbons, Bridget Childs, Catherine Wood, Fr John Bergin, Fr Anthony Mayston, Margaret Gibbons, Canon Frederick Gahaghan, Louisa Kirk, Rebecca Downey, Terry Daniels and Doreen Kylyn.

Mass Text 15th September 2019 - 24th Sunday of the Year (Divine Office Week 1)

Entrance Antiphon Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of our people Israel.

First Reading Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

Psalm 50: 3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 response Luke 15:18

Response: I will leave this place and go to my father.

- 1 Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness. In your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt and cleanse me from my sin.
- 2 A pure heart create for me, O God, put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence, nor deprive me of your holy spirit.
- 3 O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.
My sacrifice is a contrite spirit; a humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

Second Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

Gospel Luke 15:1-10.

Communion Antiphon: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

Next Sunday's readings

Amos 8:4-7, Psalm 112:1-2, 4-8 response vv 1,7, 1 Timothy 2:1-8, Luke 16:1-13

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 14 th September	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm Mass <i>Vivencia Tejada RIP</i>	
Sunday 15 th September	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i>) 11.00am Mass <i>Intentions of Immaculate Ishioky</i>	9.00am (to include the baptism of Ayana Mathe) <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 16 th September	St Cornelius St and Cyprian	9.30am Mass <i>Mike Lovas RIP</i>	10.00am Mass
Tuesday 17 th September	St Robert Bellarmine		7.00am Mass
Wednesday 18 th September	Feria	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group (in the hall)	10.00am Mass <i>Intentions of Fr Kingsley</i>
Thursday 19 th September	St Januarius	6.30pm Mass followed by Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament <i>Geraldine Scraggs RIP</i>	10.00am Mass
Friday 20 th September	St Andrew Kim Tae-Gon & St Paul Chong Ha-sang and Comps	9.30am Mass <i>Intentions of Alexandra Okolo</i>	1.30pm Mass
Saturday 21 st September	St Matthew	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am Mass <i>Patricia Moran RIP</i>
Saturday 21 st September	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm Mass <i>Intentions of Stephanie (mermaid)</i>	
Sunday 22 nd September	Twenty Fifth Sunday in ordinary Time	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i>) 11.0am Mass <i>Don and Florence Fell RIP</i>	9.00am Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>

