


**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 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – Epiphany of the Lord

*Dear friends*

Today we celebrate the feast of Epiphany. The word Epiphany means “manifestation” or “showing forth.” We call this feast Epiphany because Jesus showed himself to the Magi. Our Gospel today tells the story of the visit of the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, but when the wise men arrived in Jerusalem, it seems they no longer had the guidance of the star, otherwise they would not have had to ask Herod for advice. When they get to the nativity scene they give Jesus three gifts. We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus’ role in salvation. Gold is a sign of Jesus’ kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus’ death.

Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus. Lord, in our moments of darkness without a star, help us not to give up but to keep searching, hoping and praying. Let us pray now for strength to remain steadfast when there is no guiding star.

#### **Thank You**

There has been a lot of work put into making our Christmas celebrations so special. Flower arrangers, musicians, singers, cleaners, servers, sacristans, rota co-ordinators and many others have all contributed time and effort – thank you one and all!

*Fr Graham*

#### **Sacred Heart Winter Night Shelter**

Thank you for all of your donations. We have enough items for the time being so no more are needed at this time. Every blessing, Liam Rand.

<b>Collections of items</b>		
Foodbank	11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> January	Tinned meat pies/meat meals, long life fruit juice, long life milk and tinned/long life puddings.
Night Shelter	<b>Nothing currently needed thank you.</b>	

#### **First Holy Communion Programme**

The first children’s session takes place next Sunday (12<sup>th</sup> January) at 9.30am in Sacred Heart Hall. The children will be Presented to the Parish at the 11.00am Mass on that day. It is important that all children on the Programme attend the session and the Mass.

#### **Confirmation 2020**

For young people in school year 10 or above. Application forms are now available in the porches. Applicants will need to attach their Baptism Certificate to the application form – if you do not have it, please request a copy from the Parish of Baptism as soon as possible. **The initial meeting for parents and young people will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January 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 20<sup>th</sup> January 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.

## **ABC (About Becoming Catholic)**

The Sycamore Course continues from this Thursday (9<sup>th</sup> January) as the ABC (About Becoming Catholic) Course. All are welcome from 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall ie. Straight after the 6.30pm Mass and Benediction.

## **Sacred Heart Facebook Page**

Please be aware the Sunday morning Mass Entrance Procession will be filmed and posted on Sacred Heart's Facebook page. In line with the Diocesan Safeguarding guidelines, if you or your children do not wish to be filmed, please speak to either Anne Ackery (Safeguarding Representative) or Fr Graham.

## **Bible Study Group**

The Bible Timeline study programme takes you on a guided journey through salvation history. Presenter Jeff Cavins will show you how fourteen of the Bible's narrative books tell the biblical story from beginning to end and give you the keys to understanding the amazing story woven throughout Scripture. The Bible Timeline will teach you how to read and understand the Bible and introduce you to the wonderful narrative of the Bible in a way that will transform your life. Please join us in the hall at St. John Fisher, starting with tea and cake at 2.00pm on the following dates.

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June

"To fall in love with God is the greatest of all romances;  
To seek Him, is the greatest adventure"  
-St. Augustine

## **Southchurch and Prittlewell Parish Players – Pantomime**

We are excited to present to you our Pantomime 'Jack & the Beanstalk'. Come along and watch Jack, his family and friends' adventures, as they overcome the Giant and his evil Henchman. We will be performing it on 3 occasions in January: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm, Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm and Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> at 3.00pm at St John Fisher Hall. **Matinee tickets are nearly sold out.** Tickets will cost £7 for adults and £3 for children. You are invited to bring your own drinks & nibbles. Call Shem 07305 743587 for tickets.

## **Brentwood Diocesan Directory 2020**

Copies of the Brentwood Diocesan Directory for 2020 are now available from the Repository at a cost of £2.80.

## **Donation of £40.00 to the Christmas Collection**

If you are a Gift Aider and, over the weekend of 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> December, made a donation of £40.00 to the "Christmas Day" collection please can you get in touch with Sue in the Parish Office. (The Gift Aid number was missing on the Gift Aid envelope and so we don't know which Gift Aider to ascribe the donation to.)

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

## **Summer Lourdes 2020 with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Last Chance to Apply!**

Applications for the BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage (open to anyone currently in school year 10-13) CLOSE at midnight on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. The pilgrimage is a wonderful way to experience Lourdes in the company of other young people, serving the ill and elderly, and with tremendous experiences of prayer, reflection and social time. The cost is £600, with bursary funds available. To apply go online to [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net), create a free account, then register for Summer Lourdes. Places will be allocated on 15th January. Any questions, please email [gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

## **Two Vacancies in the Brentwood Diocesan Finance Office, Brentwood**

- Parish Support – Finance Assistant. £25,000pa for a 35 hour week. Experienced book-keeper required to provide support in all aspects of parish finance and gift aid administration.
- Management Accountant. £30,000-£35,000pa for a 35 hour week. Experienced Management Accountant required to support in all aspects of general accounts administration.

Both jobs are based in Brentwood with some travel throughout the Diocese. Further information and full job descriptions can be obtained by contacting HR on 01277 265253 or by email [recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org). The closing date for both jobs is Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Interviews are expected to be held w/c 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

## Health and Safety Coordinator Vacancy for the Diocese of Brentwood

£25,000 - £30,000pa for a 35 hour week. Based in Brentwood with regular travel throughout the Diocese.

Further information and a full job description can be obtained by contacting HR on 01277 265253 or by email [recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org). The closing date is 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 and interviews are expected to be held week commencing 3rd February 2020.

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### Francis (Frank) Mathews RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Francis Mathews (husband of Kathleen Mathews) who died recently. His funeral will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 11.00am at St John Fisher.

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### Money

Offertory – Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019

£1274.11

Offertory – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2019

£1143.31

The “Crib Offerings” for the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society (BCCS) continues until Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019. **Members of the Gift Aid Scheme are asked to use the “Second Collection” envelope dated 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020.**

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### Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, including; Valerie Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Christina Arnold, Marie Biner, Barbara Briggs, William Bryan, Eric Carpenter, Alfosina Carson, Richard Campbell-Carr, Margaret and Tom Cullen, Patricia and Richard Dixon, Patrick Doherty, Helen Escott, Harleigh-Jo Farrar, 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, Fr Liam O’Driscoll, David Raglan, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Anita Rogers, Christine Sach, Maria Scinto, Penny Stiles, Jenny Warren and Sally Wray.

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### Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Dennis Waskett, Canon Patick McKenna, John Glynn, Rita White, Thomas O’Neill, Fr Francis Heenan, John Higgins, Valesda Kurland, Alice Winters, Margaret Power, Harriet Poole, Leo Phoenix, Daniel Linehan, Reginald Ray, Reginald Ray, Eileen Laing, Canon John Bloomfield, Eleanor (Mary) Ford, William Robertson, Olive Curtis, Mary Sherlock, Dolores Barrett, John Crump, Kathleen Portsmouth, Rosanna Wheaton, Arthur McKenna, Mary Crighton, Rosa Szentes, Mrs V Partington, Stanley Knowler, John Isaacs, Anastasia Cummings, Emily Marler, Mary Braddon and Patrick Maloney.

## 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – The Epiphany of the Lord (Divine Office Week 1)

**Entrance Antiphon:** Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

**First Reading:** Isaiah 60:1-6

**Psalm:** 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13 response cf v 11

**Response: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

- 1 O God, give your judgement to the king, to a king’s son your justice,  
That he may judge your people in justice and your poor in right judgement.
- 2 In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails.  
He shall rule from sea to sea, from the Great River to earth’s bounds.
- 3 The kings of Tarshish and the sea coats shall pay him tribute.  
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.  
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate, all nations shall serve him.
- 4 For he shall save the poor when they cry and the needy who are helpless.  
He will have pity on the weak and save the lives of the poor.

**Second Reading** Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6

**Gospel Acclamation** Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!

**Gospel** Matthew 2:1-12

**Communion Antiphon** We have seen his star in the East and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

**Next weekend’s readings:** Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7, Psalm 28:1-4, 9-10, response v11, Acts 10:34-38, Matthew 3:13-17

<b>Masses and Services</b>		<b>Sacred Heart</b>	<b>St John Fisher</b>
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>	<b>5.30pm Mass</b> <i>Ann Husk RIP</i>	
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Epiphany of the Lord</b>	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> ) <b>11.00am Mass</b> <i>Ghim Tin RIP</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Feria of Christmastide	<b>9.30am</b> <i>Elvis Presley RIP</i>	<i>No Mass today</i>
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	St Raymond of Penyafort		<b>11.00am Funeral Service</b> <i>Francis Matthew</i>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Feria of Christmastide		<b>10.00am Mass</b> <i>Holy Souls</i>
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> January	Feria of Christmastide	<b>6.30m Mass followed by Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</b> <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i>	<i>No Mass today</i>
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Feria of Christmastide	<b>9.30am Mass</b> <i>Lila May Vickers RIP</i>	<b>1.30pm Mass</b>
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>Feria of Christmastide</b>	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <i>Intentions of Maxine White and family</i>
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>	<b>5.30pm Mass</b> <i>Intentions of Colin and Alda Murrell</i>	
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b>	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> ) <b>11.00am Mass (to include the Presentation to the Parish of the First Holy Communion children)</b> <i>John and Lilian Sullivan RIP</i>	<b>9.00am Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>

**The Angelus** will be recited 5 minutes before Sunday (and Saturday 5.30pm) Masses.

**Rosary** - The Holy Rosary is said in both Churches before the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.