


**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

**The Presbytery, 418 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, SS1 2QB.**

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## **PARISH NEWSLETTER**

### **Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020 – First Sunday of Lent (A)**

*Dear friends,*

*This Sunday is the first Sunday in Lent, so ask yourself, where are you this Lent? Do you want more than what you have? Start with this: it is not about what we can do and us. It is about a relationship. In this relationship, God gave us everything. Jesus gave up his life for our hearts. Maybe we are putting energy toward hiding something, like a sin. Imagine that this Lent you can be freed from whatever that may be. There are many chains in which a heart can be tangled, but Christ is the only one strong enough to break all of them. Instead of putting energy toward trying to break these chains, give your heart to God as a sacrifice this Lent.*

*The word "sacrifice" comes from the Latin words "sacer" (sacred) and "facere" (to make), so it essentially means to make something sacred. It means offering something to God so he can make it holy. What is God calling you to sacrifice this Lent? If you always do what you have always done, you will always get what you always got. So think about offering something different to God this Lent, because God wants more for you. Lent is for those who need a saviour, forgiveness, and mercy. It is a chance to grow in the most important relationship we can have, with the God of the universe.*

*Fr Graham*

### **Lent 2020**

#### **Stations of the Cross During Lent**

There will be ample opportunities to pray the Stations of the Cross in our parish during Lent. They will be on Friday (straight after the 9.30am Mass at Sacred Heart), on Saturday (straight after 9.00am Mass at St John Fisher) and on most Sundays at 4.00pm (at Sacred Heart unless otherwise stated) On Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March the community from St Luke's Anglican Church will join us for Stations of the Cross at St John Fisher at 4.00pm. On Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March, we will join the community of St Luke's Anglican Church (St Luke's Rd, Southend-on-Sea SS2 4AB) at 4.00pm for an ecumenical celebration of this devotion.

#### **Confession During Lent**

Please make a special effort to go to Confession during Lent. Confessions are available at St John Fisher after the Saturday morning Mass and at Sacred Heart on Saturday mornings from 10.00am to 10.45am. Additionally, confession will be available for half an hour before each of the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses.

There will not be a Deanery Reconciliation Service during Lent.

#### **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction**

Exposition will continue to be held at Sacred Heart on Thursday evenings straight after the 6.30pm Mass. During Lent it will also be held at St John Fisher, straight after the Wednesday 10.00am Mass.

#### **Deanery Lent Talks - Four Gospels - One Jesus... In the year of 'The God who speaks'.**

At St Saint Peter's, Eastwood Road North, Leigh on Sea SS9 4BX. All presentations begin at 8.00pm and conclude with Night Prayer and Benediction. Confession will be available. Tea and Coffee available along with a with Lenten Bookstall.

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March - The Gospel according to Mark. – Fr Paul Fox

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March - The Gospel according to Matthew - Fr Gerry Drummond

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - The Gospel according to Luke –Fr Eduard Fartan

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April - The Gospel according to John - Fr Graham Smith

#### **Monday Morning Mass at Sacred Heart**

Monday morning's Mass at 9.30am (2<sup>nd</sup> March) will take place in Sacred Heart Church Hall due to repair work taking place in the main body of the church. Please enter through the Hall main doors accessed via the large wrought iron gates.

## Coffee and Cake - St John Fisher

We will not be holding our usual monthly coffee and cake morning this month but we will be serving coffee and biscuits in the hall after the 9 am Mass this morning. We look forward to seeing you all.

## Sacred Heart Table Sale

Thank you to everyone who turned out in such atrocious weather we raised £250 towards the Parish Maintenance Fund.

## Faith Study Group

The next meeting of the faith study group is on Thursday, 5th March at 1.30pm. We will be taking a break from our study of 'The Pivotal Players' to watch the DVD 'The Case for Christ'. For further information please contact Sandy Stidston on 01702 467188. Everyone is very welcome.

## St Patrick's Social Evening

Come and join us on Saturday 21st March from 6:45 pm in Sacred Heart Hall; to dine on Irish Stew and Soda Bread and celebrate Ireland's patron saint with music & the craic. Tickets are available from Lynda Davis (tel: 07939 911747) or Karen (Adults £8, Child £4). Please bring your own bottle.

## 33 Days to Morning Glory – Prayer Retreat and Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary - 29<sup>th</sup> March 2020

You can keep up with the Retreat by watching EWTN at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46h\\_ijZURP8&list=PL\\_9yaNCbB144\\_PNfO4PG8q8YRQHTe4Jfy&utm\\_source=Behold2020&utm\\_campaign=25ec80895c-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_02\\_13\\_06\\_44&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_d5aa7295bf-25ec80895c-335364922](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46h_ijZURP8&list=PL_9yaNCbB144_PNfO4PG8q8YRQHTe4Jfy&utm_source=Behold2020&utm_campaign=25ec80895c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_02_13_06_44&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d5aa7295bf-25ec80895c-335364922). You may also like to look at the "Behold 2020" Facebook page, which includes some useful information and updates. There will be a Deanery Celebration of the Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary at 3.00pm on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March at St Peter's, Eastwood Road North, Leigh on Sea SS9 4BX. It will consist of A Liturgy of Marian Hymns, Readings, Homily & Benediction – Refreshments served afterwards.

## Sacred Heart Winter Night Shelter

Thank you for all of your donations. We now need donations of new fleece lined joggers in size small and medium. Every blessing, Liam Rand.

Collections of items		
HARP	29 <sup>th</sup> February – 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Tea, coffee and sugar
Foodbank	7 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Long life puddings and tinned meat pies/meat meals
Night Shelter	<b>New Fleece lined joggers in sizes small and medium</b>	

## 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 at 2.00pm on the following dates. Refreshments are served at the end of the session.

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February      Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March      Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May      Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May      Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March      Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April      Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April      Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June

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

## Lenten Talks - The year of the God who speaks

On Wednesday evenings 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March beginning at 7 pm at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH), Fr Adrian Graffy will speak about 'The Great Johannine Gospels', considering the gospels of the Samaritan Woman, the Man Born Blind, and the Raising of Lazarus, which will be proclaimed on the subsequent Sundays, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of Lent. These evenings will include a reading of the relevant gospel in parts. Admission is free and refreshments will be available. Please book your place for these events by email to [GPstudydays@gmail.com](mailto:GPstudydays@gmail.com) or by phone to 01708 449914. For further information and video of past events go to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

## Lenten resources for young people, teachers and catechists.

The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service have gathered together a collection of links to Catholic resources from across the Internet, to help you on your Lenten journey. You will find everything at <https://bcys.net/lent-2020/>. The next **Youth Mass** is this Wednesday (4<sup>th</sup> March) – another way to go deeper into prayer and reflection for Lent, in the company of other young people aged approx. 14-23. The Mass is at 8pm at Brentwood Cathedral, followed by simple refreshments.

## **World Day of Prayer Service - Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**

At 10.30am at St Helen's Church, 27 Milton Road, Westcliff SS0 7JP.

## **Headteacher Vacancy at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School and Nursery**

Required from September 2020. Application packs are available from Miss Nikita Parr on 01702 606762 or nparr@assisicatholictrust.com. Full details of the post are also available on the school's website [www.shs-southend.co.uk](http://www.shs-southend.co.uk). Candidates are encouraged to visit the school and visits can be arranged through Joy Robertson on 01702 534 546 or email [finance@sacredheart.southend.sch.uk](mailto:finance@sacredheart.southend.sch.uk). The closing date is 4<sup>th</sup> March at 12pm with formal interviews taking place on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## **Director of Youth Ministry Vacancy Diocese of Brentwood**

This role will help to deepen and strengthen our ever growing and vibrant youth ministry, at Walsingham House at Abbotswick and supporting parishes across the Diocese. Start in September 2020. Salary £40,000. Closing date = 16<sup>th</sup> March. Details at [www.bcys.net/jobs](http://www.bcys.net/jobs) or call Fr Dominic on 01277 373959.

## **Assistant Manager Vacancy, Walsingham House at Abbotswick**

We are looking to recruit someone who has retreat centre experience, to live and work at Walsingham House, to lead retreat programmes and to help with the training and formation of our volunteer team. Start in mid-August 2020. Salary £16,926. Closing date = 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2020. Details at [www.bcys.net/jobs](http://www.bcys.net/jobs).

## **Opportunity to Visit the New Havens Hospice in Prittlewell**

From 2<sup>nd</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March, tours of the new Fair Havens in Prittlewell are available, with the chance to meet some of the team with refreshments available afterwards. These visits must be booked online at [www.havenshospices.org.uk/nfhtours](http://www.havenshospices.org.uk/nfhtours) or by calling 01702 220 305.

## **The Rededication of England as the Dowry of Mary**

Takes place throughout the country on Sunday 29 March. To prepare for this renewal of the relationship of England with the Mother of God,, St John Vianney, Clayhall, is hosting two lectures: "Walsingham, Mary and Ecumenism", speaker Fr Tim Bugby, Thursday 5 March at 7.30pm. "Mary's Dowry and the Rededication of England", speaker Fr Neil Brett, Thursday 26 March at 7.30pm. Both take place at St John Vianney, 1 Stoneleigh Road, Ilford, IG5 0JB. The lectures will last about 40 minutes, followed by time for questions and refreshments.

## **The Helpers of God's Precious Infants**

Reach out in love and compassion to mothers who are in crisis pregnancies and to those who have suffered the effects of abortion. Why not come and join us and help to hold out God's Hand of Love and Mercy? The next Rosary Procession Vigil, will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March at St. Francis of Assisi Church, Grove Crescent Road, Stratford E15 1NS. We begin with 10.00am Mass and we begin our Rosary Procession at 10.35am, following an Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to BPAS abortion centre, 32-36 Romford Road, Stratford E15 4BZ, where we pray 15 decades of the Rosary and sing hymns, returning at approx.12.00pm to the church for refreshments. Full details on poster in church porch or contact tel. 01727 763832 or e-mail [marg@helpersuk.org](mailto:marg@helpersuk.org)

## **Planting trees for the future – come and lend a hand!**

The Woodland Trust have granted 105 trees to Walsingham House at Abbotswick (Navestock Side, CM14 5SH), and we need a helping hand to plant them, please, on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 9.30am-5pm**. Come with a spade, and some sandwiches – we'll provide drinks and snacks. So we know who to expect, please email [josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org). or call 01277373959. As the area where we are planting includes bee hives and a ditch, we suggest no very young children, please.

## **Sponsored Sleepout, Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

In the grounds of Walsingham House at Abbotswick. The evening begins at 8pm with a film and talk; or arrive at 11pm for Mass. Sleepout midnight – 7am. In this freezing and wet weather, it is very difficult for those who are sleeping on the streets. The Sleepout is a powerful way to understand what it feels like to sleep outside, while raising money for homeless charities. Groups should register by emailing [frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org); individuals can register on [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net), where there are full details of the event. Open to anyone aged 15-105 (those aged 15-18 must be part of a group, and have parental consent).

## **Poustinia Project**

As we prepare to celebrate the Rededication of England as Mary's Dowry, the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham hopes to find benefactors who can support their 'Poustinia' project. With there being an ever-greater need for silence in today's world, many people are searching for space to enter into the silence of their hearts and listen to 'the still small voice of God' I Kings 19:12. As a community of men and women in different states of life, we accompany people so they can live in the joy and freedom of Mary's 'Fiat' or 'Yes'. We need to raise £100,000 to build two shepherd's huts and develop prayer gardens around them at our convent, House of the Divine Will. If you know of anyone who can help please give them our contact details and ask to speak with Sr Camilla COLW ([info@walsinghamcommunity.org](mailto:info@walsinghamcommunity.org) or 01328 801018).

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## Money

Offertory – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2020

£1202.48

There is a second collection this weekend for CAFOD Fast Day

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## Patrick Monahan RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patrick Monahan who died on 15<sup>th</sup> February. His funeral service will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 2.40pm at Southend Crematorium.

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## Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, including; Charmaine Arnold, Christina Arnold, Marie Biner, Barbara Briggs, William Bryan, Eric Carpenter, Alfonsina Carson, Richard Campbell-Carr, Margaret and Tom Cullen, June Deighton, 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: Christine Gretton, William Wright, Marietta Nottage, John Frain, Thomas Griffiths, Doris Laguna, Marie Richardson, Reg Serjeant, Marcy Cooksey, Brendon Sammon, Francis Wallace, Leslie Paterson, Edward McFall, Fr Francis Hastings, Margaret Moynihan, John James Culkin, Sheila Stubbs, Peter Joseph McCarthy, Donovan Smith, John Turner, Mary Jackson, Violet Potter, Rudolph Hinds, Ted O'Connor, Mgr Canon Patrick O'Donnell, Fr Brian Galvin, Terrence Butt, Bret Stones, Grace Looker, Thomas Ryan, Shiela Christie, May Joy, Tony King, Roman Oraczko, Amelina Bacon, Matilda Furst, George helmer, Nancy Kellehar, Fr Malachy Kelly, Sarah Isaacs, James Rowland-Hill, Edward Hamilton, John Fitzgerald, Edith Wakefield and Dorothy Oliver.

## 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020 – First Sunday of Lent (Divine Office Week 1)

**Entrance Antiphon: When he calls on me, I will answer him; I will deliver him and give him glory, I will grant him length of days.**

**First Reading:** Genesis 2: 7 – 9, 3: 1 – 7

**Psalm:** 50: 3 – 6, 12 – 14, 17 response cf v 3

**Response: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

- 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 My offences truly I know them; my sin is always before me.  
Against you, you alone, have I sinned; what is evil in your sight I have done.
- 3 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.
- 4 Give me again the joy of your help; with a spirit of fervour sustain me.  
O Lord, open my lips and my mouth shall declare your praise.

**Second Reading:** Romans 5: 12 – 19

**Gospel Acclamation:** Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

**Gospel:** Matthew 4: 1 – 11

**Communion Antiphon: One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.**

**Next weekend:** Genesis 12: 1 – 4, Psalm 32: 4 – 5, 18 – 20, 22 response v 22, 2 Timothy 1: 8 – 10, Matthew 17: 1 – 9

## Pope Francis says Disconnect from TV and connect to the Gospel in Lent

Lent is a time in which to turn off the television and open the Bible. During his catechesis for the weekly General Audience the Pope reflected on the 40 days spent by Jesus in the desert as He prepared for His public ministry and said that, in a sense, it is a time for us to imitate Jesus and seek a place of silence, where we are free to hear the Lord's word and experience His call. In the desert, one hears the Word of God; one finds intimacy with God and the love of the Lord, noting that Jesus taught us how to seek the Father, who speaks to us in silence. He remarked on the fact that, for many of us, it is not easy to be in silence as we live in an environment that is polluted by too much verbal violence, by so many offensive and harmful words which are amplified by the internet. Lent is a time to disconnect from cell phones and connect to the Gospel, recalling that when he was a child there was no television, but his family would make a point of not listening to the radio. It is time to give up useless words, chatter, rumours, gossip and talk and to speak directly to the Lord; it is a time in which to dedicate ourselves to an ecology of the heart.

*Pope Francis*

Masses and Services		Daily 33 Day Retreat Prayer	Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 29th February	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>	<i>Come. Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Unveil for me the meaning of the Immaculate Conception.</i>	5.00pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>First Sunday of Lent (A)</b>	<i>Come. Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Unveil for me the meaning of the Immaculate Conception.</i>	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> ) 10.30am Confessions <b>11.00am Mass</b> <i>Intentions of Martin Murphy (3.00pm – Rite of Election for our Converts at Brentwood Cathedral)</i> <b>4.00pm Stations of the Cross</b>	8.30am Confessions <b>9.00am Mass</b> <i>Keith McBrearty RIP</i>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Renew the face of the earth, so that all creation may return to God.</i>	<b>9.30am Mass</b> in the Parish Hall <i>Elpedio and Honorata Bonggot RIP</i>	<b>10.00am Mass</b>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Unite my will to the will of the Immaculata, which is one with your will.</i>		
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> March	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Prepare me to be a fit instrument in the hands of the Immaculata.</i>	Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group – in the hall.	<b>10.00am Mass</b> followed by Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. <i>Msgr Joseph Phelan RIP</i>
			8.00pm Lenten Talk at St. Peters, Eastwood – 59 Eastwood Road North, Leigh-on-Sea SS9 4BX – Fr Paul Fox talks about The Gospel according to Mark.	
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Prepare me to give all to the Immaculata for the sake of the kingdom.</i>	<b>6.30m Mass</b> followed by Benediction and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. <i>Kevin, Molly and Mary Forde RIP</i>	<b>10.00am Mass</b>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Help me to find the love of the Heart of Jesus hidden in the darkness.</i>	<b>9.30am Mass</b> followed by Stations of the Cross <i>In thanksgiving</i>	<b>1.30pm Mass</b>
			10.30am World Day of Prayer Service St. Helen's Church 27 Milton Road, Westcliff SS0 7JP	
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Feria	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Help me listen to Jesus' thirst.</i>	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	<b>9.00am Mass</b> followed by Stations of the Cross <i>Holy Souls</i>
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>		5.00pm Confessions <b>5.30pm Mass</b> <i>Intentions of Norma &amp; Alan Humphries</i>	
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Second Sunday of Lent (A)</b>	<i>Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Bring me face to face with the love in the Heart of Jesus crucified.</i>	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> ) 10.30am Confessions <b>11.00am Mass</b> First Holy Communion Children's Mass <i>Chris and Mike Sammon RIP</i> <b>1.00pm Baptism</b> <i>Ottillie Mason</i>	8.30am Confessions <b>9.00am Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i> <b>4.00pm Stations of the Cross</b> with the community from St. Luke's

