

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday 17th February 2018

6.00pm Mass Alex Snowden's Intentions (B & S Mayo)

Sunday 18th February 2018

9.30am Mass Gerard Donachie RIP (Family)

11.30am Mass People of the Parish

Monday 19th February 2018

No Mass

Tuesday 20th February 2018

6.30pm Mass Sonja Honeywood RIP (P & D Colverson)

Wednesday 21st February 2018

9.15am Mass Margaret Feeney RIP (Jim & Family)

Thursday 22nd February 2018

No Mass

Friday 23rd February 2018 (Lent Fast Day)

9.15am Mass Andrienne Deakin's Intentions

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday 24th February 2018

6.00pm Mass Mary & Charlie Marlow RIP (M. East)

Sunday 25th February 2018

9.30am Mass Kaye Knight RIP

11.30am Mass Lawrence Pule's Intentions (M. Pule & Family)

ROSARY	5.30pm	Every Saturday
MORNING PRAYER	9.00am 8.50am	Weekdays except Monday & Saturday Sunday
EVENING PRAYER WITH THE COMMUNITY	5.30pm	Every evening except Saturday in the side chapel. Includes music, psalms and intercessions.
MUSTARD SEED GROUP	7.30pm	Prayer group - First Sunday of every month.
CHRISTIAN MEDITATION	8.00pm	Every Monday in side chapel except bank holidays

WEEKLY COLLECTION: SUNDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2018

Envelopes	£542.35
Loose plate	£256.76
Standing orders	£342.00
TOTAL	£1,141.11

SECOND COLLECTION: Lourdes Sick & Helpers Fund £331.14

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

BLESSED SACRAMENT PARISH



Parish Priest: Fr Paul Cracknell (Ord.)

The Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church

116 Melbourne Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 2DU

Tel 01245 354256

Website: blessedsacramentchelmsford.org

Email: chelmsfordbs@dioceseofbrentwood.org



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT Sunday 18th February 2018

Gospel Reflection - Mark 1:12-15: Jesus is Tested in the Desert



Mark's emphasis is distinctly different from that of Matthew and Luke. No details of the testing are given. Rather Jesus' sojourn in the desert seems almost a return to the peace of the Garden of Eden. The desert of Judea, between Jerusalem and the Jordan Valley, is a noble and dignified solitude of smooth, sandstone hills. Nothing grows, of course, but wild camels and the occasional leopard prowl around. There Jesus was 'with the wild animals' as, led by the Spirit, he made his preparation for his mission. In what way was he tested? We may presume that in solitude and prayer he was working out the implications of the Voice from Heaven at his Baptism. How was he to run his course as the beloved Servant of the Lord? Precisely how was he to bring the presence of the Kingship of God into people's lives? The 'forty' is often used in biblical accounts for a period of preparation, as Israel's forty years in the desert, or the forty days between Easter and Ascension which prepared the Apostles for Jesus' leaving them and then for the coming of the Spirit at Pentecost. We may use our forty days of Lent to reflect on how we may bring God's presence to bear in and through our lives.

How will you make best use of this time of preparation in Lent?

MASS TIMES - Please see back of newsletter

CONFESSIONS - 5.00pm to 5.30pm on Saturdays or please see Fr Paul after Mass on Sunday

PARISH OFFICE – 10.00am to 3pm Tuesday and Thursdays

Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092

Notices

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the soul of Hannah Mary James of Kelvedon Close, Chelmsford who died on Monday. Hannah's funeral takes place at Chelmsford Crematorium North Chapel on Friday 23rd March at 3pm. May she rest in peace.

CAFOD Family Fast Day: Friday 23 February

CAFOD's Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On Friday 23 February can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal, in solidarity? With malnutrition still killing almost three million children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat.

And this Lent, your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. Twice the number of children can have the opportunity to grow up healthy and strong.

Please collect your Fast Day envelope from church this week and give generously.

In light of recent news reports you may wish to know CAFOD has a statement about safeguarding vulnerable communities on cafod.org.uk

JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP – LENTEN LUNCHESES are being held on various days during Lent. The second lunch will take place on Friday 23rd February at 12noon – 2pm in the parish hall and is hosted by The Ladies Group. The third will take place on Thursday 1st March at 12noon – 2pm hosted by Wedad & Derek Cox, 51 Maltese Road, Chelmsford. All are welcome.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT: Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent. The services will alternate between ourselves at The Blessed Sacrament and St Andrew's Church. Next Friday, 23rd February at 7.30pm the service will be held here at The Blessed Sacrament.

CONFIRMATION 2018 the next session for our candidates takes place next Thursday, 22nd February at 7.15pm in the parish hall.

BIBLE STUDY SESSIONS WITH SR. ANGELA MORRIS – continues this Monday, 12th February at 10:15am to 12:15pm in the Church Hall. The topic we are looking at is The Weakness of God. Texts from the Hebrew Prophets and the New Testament. All are warmly welcome - just bring your Bible and an open mind and heart!

EXHIBITION ON THE SHROUD OF TURIN 5TH-11TH MARCH OUR LADY IMMACULATE, CHELMSFORD.

An exhibition about the Shroud of Turin, including a full sized replica of the Shroud, will take place at Our Lady Immaculate Church, Chelmsford from 5th to 11th March 2018. The exhibition opens with Mass at 7.30pm on Monday 5th March. Each day there are confessions, Stations of the Cross and Mass. The week culminates with Mass at 12noon on Saturday 10th March. The exhibition will remain in place on Sunday 11th March. The church is open from 7am until 8pm each day. If you would like to know more about this, please contact the parish office on 01245 352898, or simply come along to church that week. Everyone is very welcome.

THE READINGS THIS WEEK:

First reading:	Genesis 9:8-15
Responsorial Psalm:	<i>Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant.</i>
Second reading:	1 Peter 3:18-22
Gospel Acclamation:	<i>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!</i>
Gospel:	Mark 1:12-15

A REMINDER PLEASE TO USE YOUR CO-OP CARD at the convenience stores as well as the main Quadrant store. Every purchase means points allocated to the parish which ultimately translates to funds for the parish, without any extra cost to you. If you do not hold a card but would like one, please contact me on the following number. Many thanks Mark Akhurst 01245 350710.

MICHAEL QUINLAN SAYS THANK YOU for the donation of the Wi-Fi boxes the project is progressing but any more donations would be gratefully received.

SPIRITUALITY SEMINARS at Cathedral House Ingrave Road Brentwood CM1 5 8AT - Saturday March 24th 10.30am-12.00pm: Lent by Fr Martin Boland, Cathedral Dean. Contact Details: Tel 01277 265285 email: jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org

PREPARING FOR HOLY WEEK: On Wednesday 7th March from 7 p.m. until 8.30 pm Fr David Manson will be presenting a talk entitled 'Preparing for Holy Week'. This 'Gidea Park Faith Evening' will take place in the hall at Gidea Park Catholic Church (410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH). Please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com Refreshments provided. Admission free.

GOD, PHILOSOPHY, SCIENCE. An Inspirational Talk for Lent by Rev. Dr Andrew Pinsent Research Director of the Ian Ramsey Centre of Science and Religion at Oxford University. Organised by the Catholic Parishes of Burnham-on-Crouch and Maldon. Venue: St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Trinity Square, South Woodham Ferrers, CM3 5JX. Time and Date: 7.30pm on Wednesday 21st March 2018

CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE & BASILICA OF OUR LADY, WALSINGHAM: Men's Silent Retreat: Finding God in Daily Life (8th-11th March). This retreat is for adult men, single or married, of any age. It will be directed by a priest and a lay man from Opus Dei. Meditations and talks will be given on the central themes of the Catholic faith. For more information, please visit: www.dowryhouse.org.uk

SACRED JOURNEYS PILGRIMAGE TO ROME & ASSISI - Tuesday 16th to Sunday 21st October 2nd 2018. With special visits to The Madonna of Divine Amore Rome. Wednesday- General audience with Pope Francis in St Peter's Square & afternoon visit to Saint Philip Neri. Thursday – St Francis of Assisi with special visit to Greccio, first crib built by St Francis. Friday- Basilica of the Holy Cross in Jerusalem – Rome & Holy Steps visit. Saturday – Sanctuary of Our Lady of the Revelation & Abbazia "Quo Vadis Domine" and visit the seminary of the Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Sunday – Mass, then visit to the catacombs then return home to the UK. Price includes flights, transfers and full board £760 per person Further information contact 01702 432458 / 07753 203129 / 07946 687623 Salvatore or Patricia Burzotta

VACANCY: HEADTEACHER, ST JOHN PAYNE CATHOLIC SCHOOL. The retirement of our existing Headteacher after 9 years has created an exciting opportunity for a suitable Catholic leader who has the vision and drive to take us to our next stage of improvement and development. An application pack can be downloaded from the online advert at www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk or please contact: Liz Whitelock, Schools Recruitment Team, EES for Schools, Essex County Council, Tel: 03330 139835 or Email: headships@eesforschools.org. Deadline for applications: Thursday 1st March, Noon. For further information or to arrange an informal visit to the school please contact Gemma Daly on 01245 256030. The school's website, currently being redesigned, can be found at www.sjp.essex.sch.uk