

**CATHEDRAL OF ST MARY
AND ST HELEN**

HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS

Father Martin Boland

Father Gary Dench

Clergy House: 01277 265235

Deacon Paul: 01277 810321

Deacon Simon: 07813 639929

Email: cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com

**1st Sunday Advent (Year A) and 2nd Sunday of Advent
27th November - 11th December 2022**



Advent Service

**Sunday 27th November at 4.00 p.m. in the Cathedral
with the lighting of the Advent Wreath,
prayers, readings and music**

Presider: Bishop Alan Williams

Music: Brentwood Cathedral Choir

**You can also watch the service on the *Thresholds of Hope*
Channel on youtube: <https://youtu.be/c2KQhRXzOFU>**

GENERAL PARISH NEWS

THE HOLY SEASON OF ADVENT is that sacred time when we give thanks to God for the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, but also when we look to that time when he will come again to judge the living and the dead. We are people of expectation and hope, setting our sights set on that eternal future we will share with God.

Pope Francis encourages us to enter this holy season with a prayerful and open heart :

Advent is the season for remembering the closeness of God who came down to dwell in our midst...Let us make the traditional Advent prayer our own: 'Come, Lord Jesus.' ... We can say it at the beginning of each day and repeat it often, before our meetings, our studies and our work, before making decisions, in every important or difficult moment of our lives: 'Come, Lord Jesus.

HALLOW a Catholic prayer and meditation app: hallow.com

COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS on 27th November will be hosted by the Love in Action group and Sunday 4th December will be the turn of the SVP. Please do come along and join us.

JOB OPPORTUNITY: Brentwood Cathedral Parish Halls Manager. The successful applicant will ideally have administration experience and excellent communication skills. Hours: 3 hours flexible working per week. Apply by sending CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com

Closing date for applications is 16 December 2022.

Job description: [/www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Cathedral-Parish-Halls-Manager-Brentwood-JD.pdf](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Cathedral-Parish-Halls-Manager-Brentwood-JD.pdf) Full job description is contained on www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us

NEW CTS SUNDAY MISSAL can be purchased online www.ctsbooks.org/product/sunday-missal-2023/

PRAY for the repose of the soul of Thomas Holland who died recently.

Tom's Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Monday 12th December at 10.30 a.m.

May the souls of the faithful rest in the bosom of all God's saints and one day dwell in the land of the living.

ALL ARE WELCOME Parishioners and friends are warmly welcome between 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. on **Friday 2nd December** in the small parish hall for teas/coffees/biscuits/cake and fellowship. Please do come along and join us; all are welcome!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATION MEETING - Friday 2nd December from 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. This meeting is for those parents who have **already been contacted by catechists** following submission of a completed Registration form

FAVOURITE CAROLS FOR ALL CONCERT Carols from Advent to Christmas at the Cathedral on **Saturday 3rd December** at 3.30 p.m. Admission free. Do join us; all are welcome.

CALLING ALL RED MISSIO BOXES It's that time of year again when the *Missio* team need to collect your red boxes. Please leave boxes at Clergy House by **Sunday 4th December**.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY on **Thursday 8th December** celebrates the fact that Mary was conceived without sin:

"The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

BRENTWOOD FOODBANK COLLECTION on the weekend of **10/11th December**. Until then, might you buy some "Christmas treat" items to put aside and help the poorest in our community to celebrate Christmas? The Brentwood Foodbank writes:

"Sadly, at this time, we find that many families are being hit by the economic situation that we all find ourselves in. Some have lost their jobs, others, stress and illness have taken its toll and the Foodbank is able to ensure that those that find themselves in these difficulties will be able to feed themselves and their children. Sadly, there has been over a 54% rise in our numbers from June till August. It is the amazing kindness of schools, churches and individuals that enable us to continue with this work and ensure that no one goes hungry."

THE NEXT CHAPTER OF CANONS MASS will take place in the Cathedral 12 noon on **Monday 12th December**. All welcome.

SOCIAL EVENTS help to build up our parish community and create bonds of friendship. Would you like to be part of organising and running these events in 2023? If you would like to find out more, please come along to an informal meeting of the PACE (Parish And Community Events) group on **Tuesday 13th December** at 7.30 p.m. in Clergy House. If you can come, please let us know: cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com

SLEEPY BISCUITS BAKE OFF After an absence of three years, we welcome the return of the parish tradition to give all the children a 'sleepy biscuit' on Christmas Eve. We are looking for volunteers to bake, say 25-50 biscuits each, for Christmas Eve (we need approximately 550 altogether!).

If you would like to help, please put your details on the list in the narthex. Alternatively, contact Sam Wait at samjwait@gmail.com or leave your details with Mo in Clergy House.

CHRISTMAS 'FLASH MOB' CHOIR returns on **Saturday 24th December** at the **7.00 p.m. Family Mass**. All are welcome! Bring your instruments! Bring your singing voices! See you there!

WINTER WARMER SOUP LUNCHESES - every Friday in January, February and March you and your family, friends and neighbours are most welcome to come along for free hot soup and crusty bread. There is no cost and plenty of chat and warmth to help see us all through the winter months. **Starting on Friday 6 January** at 12 noon till 2.00 p.m. in the parish hall. Everyone is most welcome.

CATHEDRAL CAR PARK We are fortunate at the Cathedral to have a reasonably sized car park for our parishioners to use during Mass times, however we know it can become very full, very quickly. Ahead of the busy Advent and Christmas seasons, we would like to ask that, if you are able to park elsewhere and walk, you might consider leaving the spaces within the carpark for those who need them the most. If you are parking in the car park during the busiest Masses, please be mindful of where you park - please do not block any exits or the drive beside the Hall and please also be respectful to our volunteers who kindly steward the car park during these times. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

FREE JESSE TREE BOOKLET FOR FAMILIES The Jesse Tree is a wonderful resource for families to prepare for Christmas during Advent, telling the story of God's unfolding plan of salvation through the ancestors of Jesus Christ. A free, printable Jesse Tree booklet containing daily short scripture passages, simple reflections and prayers, as well as tree ornaments are available for all families in the Diocese of Brentwood by following this link: www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/marriage-family-life/family-life/

PARISH DIARIES The 2023 Cathedral diaries are now available in the narthex; in past years we requested a donation of £1.00 per diary however, due to the continuing problems with banking

coins, we would be very grateful if you would donate online instead of giving cash if you are able.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES 2023 are now available to purchase from the narthex or in the parish office at a cost of £2.95 each; online payment is preferable, if possible, please.

BANKING OF COINS is a real problem for us as HSBC refuses to accept them. We are now having to bank coins in the Post Office which is becoming increasingly inconvenient for the postal staff and for customers who are waiting to be served. Therefore, if at all possible, *please* support the parish by setting up a standing order in place of giving cash, especially coins. If you are a taxpayer, we would also be grateful if you would Gift Aid your offering. For more information go to

www.cathedralbrentwood.org/gift-aid-explained/

We do understand that there are some people who cannot do this or who would prefer to continue make their offering by cash. We will continue to pass round the collection bag as normal. *Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the running, work and mission of the Cathedral parish.*

HOLY HOUR takes place every Monday evening from 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. and is an opportunity to come into the Lord's presence. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available during this time.

ROSARY FOR UKRAINE AND PEACE IN OUR WORLD will be prayed at 6.10 p.m. each Monday.

MASS TIMES in the Cathedral:

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS at 6.30 p.m. in the Cathedral.
SUNDAY: 8.00 a.m. / 9.30 a.m. / 11.30 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.
WEEKDAY MASSES Monday to Friday at 9.15 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is available in the Cathedral on Saturdays from 10.00 - 11.00 a.m.

CHORAL VESPERS is celebrated in the Cathedral on Wednesdays at 6.00 p.m. (during term time). Everyone is welcome to join us.

DETAILS OF PARISH ANNIVERSARIES AND SICK LIST can be found on the narthex noticeboard and at www.cathedralbrentwood.org/news/news-latest.pdf

PLEASE REGISTER TODAY AS A CATHEDRAL PARISHIONER

Thank you to all those parishioners who have already taken the time to register. If you haven't done so already, please do so. It is very simple. Each adult parishioner should either go to "Parish Census" at www.cathedralbrentwood.org or use the QR code below:



For those of you who cannot complete the registration form online, forms are available in the narthex of the Cathedral. Once you have filled in the form, please return it to Clergy House.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Alistair Bailey, Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Phil Carr, David, Iris Davis, Patricia Decup, Sheena Docherty, Charlotte Donnelly, Fr Stewart Foster, Julian Goode, Angela Harris, Ann Hurcombe, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Brian Kelleher, Lisa Landy, Lawrence, Susan Maskall, Tony Maule, John McCarthy, Mary McCarthy, Carmel Micallef, Harry Newman, Barney O'Driscoll, Joe O'Herlihy, Steven Poole, Anne Rowe, Helena Rowe, Geraldine Sheehan, Robin Shenton, David Spring, Tim, TCT and all our sick.

GENERAL NEWS

HELPING THOSE IN UKRAINE, and Ukrainian Refugees. Caritas Brentwood are regularly updating information on their website, covering donations, prayer, and welcoming those who are fleeing Ukraine. You will find everything at: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine/>

ADVENT LECTIONARY A full presentation of all the Mass readings for Advent with commentary by Fr Adrian Graffy is now available. Just visit www.whatgoodnews.org and click on the link.

THE NEXT "ENQUIRERS' EVENING" for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on **Tuesday 6th December** at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

THE BIG SING CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION CONCERT On **Wednesday 21st December** at 7.30 p.m. in The Brentwood Centre. Come and see The BIG Sing LIVE this Christmas. Listen to the choirs' amazing harmonies, stunning arrangements and of course sing along too! An evening for all the family. See full details of the event here: <https://www.big-sing.com/events/> Tickets available from [big-sing.com/events](https://www.big-sing.com/events/) or <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thebigsing1/783323> .

ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND on **29th May 2023**, led by Bishop Alan Williams. £699.00 per person, sharing; single supplement £150.00. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Contact Patricia on 01268 762278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES 2023 Applications are now open for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes, from 23rd - 30th July 2023! The week is spent travelling alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage to assist the elderly and infirm, and for those travelling with the BCYS, the week will also include a retreat, reconciliation service, the chance to visit the baths, a trip to a UNESCO World Heritage site, social nights and party as well as experiencing the Lourdes Torchlight Procession and Blessed Sacrament Procession.

Open to anyone in school year 10 and above, all information and details on how to apply can be found at www.bcys.net/events/sl23

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023 The annual diocesan pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Monday 24th - Saturday 29 July. All are welcome, including those of us who need assistance.

Details regarding booking and costs will follow soon.

VACANCY St Peter's Catholic Primary School are seeking a Receptionist/Administration Assistant. For further information visit <http://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=82349>. Closing date 2nd December 2022.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED for the Sense charity shop in Brentwood High Street; we accept volunteers age 16+. The role description and application link can be accessed via the below link:

<https://app.betterimpact.com/PublicEnterprise/0d6d3b8b-bbb6-44c7-825e-fb5c3b5327c0>

LEADERSHIP VACANCIES IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS Details of all positions can be found at the following link <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>



Advent and Christmas at Brentwood Cathedral

Inauguration of Advent Service
Sunday 27th November
4.00pm a service of music and readings to begin us for our preparations for the great Feast of Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus.


Nine Lessons and Carols
Sunday 18th December
4.00pm a beautiful service of carols, choral music and readings that reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ and its meaning to humanity.


For a sense of this service go to 

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve
5.00 pm Mass for families and children
7.00 pm Mass with the "flash mob" choir and orchestra
9.30 pm Carols led by the Brentwood Cathedral Choir
10.00 pm Solemn Mass of "Midnight"
Main celebrant: Bishop Alan Williams
Music: Brentwood Cathedral Choir

Christmas Day
8.00 am Mass
9.30 am Mass
11.30 am Mass
Main celebrant: Bishop Alan Williams
Music: Brentwood Cathedral Choir



 www.cathedral-brentwood.org  @CathBrentwood

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS NO EVENING MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY
Christmas Offerings are your personal gift to the Cathedral priests
If you wish to Gift Aid your offering, please use a Gift Aid envelope.

QR CODES and CONTACTLESS GIVING A new online donation system has been set up so that parishioners and visitors are now able to donate by using a QR code directly to the Parish; donations can be made either with or without gift aid using the QR codes below or by scanning those displayed around the Cathedral:

giftaid it

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

Donate without Giftaid-it

If you are unable to donate with Giftaid-It then please use the codes below.

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			