



**CATHEDRAL OF ST MARY & ST HELEN  
HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS**

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**7TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME AND  
1ST & 2ND SUNDAYS OF LENT (A)  
19TH FEBRUARY — 11TH MARCH 2023**

# GENERAL PARISH NEWS

“**LENT** stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life...” *Pope Benedict XVI*

**COVER PAINTING** detail is of “The Temptation in the Wilderness”, Briton Rivière, 1898, Guildhall Art Gallery.

The figure of Christ stands out against the rich glow of the sky, with both sky and figure focused by the gloom of the landscape. The bright star overhead is the sole point of light and may be a covert reference to Lucifer, the literal meaning of the name being 'light-bringer'. The presence of the devil is not depicted but is nevertheless tangible as a force. In the figure of Jesus, we might read the effort of resistance and the quiet dignity of his role as the Saviour of mankind; the impression given is perhaps of the devil as a voice in his ear, a symbolic tempter. The red glow on the horizon suggests a new dawn, the renewal of hope, and the role of Christ as the 'light of the world' which will eventually render the star of Lucifer invisible.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** on **22nd February** and marks the beginning of the holy forty days of Lent and our spiritual preparation by prayer, fasting and almsgiving for Easter. Mass times with imposition of ashes 9.15 a.m., 1.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m.

**WAR IN UKRAINE** On Friday **24th February** it will be one year since this terrible war began. The 9.15 a.m. Mass this day will be offered for the intentions of the people of Ukraine and at noon we will pray the rosary for peace in Ukraine and all those places in the world where there is conflict and violence.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** every Friday evening during Lent in the Cathedral at **7.00 p.m.** Please make a special effort to attend at least one Stations of the Cross. *We adore you, O*

*Christ, and we praise you because by your holy Cross you have saved the world.*

**THE PARISH LOVE IN ACTION GROUP** are supporting the **CAFOD Big Lent Walk**, to walk 200 km over 40 days. To sign up see poster in the narthex or visit <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

The Love in Action group will be walking 5km after the coffee mornings on the **26th February** and **26th March**, starting and finishing at the Cathedral, why not join us! Even if you can't commit to the full 200km, this is a great opportunity to enjoy the countryside and meet other members of the parish for a great cause. All ages and abilities welcome, just meet Lorraine Cowley outside the parish hall.

**FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT (27 February to 12 March)** Can you look out for Fairtrade coffee, tea, chocolate, bananas and many other products and support Fairtrade by swapping out one item in your basket? Many supermarkets, including the budget ones, stock a range of Fairtrade products including Easter eggs! By supporting Fairtrade, you are ensuring that the farmers in some of the poorest countries earn a decent price for their crops. Buying Fairtrade is a great way of caring for others and for our common home.

**FLASH MOB CHOIR** at 9.30 a.m. Mass on **Sunday 26th February**. Children, bring your instruments and voices to give glory to God. Rehearsal 9.00 a.m.

**EARTHQUAKES IN TURKEY AND SYRIA - an emergency collection** will take place on **Sunday 26th February**, the First Sunday of Lent. Help **CAFOD** to provide urgent food, water and shelter to survivors of the earthquake. For those who can do so, please give online [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

**ROSARY FOR UKRAINE AND PEACE IN OUR WORLD** will be prayed at 6.10 p.m. followed by **THE HOLY HOUR** of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Monday evening from 6.30 - 7.30 p.m.



BRENTWOOD  
CATHEDRAL

# Lent Lecture 2023

The pain, passion  
and privilege of  
supporting Christians who  
are suffering persecution.

A lecture by the Baroness Caroline Cox FRCS, FRCN



Baroness Cox became a Life Peer in 1983 for her contributions to education and has served as a Deputy Speaker of the House of Lords from 1985 to 2005. Lady Cox now sits in the Lords as a crossbencher and is a frequent contributor to Lords debates on Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Nigeria, and Burma.

Baroness Cox's humanitarian aid work has taken her on many missions to conflict zones, allowing her to obtain first-hand evidence of human rights violations and humanitarian needs.

**Wednesday 1st March at 7.00pm**  
**Brentwood Cathedral Parish Halls**

**FREE ENTRY. ALL WELCOME.**

Further details on Brentwood Cathedral  
website [www.cathedral-brentwood.org](http://www.cathedral-brentwood.org)

**SINCERE THANKS** for your generosity in the recent second collections for Racial Justice (£398.98) and Lourdes Sick and Helpers Fund (£789.09); it is very much appreciated.

**CHRISTUS VIVIT (*Christ Lives*)**, a new group for *adults aged 18 - 35* will meet once a month in Clergy House after the 6.30 p.m. Sunday Mass. Light supper will be provided. An opportunity for young Catholics to meet and support each other spiritually and socially. Pick up a flyer in the Cathedral narthex. All welcome. Just come along. **First meeting on 5th March** and then 2nd April, 7th May, 4th June and 2nd July.

**THANK YOU TO DAWN AND PATRICK COCKERTON** who are stepping down from running the Cathedral parish halls. For the last ten years, they have ensured that our parish halls have been available for hire and properly maintained. They have been the face of welcome to so many people and contributed enormously to our parish community by this act of service. They have done a fantastic job and the whole parish community owes them a huge debt of gratitude.

**THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED** from Friday 24th February and will reopen again on Monday 5th March. This is a two-week newsletter covering three weekends. It can also be found on the cathedral website [www.cathedralbrentwood.org](http://www.cathedralbrentwood.org)

**THE NEW CATHEDRAL WEBSITE** will be launched on the **4th March**, the first Sunday of Lent. Do have a look. Go to [www.cathedralbrentwood.org](http://www.cathedralbrentwood.org)

**THE NEW CATHEDRAL GUIDEBOOK** is available in the Cathedral Narthex.

**LENT FOODBANK COLLECTION** - Lent is an ideal time to give to others. One way of doing that is to contribute to the parish Foodbank collection that will be taking place on the **weekend of 11th/12th March**. All the donations go to the Brentwood Food Bank to help local people in need. Donations of non-perishable items such as tinned meat/vegetables/fruit as well as toiletries

and treats (biscuits and even Easter eggs!) would be very gratefully received.

If you wish to donate money instead, please place cash in an envelope clearly marked with 'Brentwood Foodbank Donation' or make cheques payable to Brentwood Foodbank.

**CAFOD FAST DAY** is Friday 3rd March This Lent, CAFOD is supporting families with the skills and tools they've asked for to fight the climate crisis. In Bangladesh, 14-year-old Dristy and her mum Rupali are building seed beds and planting palm trees to protect their crops from flooding and cyclones.

Due to the additional collection for the disaster in Turkey and Syria, this year we have moved the **Lent Fast Day collection** back to the weekend of **18th/19th March**. Please use the Cafod envelope, gift aid your offering if you are a taxpayer or for those who can, please give online at [cafod.org.uk/lent](http://cafod.org.uk/lent)

**WINTER WARMER SOUP LUNCHES** - every Friday during January, February and March in the Parish Hall, 12 Noon - 2.00 p.m. There is no cost and plenty of chat, food and warmth to help see us all through the winter months. Thank you to *Sainsbury's* and *Gail's Bakery* for providing food.

**QUIZ NIGHT** Many thanks to everyone involved in this evening and for everyone for supporting the event. It was a huge success!

The next **Parish and Community Events (PACE) meeting** will be on **Wednesday 15th March** at 7.30 p.m. in Clergy House where we will begin to plan for our Coronation Celebration Party on the afternoon of Sunday 7th May. Everyone welcome, just come along.

**COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS:** Sunday 19th February will be hosted by the *CAFOD* group; Sunday 26th February will be hosted by Mabel Cowley who is fundraising for the Scout Jamboree trip to America and Sunday 5th March will be hosted

by *Missio*. Please do come along, support these causes and meet other parishioners.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** will meet in the Upper Room of the Cathedral on **Thursday 16th March** from 7.00 p.m. Everyone is welcome so please do feel free to join us for prayer and praise. Contact Liz Hart on 07716 424043 if you have any queries.

**PRAY** for the repose of the souls of Felisa ‘Paulina’ Meehan and Carmen Blackett who died recently.

*Carmen’s Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Wednesday 1st March at 10.30 a.m.*

*Paulina’s Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Thursday 2nd March 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.

**A NEW PARISH COUNCIL** has been formed to help Fr Martin in his leadership role of planning, coordinating and reviewing the mission of the parish and how they relate to the pastoral pillars of hospitality, prayer, formation, social justice and evangelization.

The Council consists of members appointed by Fr Martin who is very grateful to the following parishioners who have so generously agreed to be part of the Parish Council:

Jonathan Avery - Chairperson  
Mark Upward  
Meryl Mikolajczyk  
Lisa Howlett  
Mel Nash Askew  
Brendan Campling  
Xose Guimil

## **There are Three Main Objectives of the Parish Council:**

- To consider the needs of the whole parish and to assist the Parish Priest with his pastoral plans intended to promote the mission of the parish.
- To foster unity and a sense of community in the parish and to help coordinate all parish activities in a manner that will best serve the interests of the parish.
- To promote spiritual and pastoral initiatives recommended by Bishop Alan as well as the Parish Priest and Parish Council itself.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ AT MASS?** If you have a clear and confident reading voice and would like to proclaim God's living word for the community at Mass, please contact Fr Martin

**250 CLUB RENEWALS ARE DUE NOW** and new members are very welcome to join by picking up a form from the Parish Office or email Pat Austin at [pat@familyaustin.co.uk](mailto:pat@familyaustin.co.uk) Alternatively, please call 01277 824363 / 07733 103588.

For those paying by ongoing standing order either monthly or annually, no action is required. If you pay in one annual instalment by cash, cheque or bank transfer, this will be due by **28th February**.

**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.

**BANKING OF COINS** We now have to bank coins in the Post Office which is inconvenient especially for customers who are waiting to be served.

Therefore, if at all possible, *please* support the work, running and mission of the parish by setting up a standing order via your online banking. The Cathedral Bank details are as follows:

**HSBC PLC, High Street, Brentwood, Essex**

Account Name: **Brentwood Cathedral**

Sort Code: **40-13-22**

Account number: **30 21 74 92**

If you use this method, please put your **Surname and Initial** as a reference. If you are part of our Gift Aid scheme, then please also add your **Gift Aid number**. So, a typical reference might be:

**'A Surname GA=999'**

By entering this reference our Gift Aid Organiser will be able to make sure that your generosity is increased in line with the Gift Aid regulations.

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/](http://www.cathedralbrentwood.org/gift-aid-explained/)

*Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the running, work and mission of the Cathedral parish.*

**PLEASE REGISTER TODAY AS A CATHEDRAL PARISHIONER:**

It is very simple. Each adult parishioner should either go to "Parish Census" at [www.cathedralbrentwood.org](http://www.cathedralbrentwood.org) or use the QR code:

**COMPLETE THE  
FORM ONLINE**



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.

**CATHEDRAL CAR PARK** We are fortunate 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. 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 be respectful to all other drivers. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK** and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Alistair Bailey, Hermine Bayley, Elizabeth Berry, Madeleine Bevan, Ken Blackett, Phil Carr, David, Iris Davis, Jenny Dean, Patricia Decup, Sheena Docherty, Charlotte Donnelly, Rosemary Filler, 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, Mary Stretch, Tim, TCT and all our sick.

**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:



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

**Follow Brentwood Cathedral on**



**GENERAL NEWS**

**SION COMMUNITY D-Max** is a chance for 14 to 18 years old (school years 10 to 13) to go deeper in faith as they approach

adulthood. With fun and friendship, we explore what our faith looks like in our lives and how to be encouraged and grow.

This year the weekend **3rd to 5th March** will include a day at Flame which is the largest Catholic gathering of young people in England and Wales, and takes place at Wembley Arena. It promises to be a great day with loads of international speakers, great music and times of worship. To register:

<https://sioncommunity.churchsuite.com/events/nzecg27n>

Further information at: <https://sioncommunity.org.uk/youth/>

**ESSEX RECUSANT SOCIETY** general meeting will be held in the Cathedral Hall on Saturday 11th March 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

**SPONSORED SLEEPOUT** Caritas Diocese of Brentwood is inviting people from the night of **31st March 2023** (9pm) to the morning of April 1st (8:30am), to join this year's Sponsored Sleepout in one of our four locations; Colchester, Forest Gate, Romford and Southend. The sleepout will help to raise awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All information can be found at [www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout) and to register please email [sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

**THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** is an established children's charity delivering vital mental health services in schools throughout the diocese and in our specially adapted therapy rooms in Billericay. Currently we are seeking to appoint new trustees to our Board to help guide and develop our work. Further information is available on our website <https://www.bccs.org.uk/who-we-are/our-trustees/> or please email Bernadette our director at [bfisher@bccs.org.uk](mailto:bfisher@bccs.org.uk) who will be happy to discuss this important role with you.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023** Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from **Monday 24th to Saturday 29th July**. We can support those with medical needs.

For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours ([tangney-tours.com](http://tangney-tours.com))

**VACANCY SVP Membership Support Officer (MSO)** The St Vincent de Paul Society would like to recruit an MSO for the Brentwood diocese. This is a part time role (15 hours per week) working as part of the SVP Membership Team to support member recruitment and development, provide general support for members and be the link between conferences and National Office.

For further information on salary, responsibilities and details on how to apply contact Lance Philpott, Head of Membership at [lancep@svp.org.uk](mailto:lancep@svp.org.uk) Closing date for applications is Tuesday 28th February 2023.

**THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY NEWSPAPER** is true to its mission of being “a light to guide the world, and a mirror to reflect it” Keeping Catholics informed about their faith and bringing them ever closer to God. In order to keep our high standard going and maintain a strong weekly Catholic voice at a time when it is much needed in the world, please consider taking out a subscription.

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

Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092