



**CATHEDRAL OF ST MARY & ST HELEN  
HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS**  
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Easter Sunday & 1st Sunday of Easter

## **GENERAL PARISH NEWS**

### **Noli Timere: an Easter short story**

In the morning mist, we stumbled upon miraculous signs. The scaffold's rivets had turned to fat green buds. Thorns were now a froth of thick white blossom. Around us, a fusillade of birdsong had caught in the branches of trees. The blue air hummed; and the spring breeze worked on us like grace. Creation sang an *Ave* to this new dawn.

We bent to collect the discarded dice, iron pins and the sponge that still wept vinegar, the evidence of when we got even with God; when we lashed, spat and tore him limb from limb.

Now our doubts were hammered to the untenanted cross. Faith had broken the hard crust of our scepticism. Through cracked lips, we were able to mouth "Amen" again.

No longer traipsing or downcast, we had a sprint on and ran to see if the rumours were true; that what was sealed had been opened to us. All we can say is that it was as reported. Yes, we found Heaven laid open.

Then the sound of Easter footsteps brought us to our knees. The cosmos turning at his heel, as he stepped towards us across a field of crocuses, saying, "Do not be afraid," and showing us his open wounds where we took shelter.

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**THANK YOU** to all who have worked so hard to make our celebration of Holy Week and Easter such a reverent and joyful experience for so many people including visitors to the Cathedral. A special thanks to the Cathedral choir, musicians, ushers, flower ladies, readers and servers.

May the joy of Christ's resurrection touch your hearts, bless your families and be the constant source of your hope. The Lord has risen! He has risen indeed, alleluia!

*God bless  
Fr Martin*

**MANY CONGRATULATIONS** to Sarah Mahadeo, Celene Strachan, Debbie Ward and Dieu Anh NGuyen Beadle who received the Easter sacraments and were received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. May the Risen Lord richly bless their lives and help them to be witnesses to His life in our world.

**EASTER OFFERINGS** are your personal gift to the priests of the parish. If you are a tax payer and wish to gift aid your offering, you can do so by using one of the Gift Aid envelopes in the Cathedral narthex.

**PRAY** for the repose of the soul of Sheilagh Foley who died recently; funeral details to follow in due course.

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.

**NEW BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL GUIDE** is available in the Cathedral narthex or on the Cathedral website:  
[www.cathedralbrentwood.org](http://www.cathedralbrentwood.org)

**PARISH AND COMMUNITY EVENTS (PACE)** meeting on **Wednesday 12th April** at 7.30 p.m. in Clergy House to plan for the **CORONATION CELEBRATION PARTY** to be held on **Sunday 7th May** 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. All welcome. Just come along if you would like to help with this community celebration of the coronation of King Charles.

*Please save the CORONATION CELEBRATION PARTY date.*  
Come in your Sunday Garden Party best or wearing red, white and blue. Children, come dressed as a king or a queen.

We are also looking for some help:

i) Are you musical? Do you sing? Do you play a musical instrument? Would you be willing to do a ten-minute musical performance on the day?

ii) Children's Activities. Are you a face painter? Are you creative and into crafts? Would you be willing to help with children's activities?

Contact office if you can help with any of the above.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** will meet in the Upper Room of the Cathedral on **Thursday 13th April** 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.

**WINTER WARMER LUNCHESES** have now finished but from **FRIDAY 14th April** onwards everyone is welcome to drop into the parish hall on a Friday (12 - 2.00 p.m.) for hot drinks, light refreshments and a very warm welcome. It is a great

opportunity for all ages to share the joy of friendship. We are immensely grateful to Sainsbury's and Gail's Bakery for their continuing support.

**SPRING CLEAN SATURDAY** on **Saturday 15th April** 10 - 12 noon. We are looking for a group of people to help give a deep clean to the Cathedral halls especially their kitchens and toilets. All you need to bring is a pair of rubber gloves. *If you can help, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.*

**HOLY HOUR** begins again on **Monday 17th April**.

**LUNCHTIME PIANO RECITAL** on **Wednesday 19th April** at 1pm- three Grade 7/8 Piano students from Becket Keys School will be giving a recital in the Cathedral. All are welcome.

**FLASH MOB CHOIR** at 9.30 a.m. Mass on **Sunday 23rd April**. Children, bring your instruments and voices to give glory to God. Rehearsal 9.00 a.m.

**LITTER PICKING** Why not join us to help care for our local environment as we litter pick around the Cathedral on **Sunday 30th April**. We will meet after the 9.30 a.m. Mass; everyone is welcome (especially accompanied children) and all equipment will be provided so we just need your willingness to lend a hand for less than an hour.

**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. *Next meeting on 7th May, 4th June and 2nd July*

**COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS:** Sunday 9th April will be hosted by Rhiannon O'Hagen who will be raising funds for World Youth Day; Sunday 16th will be hosted by the Altar Servers and

Sunday 23rd will be the turn of the SVP. Please do come along and join us.

**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

**OFFICE HOURS** are Monday to Thursday 8.30 - 4.00 p.m.

**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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK** and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Alistair Bailey, Yvonne Ball, 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.

**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, 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:



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.

## GENERAL NEWS

**ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI EXHIBITION** The first major art exhibition in the UK to explore the life and legacy of Saint Francis of Assisi (1182-1226), one of history's most inspirational and revered figures, will be staged at the National Gallery from

**6 May to 30 July.** For more information, please visit <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/about-us/press-and-media/press-releases/saint-francis-of-assisi>

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** offers therapeutic support directly to children, young people, families and parents through their Child and Family Counselling Service (CFCS) located in their head office in Billericay. Their CFCS team consists of several experienced and highly qualified therapists working in specially adapted therapy rooms. Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Catherine Munns [cmunns@bccs.org.uk](mailto:cmunns@bccs.org.uk) who will outline the type of support that will be provided for them or their child. There is a charge for this service but they urge any families needing support to contact them. More information is available on their website: [www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk)

**THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their annual 'Relay 100' community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a 'leg' of our relay around the diocese; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, contact Damian Dillon: [ddillon@bccs.org.uk](mailto:ddillon@bccs.org.uk) / 07912 308000 or visit <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> and click on 'Relay 100 Sponsored Walks' to read more about this event.

**FOUNDATION GOVERNORS** Vacancies for Foundation Governors have arisen at a number of Catholic schools across the Diocese and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment.

Foundation Governors are personally appointed by the Bishop to Diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. Our schools would benefit from



people with a range of skills and experiences including Finance, Education, Special Needs, Legal and Administration. If you are interested, please email your expression of interest to [victoriabarnes@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:victoriabarnes@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or call on 01277 265284.

**MASS FOR MIGRANTS** The Dioceses and Ethnic Chaplaincies of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster invite you to a celebration of the annual Mass for Migrants on **Monday 1st May** at 12 Noon. Banner bearers are invited to gather at St Bonaventure's Secondary School at 11:15am for refreshments and preparations ready for the banner procession at 12 Noon.

The Mass will be hosted by the Diocese of Brentwood at St Antony of Padua Church, Forest Gate E7 9QB with Bishop Alan Williams, sm as celebrant and Fr Dominic Howarth preaching. You are kindly invited to attend in person to celebrate the significant contribution made by migrants to the life of our Dioceses.

**INTERESTED IN THE CATHOLIC RESPONSE** to homelessness, welcoming refugees and migrants, assisting with the Cost-of-Living Crisis, or tackling the causes and effects of climate change? Come to the first Caritas Brentwood networking day, **Saturday 10th June**, 10am - 2.30pm, at Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster (on C2C & District lines, close to M25 & A127). Hear national speaker Raymond Friel, OBE, Chief Executive of the Catholic Social Action network. This day is a chance to be sustained, share ideas and good practices with people from parishes across Essex and East London and hear about charities and resources available. Details and Registration (free!) at [www.caritasbrentwood.org/network](http://www.caritasbrentwood.org/network)

**'THE PRIESTS' CHARITY CONCERT** Brentwood Catholic Children's Society are delighted to announce that the Northern Irish classical singing trio **'The Priests'** have agreed to hold a second charity concert for us on **Friday 30th June 2023** at Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30 p.m. All tickets can be purchased directly through Eventbrite and are £30 per person plus booking

fee: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/528414691567> We expect this to be a sell-out event and would urge you to book early in order to avoid disappointment. Full details are available on our website: [www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/)

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2023** Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from **Monday 24 to Saturday 29 July**. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangey Tours on 01732 886666 or book online: Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangey Tours ([tangey-tours.com](http://tangey-tours.com))

**VACANCY** The Ursuline Preparatory School is seeking to appoint an outstanding candidate to deliver the Year 3 curriculum at our thriving Prep. School. More information is available at: <https://www.ursulineprepwarley.co.uk/staffvacancies/> or via e-mail: [secretary@ursulineprepwarley.co.uk](mailto:secretary@ursulineprepwarley.co.uk)  
Closing date for application is **Thursday 20th April**

**VACANCIES IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS** There are a range of vacancies for staff in our parish schools across the diocese. Please find further information by following this link: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

**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   |
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*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  |
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