

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

**Canon John J Harvey**

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**Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Sunday 10th September 2023**

My Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

It was truly wonderful to have been able to celebrate all the masses last weekend and share with you on my first weekend at the Cathedral Parish of St Mary & St Helen. Also, I would like to thank our Deacons for guiding me through the Liturgy at the various masses. The Eucharistic celebration is always where the Parish Community gathers around the table of the Lord, and we are fed and nourished by his Word and His Body & Blood.

It was a great joy to have met so many of you after all the masses, and I thank you most sincerely for your kind welcome. Over the next months I really hope to get to know you; and I would just like to reiterate what I said in my homily that my door is always open, and please don't hesitate to contact me if you need me, day, or night. Forgive me if I don't remember your name immediately, you have one to remember, I have hundreds.

We are blessed to have so many schools in our parish, and I hope to be able to visit all the schools and meet the staff over these next weeks. Our Catholic Schools are truly

a great legacy of the Catholic Community desiring that Catholic education for their children. I have always been a great supporter of Catholic Schools, and I will always advocate Catholic Education. Over the next few months, there will be the admissions procedures for September 2024, where Certificates of Catholic Practice have to be signed for Reception places, Junior places and Secondary School places.

I have spoken to Fr Martin, and he has also been settling into his new Parish. Please do keep all the priests who moved into their respective new parishes last week in your thoughts and prayers. With Love & God Bless You All

*God Bless You All*

Rev Canon John J Harvey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John J Harvey', with a horizontal line underneath.

## GENERAL PARISH NEWS

Consider this if you will: when a family gathers together for a meal and says grace, Jesus is beside them. Or whenever just two or three of us gather to pray or read the Scriptures, Jesus is right there with us. Or whenever we say to someone in distress or sick or in trouble, 'Do you mind if I say a prayer for you and with you?' Jesus is right there in our midst. Or whenever we go on Pilgrimage to Lourdes, or Fatima or Rome, Jesus is alongside us.

How can we be sure of this? How do we know? By trusting and relying on the promise of Jesus: 'For where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them'. This doesn't mean, of course that Jesus isn't with us when we pray on our own, but when we gather as 'church', as the 'body of Christ', as 'believers', he promises that he is there among us.

This is a very consoling and comforting reality or truth of our faith, isn't it? This means that whatever crisis or challenge

we face, whatever tragedy or turmoil, when we gather with other believers, Christ himself is there with us. We can lose sight of God's presence and even take it for granted. When we do this, we miss out on an opportunity of grace and blessing.

A group of students on a trip to New York visited St. Patrick's Cathedral after mass had been celebrated. Most of the students were not Catholics and had not been inside a Catholic church before. When the group entered the Cathedral, they could immediately sense a sweet and calming presence - so much so that many of them wept. This could have only been the presence of Christ in their midst. We need God's grace to enable us not to forget that Christ is present in our midst when we attend Holy Mass, when we receive Holy Communion and when we gather with others to pray or read the Scriptures.

*'I ask for the angels in heaven to be among us. I ask for the abundance of peace. I ask for the full vessels of charity. I ask for the rich treasures of mercy. I ask for the cheerfulness to preside over all. I ask for Jesus to be present for whenever two or three gather in His name he is present among us.'* (St. Brigid).

**SAVE THE DATE - Fr JOHN'S INSTALLATION MASS** Fr John will be officially installed as Cathedral Dean by Bishop Alan on **Friday 22nd September at 7.00 p.m.** in the Cathedral. This will be followed by a reception of light refreshments in the parish halls.

Please make every effort to attend and share with Fr John this wonderful celebration Mass.

**THE RETIRING COLLECTION TODAY** will be for Fr Martin's presentation next week. If you would like to give towards this presentation, you can give your offering:

i) in the retiring collection

ii) by bank transfer to:

Account Name: Brentwood Cathedral

Sort Code: 40-13-22

Account number: 30 21 74 92

If you use bank transfer, please ensure that you state it is for “Fr Martin’s leaving gift”

iii) drop in your gift offering to the office at Clergy House. If you are a tax payer and would also like to Gift Aid your offering, then please use an envelope available in the Cathedral narthex.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS** are Monday to Thursday from 8.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

**FOR INFORMATION** Saturday morning Mass at the Cathedral will be celebrated weekly from **16th September**.

**COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS today** will be hosted by the SVP Group; next week will be the turn of the Altar Servers. Why not come along for a cuppa and a chat?

**THE HOLY HOUR** of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Monday evening from 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. and will be preceded by the **ROSARY** for Ukraine and peace in our world at 6.10 p.m.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY** Children’s Liturgy (for children aged 3 and older) will resume again today.

**PLEASE NOTE** due to some essential works taking place during the coming weeks, there will be some mobile tower equipment in place around the Cathedral; please take extra special care when walking around the building.

**THE NEXT CHAPTER OF CANONS MASS** will take place in the Cathedral on **Monday 11th September** at **10.30 a.m.** All are very welcome to attend.

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** will meet in the Upper Room of the Cathedral on **Thursday 14th September** 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.

**FRIDAY LUNCHES** will be returning on **Friday 15th September** and every Friday from 12-2.00 p.m. everyone is welcome to come along to the parish hall for a light lunch and chat. Why not come along and give it a try? All ages are welcome and please pass the word on to anyone else who might be interested (e.g. neighbours, friends, colleagues). We look forward to greeting you with a cuppa and a smile!

**PRAY** for the repose of the soul of Charles Bright who died recently.

*Charles's Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Thursday 14th September 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.

**SAVE THE DATE: Fr MARTIN'S FAREWELL MASS** Fr Martin will return to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving next **Sunday 17th September** at **6.30 p.m.** followed by light refreshments in the Cathedral parish halls where the parish will make a presentation to him.

**LUNCHTIME PIANO RECITAL** in the Cathedral on **Wednesday 20th September** from 1.00 p.m. All are very welcome.

**RCIA - RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS - JOURNEY IN FAITH PROGRAMME 2023/24** If you know of anyone who is interested in making this Journey of Faith Programme with the possibility of being received into full-communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil, please will you contact the Parish Office immediately to give your details (01277 265235 / cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com).

The Programme consists of a systematic instruction in the Catholic faith and the teachings of the church, including Sacred Scripture, Sacramental Life, and The Dogma's of our Faith, Catholic Practice & traditions, the Liturgy of the Church,

Christology (the study of Christ) & Mariology (the study of Mary), the importance of prayer and many other topics. There will be an **Introductory Meeting on Thursday 21st September 2023** at 7.00 p.m. in Clergy House.

We would like to begin the programme as soon as possible, so your early contact would be appreciated please!

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION** We are now beginning to make preparations for the **2023-24 Confirmation Course**. If you are you are about to start in Year 12 and are interested in learning more about your faith and/or feel ready to take this next step then please register your interest by emailing to [cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com](mailto:cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com) The only information we need at this stage is your name, your year group at school, and parents' contact details. Full registration information will be sent out once we receive these details. Please bear in mind that classes take place on Sunday afternoons and attendance at these is compulsory.

There will be an **Introductory Meeting for Parents and Candidates on Thursday 21st September** (venue will be advised in due course). The **deadline for applications** for this course will be on **Sunday 24th September**; *please note no applications will be considered after this date.*

**PARISH WELCOME SUPPER** If you have joined our parish community since our last Welcome Supper or you were unable to attend the previous event in October 2022, then you and your family are invited to come along to our next **Welcome Supper on Friday 29th September 2023** at 6.00 p.m.

This is an opportunity for you to come along and meet other fellow new parishioners and members of the clergy over a lovely supper. We do hope you can join us. Whether you are single, a couple, married or have a family, you will be very welcome. **Forms are available in the narthex now**; please complete and pop the form through the letterbox of Clergy House.

**CAN YOU HELP?** We would be very grateful to have a group of volunteers who might be willing to occasionally spend a bit of time doing light work such as de-weeding paths on the Cathedral site. If you would be interested, please speak to Fr John.

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING** We are looking for any children who might wish to play a part in the life of the parish and become an altar server. If your child would be interested, please email Mo in the Parish Office on [cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com](mailto:cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com) giving your name, your contact details (telephone number and email address) and your child's name. There will be 3 sessions offered and it is important that your child is able to attend all of them; each session will last for around 45 minutes and parents are asked to be in attendance also. In order to best accommodate the majority, please indicate if Saturday morning sessions or weekday sessions would suit your family better. We would look to schedule Saturday morning sessions at 10.00 a.m. and weekday sessions at 5.00 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. Confessions in Italian are also offered.

**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.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK** and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Alistair Bailey, Yvonne Ball, Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Ken Blackett, Eda Bright, Phil Carr, Roisin Cassels, David, Iris Davis, Jenny Dean, Patricia Decup, Sheena Docherty, Charlotte Donnelly, Ken Eady, Margaret F, Rebecca Florendo, Julian Goode, Angela Harris, Georgie Harvey, Deacon Nicholas Holmes, 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.

## GENERAL NEWS

**BCYS YEAR 13 RETREAT -Friday 22nd - Sunday 24th September** at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. You are made for a purpose. Going into year 13, you may be about to make big or tough decisions about your future, wonder what God may have planned for you or where to go next. This retreat is time to think, pray, chat with those in your year from across Essex and East London, and get a good focus for the future, right at the start of Year 13 and will take place in our beautiful Diocesan youth retreat house Walsingham House at Abbotswick, just outside Brentwood. For just £35, the cost will include meals, accommodation and youth-led formation. Last few remaining places, **APPLY NOW**.

[www.bcys.net/events/year13weekday/](http://www.bcys.net/events/year13weekday/)

**MISSIO:** You are invited to spend an afternoon with Missio on **Saturday 16th September 2023** at Our Lady of Light & St Osyth Church, 1 Church Road, Clacton on Sea, CO15 6AG. Join Fr Anthony Chantry, National Director, and Fr Patrick, Diocesan Director for Missio. The event will commence with Mass at

11am, followed by presentations from Missionary Priests in the parish hall. Please bring a packed lunch. Teas, coffees, and cakes provided.

**THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH:** The next Gidea Park Faith Talk is due to take place at 7.00 p.m. on **Wednesday 20th September** in the hall at Christ the Eternal High Priest Catholic Church, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Parish priest and liturgical scholar, Fr David Manson, will be speaking about 'the Dedication of a Church', explaining how this rare ceremony takes place, and pointing to its deeper significance. All are welcome. Tea and coffee will be available from 6.30 p.m. The event can also be viewed on line simply by going to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**YEAR 7 OPEN EVENING** at Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School will take place on **Thursday 28th September 2023** from 6.30 - 9.00 p.m. with Head Teacher's talks at 6.30 and 7.30 p.m. Open Mornings 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. (by appointment only) on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th October 2023. For further information contact the school on 01277 227156 or email [admin@buchs.co.uk](mailto:admin@buchs.co.uk)

**LOVE THE STRANGER** Earlier this year the Bishops of England and Wales produced a document on Migrants and Refugees, entitled 'Love the Stranger: A Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees'. Liam Allmark, who works at the Bishops' Conference, will present the document at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) on **Saturday 7th October** from 11 a.m. Refreshments will be available from 10.30 a.m. Please go to [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) for details.

**STALLHOLDERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS CRAFT & GIFT FAIR:** The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society are seeking stallholders for their Christmas Craft and Gift Fair being held at The Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre, Bellingham Lane, Rayleigh SS6 7ED on **Sunday 5th November** from 10.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

Pitches are £30, and all profits made on the day are the stallholders' own. For further information please contact Damian: [ddillon@bccs.org.uk](mailto:ddillon@bccs.org.uk) / 07912 308000.

**VACANCY** for Newham Partnership Youth Co-Ordinator. The successful applicant will build and develop a Partnership Youth Leadership Team. Full Job description is available on request. Hours: 35 hours per week (to include evening and weekend work), salary: £25,000 p/a (fixed 2-year contract) for early October 2023 start. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to [frdanielkelly@brcdt.org](mailto:frdanielkelly@brcdt.org) Closing date for applications is **11th September 2023**.

**VACANCY** Property Administrator - Cathedral House. The successful applicant will provide comprehensive, effective, and efficient administration support. Full Job description is available online. Hours: 35 hours per week- Office Based. Apply by sending a CV and covering letter (no longer than A4) to [recruitment@brcdt.org](mailto:recruitment@brcdt.org) Closing date for applications is **15th September 2023**.

**VACANCY** Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School are seeking part-time Cleaner (s); 52 weeks per year, 20 hours per week, Monday to Friday. Please contact Kerry Jones on [kjones@mary.havering.sch.uk](mailto:kjones@mary.havering.sch.uk) for further details. Closing date **15th September 2023**.

**VACANCY** St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Dovercourt, Harwich are seeking a Headteacher from January 2024. For further information please contact the Business Administrator Mrs Gill Colley [admin@st-josephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-josephs-dovercourt.essex.sch.uk) Closing date for applications **26th September**.

**VACANCY** The Governors of The Ursuline Preparatory School, Ilford are seeking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Headteacher from January 2024. The Ursuline Prep is a caring, friendly school and community where our Catholic Ethos is central to all that we do. Our new Headteacher will work with governors to shape the strategic direction of the school, and

will be responsible for the day-to-day leadership and management of The Ursuline Prep. Further information and application packs are available online from the school website [www.urspsi.org.uk](http://www.urspsi.org.uk) or from HR at [hr@urspsi.org.uk](mailto:hr@urspsi.org.uk) and completed applications should be sent to this address.

**VACANCY** St Joseph the Worker, Hutton is seeking a Parish Administrator; 12 hours a week over 2 days (one of which must be a Friday). CV and covering letter required for application. For further information and job description, please contact Fr Leslie Knight on 01277 221917 or email [hutton@brcdt.org](mailto:hutton@brcdt.org)

**VACANCY** A vacancy has arisen for a part-time Site Manager at The Immaculate Conception, Epping. The post will be part-time (three hours per week - with a flexible working agreement to be agreed). Please send your CV and cover letter by email to [admin@eppingparish.plus.com](mailto:admin@eppingparish.plus.com)

**VACANCIES IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS:**

<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
			

*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
			