THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK is available to anyone who is gravely ill or about to have an operation, so if you know someone who would like to receive this important sacrament then please speak to a member of the clergy or ring the office on 265235.

SICK AND HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS: If you know anyone who is unable to come to Mass but would still like to receive Holy Communion in their home, please contact Clergy House so we can add them to our Sick Communion visits list.

GENERAL NEWS

GOVERNOR TRAINING Saturday 26th January - 10.30 a.m. - 12.00 noon at Cathedral House Conference Centre. The topics are: “Preparing for OFSTED and Section 48 Inspections.” This training will be led by Debbi Botham, Diocesan Coordinator for Governance and Derek Kelly, Educational Consultant and Section 48 Inspector. Contact details: debbibotham@dioceseofbrentwood.org Tel. 01277 265284.

THE ANNUAL LOURDES MASS will be celebrated by Bishop Alan on Sunday 10th February at 3.00 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Leigh-on-Sea. During this Mass there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO POPE FRANCIS A study day on this theme will be held at the Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH on Saturday 16th March, 11.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m. Six years after his election we look at Pope Francis’ efforts to bring renewal to the Catholic Church. The speaker will be Fr Alban McCoy OFM Conv, who is Dean of St Edmund’s College, Cambridge. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. Please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com.

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT Help get the homeless out of the cold! This winter Catholics are leading projects providing 45,000 nights of care, warmth and shelter for the homeless in Essex and East London. Support them! Join 1000 people from across the Diocese sleeping outside for the night at Walsingham House at Abbotswick on 12th-13th April. No tents! Just you and a sleeping bag. Open to all ages, from 15+. Sponsorship target of £100/participant. Why not ask your company to match/fund your sponsorship? Money will help local homeless charities and the work of the BCYS with young people. Mass at 11.15 p.m. then sleep out midnight – 7.00 a.m. For full details and sponsor forms visit https://bcys.net/events/sponsored-sleepout-walsingham-house-abbotswick/.

Please ensure that you are aware of the position of all the emergency FIRE EXIT doors in the Cathedral.
MO, the parish secretary, is having surgery early next month and is likely to be out of the parish for the month of February and possibly longer. Please keep Mo very much in your prayers at this time and pray for her full recovery.

Given Mo’s time away from the parish, there will be a single newsletter for the whole month of February. If you have any items for this issue, please make sure that the office receives it by Tuesday 29th January.

THANK YOU for the collection on the weekend of 12th/13th January: £3,891.79 of which £2,775.12 was Gift Aided. Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the parish.

THERE WILL BE A SECOND COLLECTION TODAY for the work of Pax Christi (the Peace of Christ) which aims to support initiatives for peace and reconciliation in communities, societies and countries where there is division, discord and violence. Bishop Malcolm McMahon, National President, writes:

Working nationally, with a team of four staff members and volunteers, a huge amount is achieved through the outreach work and the resources that are produced. Many parishes take special collections on or around Peace Sunday for Pax Christi. I am thankful for this generosity and ask you to support us again this year. Pax Christi has made a deliberate choice not to be a charity in order to have the freedom and flexibility to take action which might otherwise be limited by constraints placed on charities - so your support is all the more important.

JONATHAN BURDEN, presently training for the priesthood, returns to St Mary’s College, Oscott, Birmingham this coming week following his time on placement with us. Thank you to Jonathan for his work and presence in our parish. Pray for him, for all who are presently training for the priesthood and that more men may discern their personal vocation to serve God and the people of God as priests.

If you have ever thought that you might have a vocation to the priesthood, permanent diaconate, monastic or the religious life, why not speak to Fr Martin, Fr Patrick or one of the Cathedral deacons.

WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH Joshua Rooke and Maximilian Meyler who will be baptised this weekend in the Cathedral; pray for them and their parents “the first and best teachers of their children in the ways of Faith”.

ALTAR SERVERS: At today’s 9.30 a.m. Mass, Alina-Maria Szwed, Chidera Agbeze, Ashlin Justin, Cecé Furnival and Luca Campbell will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen and presented with their bronze medals. Congratulations to them all.

If your child has already made their First Holy Communion and would like to serve please contact Fr Martin.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO NOMINATE A CHARITY or worthwhile project that the parish can support during this coming year through our PACE (Parish and Community Events) social events? In the past we have raised awareness of and supported Bridge2Aid, Little Havens Hospice and most recently the project of sending our four ambassadors to World Youth Day in Panama and Costa Rica.

Would you or others be happy to speak about your charity and raise its profile in the parish community during this coming year? Would you be willing to get involved in the parish social events to promote your charity? Please write to Fr Martin by the end of this month with information about the charity or project you are proposing. He and the PACE teams will consider all proposals received.

COFFEE AFTER 9.30 am MASS next weekend will be hosted by the Scouts; there will be no coffee morning held this week.

MOTHERS PRAYERS are held fortnightly; the next meeting will be this Wednesday 23rd January at 10.00 a.m. in Clergy House. All are welcome.

THE 'FLASH MOB’ CHOIR/ORCHESTRA returns to Brentwood Cathedral next Sunday, 27th January at the 9.30 a.m. Mass. If you have not yet taken part in this, come and join in this time to see what it is all about. We are looking for singers and children or young people who play an instrument. Come early for a rehearsal at 8.50 a.m. (if bringing an instrument) and 9.00 if singing. We need as many of you as possible to come, so we can make fantastic music with which to help us worship God. All are welcome!

A WEEKLY HOLY HOUR WITH EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION will be held every Monday in the Cathedral from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m. In the midst of all the busyness and distractions of daily life, this is an opportunity to rest before our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament and adore Him. Silent adoration before the Holy Eucharist is a great tradition of the Church. There will be the hymns and prayers but the emphasis will be on silent meditation during the hour. In the words of St John Vianney "We know that God is there in His Holy tabernacle; let us open our hearts to Him; let us rejoice in His Presence: this is the best prayer”.

WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD), PANAMA. This week a group of 35 young people (including our four ambassadors), led by Bishop Alan, travelled to WYD – where Pope Francis meets young people from across the world – taking place in Panama City from 24th-27th January. The group will also spend time on environmental work in Costa Rica and receiving catechesis in Panama. WYD will be covered on Catholic TV channels EWTN and Salt & Light TV. Follow our ambassadors on the Cathedral social media (see front of newsletter)

NEW PARISH GROUP FOR MARRIED COUPLES Are you married? Newly married? Are you married with children or maybe you are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary? Would you like to meet other married couples...
in the parish? Would like to pray with them, bringing all the joys and challenges of married and family life to God? Would you like to socialise with people who share your faith and similar values? If you are answering "yes" to any of these questions then come along to an informal meeting in Clergy House on Monday 28th January 2019 at 7.30 pm. To give us an idea of numbers, please write your names and details on the sheet in the Cathedral narthex and at Holy Cross.

**LOVE IN ACTION** "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?" 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'(Matthew 25:35-40)

Do you want to live the love of Christ for the weakest, poorest and most vulnerable? Do you have a care for our common home, the earth? Do you want to live more simply and walk more justly with God? Do you want to develop a better understanding of the social teaching of the Church? If so, please come along to an informal meeting on Wednesday 30th January at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral Parish Hall.

**OUR ALTAR SERVERS ALBS** are in very poor condition and we are looking to replace them with new albs. Our altar servers, past and present, have such an important role serving at Mass and it is important that they are dressed properly. However, to replace all forty albs is extremely expensive. Each alb costs around £50 to replace. If you have served in the past, have had a child who has served or want to show your appreciation of our altar servers, would you be willing to buy an alb or give something towards the purchase of a new alb? Any donations, big or small, would be gratefully received. Cheques made payable to “Brentwood Cathedral” and placed in an envelope marked ALTAR SERVERS ALBS can be handed in to Clergy House. Our grateful and sincere thanks to those parishioners who have already given donations to buy 5 albs.

**PARISH WELCOME SUPPER** This will be held on the evening of Friday 1st March at 7.00 p.m. to welcome all newcomers who have joined our Parish in the last 18 months. Come and join the clergy and representatives of our many Parish groups for an informal supper to get to know more fellow parishioners. The supper will be in the parish Hall and is being organised by the Parish Pastoral Council. If you are new to the Parish, or know someone who is, and interested in coming to this free event, please put your name and contact details in the sign-up sheet in the Cathedral Narthex and at Holy Cross by 17th February.

**CHORAL VESPERS** is celebrated in the Cathedral on Wednesdays at 6.30 p.m. and Fridays at 6.15 p.m. (during term time). All are welcome.

**SLEEPY BISCUITS** If any bakers would like their sleepy biscuit tin or container returned, please call the office to arrange a time to come in and collect, thanks.

**250 CLUB RENEWAL - Renewals are due now please.** For those paying by standing order either monthly or annually, no action is required. If you pay in one annual instalment by cash, cheque or Direct Credit online, this will be due by 31st January please. If I already have your email address I will forward a renewal form to you in this way. Alternatively, forms will be available in the Narthex, on the Parish website, by email or, if you are unable to collect one from the church, please contact me and I will arrange to send one to you. New and renewal forms along with payment can be returned to Clergy House for my attention. Should you receive an email in error, please advise me so that I can remove you from the mailing list. Also, please contact me if you are unsure how you make your payment. Thank you for your continued support. Joanna Murphy – email joanna4austin@yahoo.co.uk or call 230675/07734 733417.

**DO YOU HAVE UNWANTED CHRISTMAS PRESENTS** that are lying around your house and would make good raffle prizes at parish events? Would you be willing to donate them to our PACE (Parish And Community Events) team for use in their fund-raising efforts? If you are able to donate any unwanted gifts, please leave in the boxes in the Cathedral narthex and at the back of Holy Cross Church or drop off at Clergy House during office hours and on a Sunday.

**WHY IS OUR CRIB STILL UP?** For the secular and commercial world, Christmas begins sometime in October and ends on Boxing Day. They have now set their sights on Easter and chocolate eggs are already in some shops. For Christians, Christmas begins on 25th December, the birth of Christ, the Son of God, and continues until the 8 January when we celebrate His baptism. The Baptism of the Lord marks the end of the official Christmas season. But in some countries it is not unusual to retain some Christmas decorations until the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) on February 2. This corresponds to a longstanding custom in which the eve of Candlemas was the day for removal of Christmas decorations, especially those made of greenery. This tradition is witnessed by poet Robert Herrick (1591-1654) in his poem "Ceremony upon Candelmas Eve":

"Down with the rosemary, and so down with the bays and mistletoe;  
Down with the holly, ivy, all, wherewith ye dress’d the Christmas Hall."

Our Crib offerings are for the work of the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society that helps the most vulnerable children and their families in the East End and Essex. If you haven’t done so already please help support their important work by making an offering at the crib.
**SERVICE TIMES, MASS INTENTIONS and PARISH DIARY**

**BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL and HOLY CROSS**

**Saturday**

19 January
- 9.15 a.m. Cathedral Intentions of the Selo-Ojeme Family
- 11.00 a.m.–12 noon - Sacrament of Reconciliation
- 12.30 p.m. Cathedral Wedding Service for the marriage of Michelle Chardin and Nick Laidler
- 6.30 p.m. Holy Cross Josephine Capps R.I.P.

Sunday

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

(Peace Day)
- 8.00 a.m. Cathedral Joan McCready R.I.P.
- 9.30 a.m. Cathedral Marie Scott R.I.P.
- 10.00 a.m. Marillac Intentions of Lal Walshe
- 11.30 a.m. Cathedral Kevin McQuillan R.I.P.
- 1.00 p.m. Cathedral Baptism of Joshua Cooke and Maximilian Myler
- 4.00 p.m. Cathedral Baptism Preparation Course (2 of 5)
- 6.30 p.m. Cathedral Anthony and Charlie Ward R.I.P.

Monday

**St Agnes**

21 January
- 9.15 a.m. Cathedral Michael Pacheco R.I.P.
- 7.30 p.m. Cathedral Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction

Tuesday

22 January
- 9.15 a.m. Cathedral Mary Connaughton R.I.P.

Wednesday

23 January
- 9.15 a.m. Cathedral Kathleen Crowe R.I.P.
- 6.30 p.m. Cathedral Choral Vespers

Thursday

**St Francis de Sales, Bp**

24 January
- 9.15 a.m. Cathedral Roger McCarron R.I.P.
- 5.30 p.m. Grange Intentions of Agnes
- 7.45 p.m. Conf Centre Marriage Preparation Course (3 of 5)

Friday

**THE CONVERSION OF PAUL**

25 January
- 9.15 a.m. Cathedral Keely Pohl R.I.P.
- 10.45 a.m. Cathedral Feast of St Angela’s Mass for BUCHS
- 6.15 p.m. Cathedral Choral Vespers

Saturday

**SS Timothy and Titus, Bpp**

26 January
- 9.15 a.m. Cathedral John Byrne R.I.P.
- 10.00 a.m. Halls Steward of the Gospel Day
- 11.00 a.m.–12 noon - Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Sunday**

27 January
- 8.00 a.m. Cathedral Tom Carr R.I.P.
- 9.30 a.m. Cathedral People of the Parish
- 10.00 a.m. Marillac Intentions of Eileen Goodlad and Family
- 11.30 a.m. Cathedral William and Mary Gilsenan R.I.P.
- 6.30 p.m. Cathedral Jim Price R.I.P.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK:-** Please pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Lawrence Allum, Sheila Barnett, Bridget Barron, Hermione Bayley, Carmen Blackett, Sr Eileen Bolger, Stacey Bosley, Josephine Brooks, Tony Bryson, Beryl de Prazer, Charles Carlton, Phil Carr, John Carroll, Michael Clifford, John Collins, Linda Cooper, Sharon Cornell, David, Patricia Decup, Baby Arthur Fleming, Rebecca Fiorello, Ron Fuhr, Concetta Hall, Tom Horan, Rita Hornsy, Ann Hurrumbe, Jess, Joseph, Billy Jones, James Joseph, Mary Kavanagh, Brian Kelleher, Veronica Kelleher, Marion Kelly, Ronald Lee, James Mackevoy, Tony Maule, Anita McDonald-Liggins, Diarmid McMahon, Betty McManimon, Baby Michael, Elaine Moss, Kathleen Murnane, Michael Murphy, Barney O’Driscoll, Maura O'Flynn-Iffland, Phoebe O’Flynn-Lynch, Kathleen O’Harte, Siobhan O’Leary, Babes Page, Debbie and Brian Perrett, James Quilligan, Mary Robinson, Ted Rogers, Anne Rowe, Pat Shaw, Robin Shenton, Daisy Simpson, Bernard Slater, Rosemary Spooner, David Spring, Marie Stack, Sarah Storer, Patricia Swadling, TCT, Mark Thompson, Tim, Donald Walker, Fr John Warrington, Maria Walls, Celine Wells, Wendy, Louisa White, and all our sick in Marillac, Maccals, Brentwood Community, The Beeches, Queens, Nuffield and Hartwood Hospitals and St Francis Hospice.

**CATHEDRAL ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: James Quinn, Herbert Crowder, Valerie McCarthy, Anne Seager, Ernest Benson, Mary Coakley, May Glen, Dora Foster, Mgr David Donnelly, Sr Mary Stephen, Eva Wheeker, Michael Dinery, Ramon Porta, Winifred Hopkins, Elvet Hopkins, Dora Foster, Bishop Ward, Michael Ryan, Gerald Murray, Kathleen Sharpe, James Cole, John O’Brien, Gladys Polack, Helen Clark, Ellen Murphy, Olive Myers, Maisie Ramsay, William Gutch, Christina Whiting, Bishop Auxiliary, John Tynan, Patrick Wood, James Doyle, James Murray, Peter Gutch, Patricia Keenan, Marjorie Vaugan, Kathleen O’Sullivan, Annie Masters, Ruby Dunster, Catherine Fowler, Darrell Kramp, Pat Gower, Henryk Czerwinski, Anthony Philo, Thomas Hennessy, Irene Fitzpatrick, Hannah Major, Margaret Talbot, Emily May Mansfield, Fr John Hibbert, Kathleen Henderson, Maisie Ramsay, Basil Browne, William Cunningham, Patricia Jackson, Margaret Mary Hicks, Mary Quinn, Lydia Capero, Catherine Andrew-Kean, John Bridge, Sister Anne White, June Hickman, Timothy Turner, Bishop Patrick Casey, Bill Brennan, Vicki Barrett, Margaret Sims, Mary Ridgewell, Anne Wilson, Michael Sherlock and Desmond MacCarthy.

**HOLY CROSS ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Brophy, Caroline Amsted, Bernard Donnelly, Josephine Capps, Michael Lynch, Winifred Havers, Mrs. Duane, Richard Siren, Mabel Watchman, Canon Arthur Holmes, Theresa Day, Teresa Keenan, Kitty Dines, Gladys Donovan, Alice Monaghan, Helen Monaghan, Margaret Daly, James Sullivan, John Coburn and Fr. Gerard Ellis.