COVID-19 AND THE CATHEDRAL

THANK YOU for your cooperation and understanding at last Sunday's Masses. Doing things in an ordered fashion means that we can minimise the risk of infection and maximise the numbers of people who can attend Mass.

Please do read the information below for details of the things that we must continue to do at every Sunday Mass. Although inconvenient, they are a small price to pay in order that the community can come together to receive God's real presence in the Scriptures and Holy Communion. Thank you again for your patience and continued cooperation.

TRACK AND TRACE When you return home after Sunday Mass, we ask you to record your details on the Cathedral website for “track and trace” purposes. It will only take a few moments to complete and is very simple. Go to www.cathedralbrentwood.org

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the most important things to remember at this time? If you or a member of your household have any of the symptoms of Covid-19 you should stay at home. Please do not come to the Cathedral. If you have been advised to isolate or are particularly vulnerable you should stay at home. If you are 70+ years old you should follow the Government guidelines.

2. Do I have to “book” in order to attend? No. However, family households and individuals will have to arrive in very good time before Mass begins in order to ensure a seat.

3. Will I be able to sit in my usual spot or wherever I like? No. You will have to wait to be seated by an usher. You will have no choice in where you sit. Available seats in the Cathedral will be filled up row by row in an orderly fashion as ushers seat family...
households, couples and individuals. In this way, we will maintain social distancing and ensure that we can safely seat the maximum number of people.

4. **Will there be the same number of seats available as usual?**
   No. Every second row of seats has been removed and a strict space of two chairs must be kept between every family household or individual and the next family household or individual.

5. **Will I be able to use the toilets?**
   No. The toilets will be locked. Please make sure that you go to the toilet before coming to Mass.

6. **Will the Cathedral be cleaned?**
   Yes. The Cathedral is cleaned every day and on Saturday and Sunday there will be especially thorough cleanse of the Cathedral. We are employing a professional cleaning company to do this work. The Cathedral will also be cleaned by a team of volunteers between each Mass.

7. **Which doors must I use to enter the Cathedral?**
   There are only two entrances to the Cathedral: the doors of the Cathedral narthex and the doors at the toilet/west end of the Cathedral. You must not enter by any other doors. Two ushers will be at each entrance.

8. **What is the first thing that I must do when I arrive?**
   Pray. As you cross the threshold into this sacred space, thank Jesus for being able to come into His presence and to meet Him again in word and sacrament.

9. **What is the second thing I must do?**
   Hand sanitise your hands. Please use a single pump of the hand sanitiser which will be available at the entrance doors.

10. **And the third thing?**
    If you haven’t done so already, put on your face mask or covering. This **must** be worn throughout the celebration of Mass.

11. **And then what will happen?**
    You must wait to be seated by one of the ushers. This may take a little time. Remember, this is new to all of us! Therefore, we ask for your patience, understanding and to treat our ushers with respect. We are seating people in order to maximise the numbers of people we can have in the Cathedral. Once you are seated, please do not move from your seat.

12. **Will the celebration of Mass be as normal?**
    The essential elements, for example, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist will be the same. However, some things will be different, for example, sadly, there will be no music.

13. **Will I be able to receive Holy Communion or come up for a blessing?**
    Yes, of course. We are now able to receive Christ’s Body and Blood but at this point under “one kind”, that is, the consecrated host which, of course, contains the fullness of Christ’s divine life and love. You will be guided by the ushers, row by row and in an orderly and prayerful fashion, to receive Holy Communion. Please maintain social distancing as you process to receive our Lord. Please receive our Lord’s Body on the throne made with the palms of your hands. You cannot receive on the tongue at this time. Hold your arms at full length and have your palms flat so that the priest or Minister of Holy Communion can place the Body of Christ onto your palm for you to consume reverently. Holy Communion will be distributed in silence. If you are coming up for a blessing please stand a good distance away from the minister with your hands across your chest and you will receive a simple blessing in silence.
If you are not receiving Holy Communion or a blessing, you must also come up and follow the people on your row back to your seat. In this way, people will not have to step over or pass close to you as they return from receiving Holy Communion.

14. Which doors must I use to exit the Cathedral? There are three exits to the Cathedral: the main doors of the Cathedral narthex, the doors of Mercy behind the choir stalls and the emergency fire doors at corner of the west end of the Cathedral. You must not exit by any other doors. An usher will be at each door.

Please leave the Cathedral in an orderly fashion, being particularly aware of social distancing.

Please hand sanitise as you leave.

15. What about my offering for the running and support of the parish? Many people have experienced financial hardship during the lockdown and face uncertain financial futures. Our parish has also experienced the challenge of very reduced finances which is a serious concern. We thank you for the offering you give today. There will be boxes for you to place your offering in as you leave. If you want to support the parish by standing order or give online, please see the Cathedral website or newsletter for more information.

16. Is there a newsletter? Yes, it’s back. For those who do not wish to access the newsletter on the website, it will be available to pick up at the end of Mass and take it home.

17. Will I be able to chat to the Clergy after Mass? Sadly, not at the moment. For the time being, the clergy will not come outside as we would normally do because we do not want to risk people congregating around us and breaking social distance rules. But if you want to speak to us, please do ring. If we can help you in any way, we will. You are in our prayers and every day we have been lifting you in the Eucharistic arms of the Church to our Heavenly Father. Be assured that we will continue to do so.

18. How can I assist any “track and trace” requests? When you go home, if you can, please go record your name, a contact number and the Mass you attended on the Cathedral website https://cathedralbrentwood.org/mass-attendee/. It is very simple to do and will only take a few moments of your time.

**GENERAL PARISH NEWS**

**MASS TIMES**

**SUNDAY MASS**

Cathedral: 6.30 p.m. (Vigil)
Cathedral: 8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m. (Family Mass), 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

**WEEKDAY MASS (Fridays only at present)**

Cathedral: 9.15 a.m.

**INDIVIDUAL PRAYER IN THE CATHEDRAL.** The Cathedral will be open for private prayer every weekday from Monday – Friday from 9.00 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. Please note that the Cathedral will be closed for private prayer at the weekends as we clean and prepare for the celebration of Sunday Mass.

**PARISH OFFICE** The parish office has now reopened however, for the foreseeable future it will work in a different way. You should only come to the office if it is a very urgent matter or, if you have an appointment with a member of clergy; otherwise, we would ask at this time that you email or phone instead.

If you do need to visit Clergy House to meet with a member of clergy or to see the parish secretary, social distancing must be adhered to at all times.

Until further notice, the parish office opening hours will be Monday through to Thursday (8.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.) each week. Emails and enquiries will be dealt with as swiftly as possible.
MASS TIMES, MASS INTENTIONS AND ANNIVERSARIES  
Sunday Masses are now being celebrated and weekday Masses are presently being said by our priests in private for the intentions; the list of intentions can be found on the Cathedral Website.

WEEKDAY MASS will be celebrated every Friday at 9.15 a.m. from 24th July. Please remember that:
- i) you must stay at home if you or a member of your family have Covid-19 symptoms or if you are particularly vulnerable
- ii) you must wear a mask
- iii) you must hand sanitise when you enter and leave the Cathedral.
- iv) you must wait to be seated. You cannot sit where you wish at this time.
- v) once seated, you cannot move to another seat.
- v) you must keep social distancing rules at all times

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the soul of the following parishioner who died recently: Andrew Roberts.

May he rest in the peace of Christ and rise again in glory.

CONGRATULATIONS TO NICHOLAS HOLMES who received the ministry of lector (reader) and was given candidacy by the Church. He now continues his journey to diaconate. We thank him for offering himself to the Lord and continue to pray for him and his family. Please pray for all those men who are in training or discerning their vocation to the permanent diaconate. Further information at www.brentwoodvocations.co.uk/deaconate/.

CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS help people have an overview of the spiritual and pastoral life of the Church in this country and the world. For the time being, we are not going to stock newspapers in the Cathedral narthex. If you would like to order a newspaper and collect it from Clergy House please let the Parish Office know and provide your name and contact details. If there is enough interest, we will be able to provide this service.

Alternatively, you can also subscribe online at:
The Tablet at https://www.thetablet.co.uk/subscribe
The Catholic Herald magazine at https://catholicherald.co.uk/subscribe/

PARISH FINANCES During this time of the Covid-19 pandemic, a number of parishioners have enquired about making online donations to support the continued running of the parish. Contributions can now be made via a page on the Brentwood Diocesan website at and selecting General Offertory. The information sent via this website is secure and covered by GDPR.

https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=brentwood

You can, if you prefer, make a payment directly into the parish bank account using online banking. You will need to set up the Brentwood Cathedral Parish as a payee on your online banking app or internet page. The Parish Bank details are as follows:

HSBC PLC, High Street, Brentwood, Essex
Account Name: Brentwood Cathedral
Sort Code: 40-13-22
Account Number: 30217492

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 (GA); for example: SmithJ GA 999. By entering this reference our Gift Aid Organiser will be able to make sure that your donation is increased in line with the Gift Aid regulations. If you don’t pay tax you can still set up a standing order or pay via online methods. Alternatively, you can deliver your offertory envelopes though the presbytery letterbox with cheques made payable to Brentwood Cathedral Parish.

For more information on the present state of parish finances go to https://cathedralbrentwood.org/donations/.
Thank you for your continued support.

**ROSARY DURING THE PANDEMIC** The Mothers Prayer Group (evening group) started praying the rosary by zoom at the beginning of lockdown. We pray for special intentions and are happy to include yours (please do email Brentwoodprayers@gmail.com). You might also like to pray at the same time as we are praying - 6.30 p.m. every evening.

**LOVE IN ACTION** This parish group is continuing to meet periodically via Zoom. If you would like to join in please contact Heather Leathley at heatherleathley1@gmail.com.

**ALL ARE WELCOME** Perhaps you’re feeling a little lonely or anxious at this time? If so, someone from the All Are Welcome group would be happy to have a chat over the phone. To request a call, you can either ring the All Are Welcome group, on 01277 233317 (David Philpott) or email the team at CathedralAllAreWelcome@gmail.com.

**FEEDING THE HOMELESS (PROJECT 58.7)** The St Helen’s Ladies Group is working with Churches Together in Basildon who provide hot meals for the homeless six days per week all year-round and a shelter for sleeping through the winter months. Every third Monday of the month, even during lockdown, the St Helen’s Ladies Group has been working in teams shopping and cooking to provide 20 to 30 hot meals which are then taken to Basildon where volunteers from St Martins church distribute them to the homeless. For more information please contact Maddy Edwards (07710 187292).

**THE UPPER ROOM PRAYER GROUP** continue to meet via WhatsApp and pray for each other and for prayer intentions. For more information please contact by text to Chris on 07974 702771 or Gabrielle on 07817 515207. Alternatively, call Liz Hart on 01277 228419.

**YEAR 6 LEAVERS’ MASS** At a time when it is hard for pupils and parents to gather in school a special Year 6 Leavers Mass will be Livestreamed from Walsingham House at Abbotswick next Wednesday 22nd July, at 10.00 a.m. Everyone is welcome online; the details are at https://bcys.net/events/year6leavers/. The direct link to the YouTube broadcast is https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5W1nT6OZw0I&feature=youtu.be and the Mass includes a message from Bishop Alan for Year 6 pupils.

**BRENTWOOD FOOD BANK** Stocks are still very low at the Food Bank; goods specifically requested are instant mash, tinned potatoes, tinned meat pies, tinned goods - ham, spaghetti, hot dogs, meatballs, chicken in sauce, curries, mince onion, beef stew, beef casserole, ravioli, all day breakfast, corned beef, macaroni cheese, salmon, spaghetti bolognaise, rice pudding, fruit and custard. Also, jams and spreads, washing powders, pump antibacterial soap, deodorant, shaving gel/foam and all cleaning products (kitchen & bathroom) if you can. You are able to make donations of food at most supermarkets and at the Doddinghurst Road Community Church as well as the Council office on the Ingrave Road.

**LOURDES IN YOUR LIVING ROOM** - from Monday 27th to Friday 31st July enjoy an inspiring daily pilgrimage programme, with Mass at 10.30 each day, Morning Prayer (9am) and Night Prayer (9.30pm) as well as afternoon reflections (4.30pm) from Bishop Alan, Michael Barwick, Rev Paschal Uche and Fr Paul Keane, Stations of the Cross (Friday 5pm) and a Marian (“Torchlight”) procession with the Hail Mary prayed in over 40 languages (Thursday 8pm). Everything will be streamed on YouTube (BrentwoodCYS), and the full timetable and links are at www.bcys.net

**THE 18 HOUR CHALLENGE** Please support our young people. In the 18 hours when they would have been travelling to Lourdes (where Our Lady appeared to Bernadette 18 times) our creative young people are undertaking all sorts of challenges. On 25th - 26th July 18 metres of hair is being cut, 18 curries are being
created; 18 cakes are being baked; 18 pictures are being painted; one young person is running 18km (half a marathon) ... and 44 young people and older pilgrims are each walking 18 miles to total the 792 miles from Brentwood to Lourdes. Money raised from donations and sponsorship will be split between Cafod’s support for those across the world suffering from Coronavirus, and our own BCYS youth ministry, and donations can be made online at www.bcys.net/donate or send a cheque payable to “BRCDT Youth Service” to Fr Dominic, 18 hour challenge, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5SH. Thank you for anything you can give.

CAFOD CORONAVIRUS APPEAL. Coronavirus (Covid-19) has now spread worldwide, with confirmed cases in several countries where CAFOD work. Its spread to countries with poor health systems will be devastating. Our local experts need your support to continue protecting lives. More details about the appeal and how you can donate can be found at cafod.org.uk. Details of the appeal are also on the Cathedral website.

VACANCY Catholic Education Service are seeking a Public Affairs Manager. The role is based in the office of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX, a short walk from Victoria Station in Central London, subject to post Covid-19 restrictions. Salary: £35,000, subject to experience. Closing date for applications: 22nd July 2020. Interviews will be held on 29th July 2020 by video conferencing. For further information and/or a Job Description, please contact: HR@cbcew.org.uk.

VACANCY The Diocese is diverse, vibrant, and full of dedicated volunteers running projects which bring to life the Gospel mandate to recognise and serve Christ in the poor and those on the edges. If you have a heart for such work, and the skills to develop and strengthen it, this could be your perfect job! See www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/developmentcoordinator/

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Bridget Barron, Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Julia Blencowe, Ray Blencowe, Phil Carr, David, Patricia Decup, Julian Goode, Concetta Hall, Ann Hurcombe, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Brian Kelleher, Veronica Kelleher, Lawrence, Margaret MacLeay, Tony Maule, Dennis Menezes, Kath Murnane, Michael Murphy, Harry Newman, Barney O’Driscoll, Siobhan O’Leary, Steven Poole, Anne Rowe, Helena Rowe, Robin Shenton, David Spring, Tim, TCT, Louisa Whiteman, and all our sick in Marillac, Mascalls, Brentwood Community, The Beeches, Queens, Nuffield and Hartswood Hospitals and St Francis Hospice.

CATHEDRAL ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: Margaret Mary Tait, Michael Connaughton, Arthur Brennan, Corinne Gibbon, Annie Bungart, Ronald Holt, Anthony Gilligan, Joseph Kay, Denis Harlilhy, Kate O’Connell, Yvonne Pro-Chiner, Thomas Cahill, Stanley Stringer, John Simmons, Raymond Martin, Gerard Horton, Con Sherin, Nicholas Dineen, George O’Neill, Joseph McCarthy, Mary Bullen, Gerard Eve, John Brady, Clare Smith, Joy Watson, Patrick Magorrian, Philip Harris, Winefred Haverty, Sister Mary Celestine OSU, Florence Emberson, Bill Williams, Teodora Macapagal, Mary Daly, David Squires, Mary Daly, Frances O’Keefe, George Butler. Joe Deed, William Fell, Alice Hearn, Joseph Dillon, Sid Curtis Snr., Henry Frederick James, Mary Finnane, Edward Riordan, Elfreda Collins, Robin Ridgewell, Dorothy Paynter, Thomas Gormley, Angela Smith, Joy Watson, Kevin Rogers, Margaret Roughneen, Kevin Breslin and Harry Makin.

HOLY CROSS ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patrick Monaghan, Charles Howell, Mrs. Hendrick, Ada Sasselli, Claire Smith, Sr. Margaret Mary, Charlotte Callaghan, Sr. Mary Bernadette Orton, Angela Sorrenti, Mary Daly, Frances Mary O’Keefe, Sofia O’Rourke, Margaret Kennedy and Des Lyons.

Follow Brentwood Cathedral on