Thank you for your co-operation over these past weeks. Fr Martin has received many comments and e-mails from people praising the orderly, safe and reverent manner in which people are gathering for the celebration of Mass during this time of pandemic.

Although the “feel” of Sunday Mass is not what we have been used to, we know that Christ is in our midst, feeding us with His living word and the greatest gift of His own Body and Blood. It is this nourishment that alone gives us the grace to live our Christian discipleship, to be witnesses to hope and to prepare our souls for eternal life.

A special word of thank to our ushers and stewards who have given so generously of their time to make sure the Cathedral is open for prayer and Holy Mass. The whole parish community is indebted to them.

**GENERAL PARISH NEWS**

**BEIRUT EMERGENCY APPEAL** Hundreds of people have been killed and a quarter of a million people were made homeless in the recent explosions. A country already struggling with huge issues of poverty, with one in four of the population being a refugee (many from Syria or Palestine), and also coping with Covid. Please give as generously as you can through CAFOD by going to [https://cafod.org.uk/](https://cafod.org.uk/).
**MASS TIMES, MASS INTENTIONS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

Sunday Masses are now being celebrated in the Cathedral. Any weekday Masses which are not currently being celebrated in the Cathedral are being said by our priests in private for the intentions. The full list of intentions can be found on the Cathedral Website.

**VOCATIONS**

Congratulations to Peter and Mary Dowse who celebrated fifty years of married life. We thank God for their faithfulness and witness to Christ through their vocation to marriage and family life.

We pray for Adrian Lowe and Paschal Uche who were ordained to the priesthood in these past weeks. May the Lord richly bless their priestly ministries and make them powerful witnesses to his love.

Please remember in your prayers Michael Barwick who is to be ordained a deacon this coming Saturday.

If you want to find out more about serving Christ and His Church go to [https://www.brentwoodvocations.co.uk/](https://www.brentwoodvocations.co.uk/)

**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.

**PLEASE NOTE** the parish office will be closed on Monday 10th August.

**WEEKDAY MASSES** will be celebrated every Monday and Friday at 9.15 a.m. 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 and make sure it covers your mouth and nose.

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.

vi) you must keep social distancing rules at all times

From tomorrow 10th August, Mass will be celebrated on Monday mornings at 9.15 a.m.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the repose of the souls of parishioners who died recently: Fr Tom Jordan, Conrad Joy, Dennis Menezes, Sr Kathleen Gorham and Michael Murray. Please also remember in your prayers Joan Soper (Sr Margaret’s mother) who died during lockdown on 2nd May.

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

**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.

**250 CLUB** Our congratulations go to the following winners: John Murphy (January draw), Christine Turner (February draw), P Ryan (March draw), David Worsfold (April draw) Lorraine Cowley (May draw) who each win £50; and to Mary Cassidy (June draw £300) and Sarah & Simon Conrad and Matt Barry (June draw £100 each)
CATHOLIC NEWSPAPERS help people to 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; details are as follows:

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.

GREEN GUARDIAN GROUP During lockdown many of us have sought pleasure from the natural world and this summer the Brentwood Cathedral Green Guardian group would love you to share your photos and videos with us. Maybe you have built a bug hotel, spotted a hedgehog in your garden, taken delight in a double rainbow - the possibilities are endless and however you have found joy in God’s creation please share them with us so we can post them on our Instagram account.

We will be posting different activities over the summer to give you some ideas, so be sure to follow us on Instagram (@bcgreenguardians). Please tag us in your photos or send them to greenguardiansbrentwood@gmail so that we can post them on Instagram. And if you haven’t taken that photo/video just yet then this summer is a perfect time to appreciate the glory of our common home and to share that joy with others.

COVID-19 AND THE CATHEDRAL

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 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.

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

6. Which doors must I use to enter the Cathedral? The doors of the Cathedral narthex and the doors at the toilet/west end of the Cathedral.

7. What is the first thing that I must do when I arrive? Sanitise your hands. Please use a single pump of the hand sanitiser.

8. And the next thing? Please put on your face mask or covering which needs to cover your nose and mouth. This must be worn throughout the celebration of Mass for the safety of the whole community.

9. And then what will happen? You must wait to be seated by one of the ushers. We are seating people in order to maximise the numbers of people we can have in the Cathedral and to ensure social distancing. Once you are seated, please do not move from your seat.

10. Will I be able to receive Holy Communion or come up for a blessing? 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.

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.

11. Which doors must I use to exit the Cathedral? The main doors of the Cathedral, the doors of Mercy behind the choir stalls
and the emergency fire doors at corner of the west end of the Cathedral. Please leave the Cathedral in an orderly fashion, being particularly aware of social distancing. Please hand sanitise as you leave. Please take a newsletter home with you or go online for the newsletter.

12. What about my offering for the running and support of the parish? Some 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.

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

GENERAL NEWS

VACANCY The Campion School are seeking a Learning Support Assistant - One-Year Contract - Scale APTC 2 Spinal Point 4 £21,210 (FTE) 32 hours per week (39 weeks per year). Please apply online. Closing date: 12 noon, Monday, 17th August 2020.

VACANCY The Ursuline Sisters in Brentwood urgently require a Care Manager (maternity cover) and 2 Care Assistants for our team providing care for 8 Sisters resident in the Grange. The Care Manager post is for 25 hours per week. Applicants should have General Nursing qualifications, have experience managing a care team and hold a full driving licence. Experience caring for the elderly is essential. Some weekend, evening and on-call work will be required. Care Assistant applicants should have previous experience. Bank and part time shifts are available. Salaries dependent on post and candidate. Please telephone 01277 260156 for application forms.

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.

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.

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, Geraldine Sheehan, 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: Catherine Stuart, John Garvey, Sheila Towers, Catherine Chasseaud, Lilian Duane, Aldhelm Monaghan, June Hyde, Michael Regan, Ernest Crowley, Basil Melder, Mortimer Costello, James Slevin, Francis William Barry, Miss Wade, Mary Page, Robert Perry, Nellie Ward, Elmonde Changadoo, Malcolm Clarke, Catherine Daunt, Mary Wood, Vera McKenty, Diana Underwood, Mary Healey, Leonie Grace Reedy, James Dobson, Marcia Pond, Joseph Peppard, John Ryan, Pat Dillon, Bridget Byrne, Maria Czerwinska, Helen York, Michael O’Brien, Ivy Pringle, George Packer, Maria Peters, Brian Rushworth, John O’Donnell, Evelyn Alice Hayes, Ernest Riseborough, John Carter, Christina Casey, Joseph Donegan, Peter Buckley, Len Downs, Barbara Horner and Mary Sheehan.

HOLY CROSS ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: George Frederick Jones, Mary Pagae, Bunty Morton, Paul Horan, Marcia Pond, Eileen Malcolmson, Christine Kerr Walls, John Horgan and Alice Woods.

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