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

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PENTECOST SUNDAY (B)
23rd May 2021

INDIVIDUAL PRAYER IN THE CATHEDRAL. AS RESTRICTIONS ARE CAUTIOUSLY LIFTED, we are pleased to announce that, as of Monday 24th May, the Cathedral no longer requires ushers to be present on a daily basis and we will therefore be open for individual prayer each day from 8.00 a.m. until 6.00 p.m.

Please note that it is now each person’s personal responsibility to ensure that they hand sanitise upon entering and leaving the Cathedral, continue to practice social distancing, scan the displayed QR code and ensure that they are wearing a face mask/covering at all times while in the building. Please continue to follow these procedures for yourself and the well being of all people who use the Cathedral.

We thank all of our volunteer ushers who have so generously given of their time in recent months to ensure that there has always been an opportunity for people to visit the Cathedral for private prayer.

For more information about how the latest easing of restrictions affects places of worship go to www.cbcgw.org.uk/covid-guidance-collective-worship/

PLEASE PRAY for Dan Jarvis, James Lawn and Liam Preston, who will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church today at the 11.30 a.m. Mass. Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love.

BEE BOMBS are a fun way for everyone to get involved with growing wildflowers that attract bees and butterflies. To mark the beginning of Laudato Si week www.laudatosiweek.org the Green Guardians parish group will be handing out bee bombs for young parishioners to plant in gardens or window boxes just in time for National Children’s Gardening week (29 May - 6 June).

THIS IS A TWO-WEEK NEWSLETTER please ensure you keep your copy handy for next weekend.
PARISH OFFICE Please note that the parish office is closed and will not reopen until Tuesday 1st June after which the parish office opening hours will be Monday through to Thursday (8.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.) each week. Emails and enquiries will be dealt with as swiftly as possible.

PLEASE NOTE Monday 28th May is a bank holiday; the Cathedral will close following Mass at 9.15 a.m. and therefore, there will be no individual prayer in the Cathedral on this day.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of John Wills and Doreen Pennifold who died recently.

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

ALTAR SERVERS As we anchor our weekly post-pandemic lives to Christ by the practice of coming to Sunday Mass, we are considering reintroducing small numbers (two or three) of altar servers at each Sunday Mass. Our servers are such an important part of our community and it will be good to see them visibly serving at the altar again.

If you would like your child or young person to start serving again, please let us know at Clergy House as soon as possible.

ALTAR SERVERS A number of our servers have expressed an interest in returning to serve at the altar. In order to facilitate this, we will be running a training/refresher course on Saturday 5th June 9am here at the Cathedral. We would invite the servers who are interested in coming back to attend this session. Our servers are an important part of our parish and it will be good to welcome them back properly. If you would like your child or young person to start serving again, please let us know at Clergy House as soon as possible.

THE GREAT BIG THANKYOU PICNIC LUNCH - SUNDAY 4th JULY. Let’s get together to celebrate our Parish and the wonderful way it has sustained us through the pandemic. Everyone is invited to a special Parish Picnic Lunch to celebrate “Thank You Sunday”. Pop the date in your diary.

This will be an opportunity for us to socialise as a parish family in the grounds of the Cathedral from 1.00 to 3.00 p.m. Bring your own food and drink - hot drinks will be provided. We will have tables and chairs set up but you are welcome to bring a picnic rug and spread out on the grass.

It will be a wonderful opportunity for us to thank the clergy for their support and dedication over the past year and for Fr Martin to thank those in the parish who have contributed so much. Also, an opportunity to thank the many parishioners who are frontline workers and who we owe a huge debt of gratitude.

If you would like to help or contribute in any way, please contact David Worsfold on 07885 348982 or email him at david.worsfold@zen.co.uk

LISTEN to Fr Martin's video reflection. Search “Fr Martin Boland” on youtube channel. Please like and subscribe to follow future videos.

NARTHEX REPOSITORY We very much hope to be able to open the repository later this year and are looking for people to volunteer to help with its running. It is not a difficult or very time-consuming job but it is an important one. If you think you might be interested or just want a bit more information, please contact the parish office.

MASS INTENTIONS AND ANNIVERSARIES can be found at https://cathedralbrentwood.org/mass-intentions/. All intentions will be said by our Priests in private celebration of Mass whilst the Cathedral remains on a reduced timetable.

REFERENCES FOR WORK AND OTHER POSITIONS: Fr Martin has many requests for references which he is happy to write for people that he knows. However, it is not helpful to mention to him in passing that you have given his name as a referee or for him to receive unexpected reference requests. Therefore, before you give his name as a referee, please make an appointment to
meet with Fr Martin to discuss the position you are applying for and the nature of the reference required.

NEW GIFT AID BOXES are now available for collection from the narthex of the Cathedral – please do remember to pick yours up and take it home with you. If you do not use the envelopes, we cannot claim the Gift Aid!

The boxes are arranged in alphabetical order so please ensure you sanitise your hands first and avoid touching other boxes when you are collecting yours. Thank you.

CATHEDRAL TIMETABLE

Saturday: No Morning Mass
Vigil Mass: 6.30 p.m.

Sunday: Masses at 8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Monday: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.

Tuesday: Individual Prayer 8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Wednesday: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.

Thursday: Individual Prayer 8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Friday: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.

2021 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES Please visit the Cathedral website (cathedral-brentwood.org) where you will find the latest information about our 2021 programmes for the following:

Journey in Faith course for adults
www.cathedralbrentwood.org/rcia-2021-course/

Baptismal Preparation
www.cathedralbrentwood.org/baptism-2021/

Marriage Preparation
www.cathedralbrentwood.org/marriage/

Please see Cathedral website and social media for updates.

BAPTISMS 2021 We are delighted to finally be in a position to be able to start celebrating Baptisms again. However, as you might well imagine there is a significant backlog of baptisms and many parents making enquiries about this sacrament. At the same time, there is a backlog of many other celebrations, such as weddings, along with the many others demands of the Cathedral parish. Therefore, we thank you in advance for your understanding and patience.

To help you make a decision about your child's baptism, you need to:

1. reside and regularly practice in the parish of Brentwood. If you are new to the parish, you should now think about making Sunday Mass part of your regular practice and make yourself known to the clergy.

2. have undertaken the parish preparation course; this includes those who attended part or all of the course in 2020 and also those who have followed the parish Sycamore online course more recently (Sycamore Course)

3. be aware that thirty people may be present at a baptism.

It is hoped that later on there may be increases in the numbers permitted, and in theory, from 21 June, all restrictions on numbers of people may end, but this is not yet confirmed. In order that we can manage the numbers of baptisms and other Cathedral services and events, when booking you will be offered the next available free date when baptisms are taking place.

If you are happy with this date, we will reserve the date and time for your child's baptism. You will then be contacted by the priest/deacon who will celebrate the baptism.

If this date is not convenient, we ask you to contact us again in October when we have hopefully dealt with the backlog of
baptisms. You will then be able to discuss a convenient date for later this year or in 2022.

Please call the office (01277 265235) if you have any queries or you would like to book the next available date for Baptism.

CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME This month we celebrate Laudato Si’ week (16-24 May). Laudato Si’ is Pope Francis’ Encyclical which is a profound invitation to everyone on the planet to care for our common home. Here are some ideas for how you can get involved during the month of May:

ELLEN WILLMOTT Did you know that one of the world’s most famous botanists, Ellen Willmott, is buried in the Cathedral churchyard? You can find her final resting place just through the archway to the right of the Parish Hall.

During her life she was credited with identifying over 60 species of plant, many bearing her name or that of her home at Warley Place. This work earned her many honours and accolades in her lifetime.

She was born into a wealthy family in 1858 and moved to the huge estate at Warley when she was in her teens. When her father died in 1892, she inherited the large family home and estate, adding to the wealth she had inherited from her Godmother, Countess Helen Tasker, four years previously. She devoted this wealth to her passion of botany, creating fantastic gardens at Warley, where she entertained Royal visitors, and on estates she purchased in France and Italy. She also funded botanical expeditions to China and the Middle East and helped establish the Royal Horticultural Society’s gardens at Wisley.

Among her publications was a two-volume authoritative study of roses, Genus Rosa, including 132 fine watercolour illustrations.

Her talents were not restricted to botany and horticulture. She was a keen woodworker and photographer and played several musical instruments, owning a Stradivarius violin.

When she died in September 1934, she left huge debts which meant all her estates, including Warley, had to be sold. The grand house at Warley Place was demolished in 1939 and after the war several battles were fought to prevent a housing estate being built on the site.

Today her garden has been transformed into Warley Place Nature Reserve by the Essex Wildlife Trust and is a magical natural landscape well worth a visit.

‘NO MOW MAY’ Did you know about the spectacular benefits both we and our garden wildlife receive from not mowing throughout May? If not mowing during May is just too much to contemplate, how about leaving a portion of your lawn to grow wild or leave it longer between each cut?

PRAYER WITHOUT CEASING FOR OUR COMMON HOME: CAFOD in collaboration with Christian Aid, Tearfund and others, invite you to join in prayer for our common home. As a parish we have committed to coming together in prayer each Monday evening at 8pm. We do this individually at home (so no Zoom required) but in the knowledge that others in the parish are doing likewise. If you would like to add your name to the list of those praying each Monday evening or would like more details, please email Liz Hart at lizzie45marg@gmail.com.

THE CRITICAL STATE OF PARISH FINANCES We are very aware of the financial uncertainty that some parishioners are facing during this difficult time of COVID-19. Sadly, as a parish we are also experiencing a very significant gap in our finances which is of serious concern. Unlike other businesses and institutions, there is no financial help for parishes. We depend entirely on the generosity of parishioners to cover running costs and the activities of the parish.

If you are not attending Mass at this time, we do ask you to think seriously about what you give and how you might best do so.

A contactless payment machine has been installed in the Cathedral narthex for donations. The machine is very easy to use.
and allows you to support the work of the Cathedral at this time by online giving.

To use: please hand sanitise and touch screen to begin. Contributions to assist the Cathedral can be made online via the Brentwood Diocesan website:

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

If you prefer, you can 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); e.g. 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.

More information at www.cathedralbrentwood.org/donations/

Thank you in advance for your generosity and any support that you can provide the Cathedral parish at this time.

GENERAL NEWS

NEW ST BON’S ALUMNI NETWORK Open to all former students and staff of St Bonaventure’s School in Forest Gate. Please join and spread the word - news, events and opportunities to give back: https://www.stbons.org/alumni/

VIRTUAL LONDON MARATHON Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society has several charity places for the Virtual London Marathon taking place over 24 hours on 3rd October 2021. This can be run anywhere and on completion, runners will receive the official London Marathon Finisher’s medal and New Balance T shirt. They will also have access to the London Marathon App allowing them to plot their run on the official London Marathon course. If you would like one of our places and think you could raise a fundraising total of £300, please email Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk for registration details.

DIOCESAN VIRTUAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM - Saturday 29th May - Bishop Alan will lead a virtual pilgrimage from the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, which we can join using the Shrine’s live-streaming service via their website: www.walsingham.org.uk or their YouTube channel ‘Walsingham Catholic TV’.

“LOURDES AT YOUR LOCAL” From Monday 26th - Friday 30th July, the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service will be hosting “Lourdes at your Local” for Summer 2021. There will be a Mass celebrated each morning at 11.00 a.m. with Anointing of the Sick and joyful music, followed by a cup of coffee and refreshments in the parish hall afterwards. These will then be streamed online each evening, and there will also be a Daily Rosary, Torchlight Procession and Talent Show available to take part in virtually during the week. The Masses will take place in Leigh-on-Sea, Clacton-on-Sea, Canning Town, Wanstead and Brentwood to which you are warmly invited to join us. Further details and a full itinerary are available on our website www.bcys.net/events.

VACANCY St Peter’s Catholic Primary School Billericay, part of The Christus Catholic Trust, are seeking to appoint an Assistant Cook. More details can be found on the Essex School Jobs website www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies. Closing date for applications is noon on Friday 4th June 2021.

VACANCY at St Benedict’s Catholic College, Colchester for Chaplaincy Worker. For further details about the role, please contact Mrs Jo Santinelli, Principal on 01206 549222 and for further details about the college, please go to our website www.stbenedicts.essex.sch.uk. The closing date for applications is midday on Monday 7th June 2021.
**DIOCESAN SCHOOL VACANCIES** Details of current vacancies can be found on the Diocesan website at this link:
https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK** and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Bridget Barron, Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Phil Carr, Matthew Conrad, David, Patricia Decup, Eileen Driscoll, Fr Stewart Foster, Julian Goode, Concetta Hall, David Hill, Ann Hurcombe, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Brian Kelleher, Veronica Kelleher, Lawrence, Tony Maule, Mary McCarthy, Kath Murnane, Stephanie Murray, Harry Newman, Barney O’Driscoll, 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.


**HOLY CROSS ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: Rosemary Musto, Jeremiah Albert Coe, John Searson, John Pain, Patrick Wright, Thomas Nolan, Margaret Hogan, Elsie Kinnear, Rita Kopczynski, Eileen Brook, Thomas McMahon, Beryl Worth, Teresa Wilson, Kathleen Curley, Bridget Monaghan, Desmond Murphy, Robert Francis Kennedy, Doris Millicent Williams and Agnes Borsuk.

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