TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (b)
5th September 2021

GENERAL PARISH NEWS

EUCHARISTICADORATIONThis past month’s Sunday Gospel readings from John Chapter 6 have allowed us to reflect on the importance of Christ’s Real Presence in the Eucharist.

From Monday 20th September, our weekly Holy Hour will be restarting in the Cathedral. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 6.30 p.m. and will finish with Benediction at 7.30 p.m. This is an opportunity to come and spend some quiet time in the presence of the Lord.

Everyone is welcome to join us, even if only for a few minutes on the way home from work. During adoration, a priest will be available to hear confessions.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY MASS On Tuesday 14th September, the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, Fr Martin will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his priestly ordination. To thank God for the gift of priesthood there will be Mass in the Cathedral at 7.30 p.m. that day followed by refreshments in the Cathedral parish hall. All are very welcome.

Please note that there will be no morning Mass that day.

To help provide an idea of the numbers of people attending for catering purposes, please add your name and details to the list in the Cathedral narthex.

If you wish to give a gift towards a presentation for Fr Martin, please use the envelopes available in the narthex of the Cathedral. Please hand in to Clergy House.

TABERNACLE AND SOUNDSYSTEM UPDATE. These works have been completed and the Cathedral will open for private prayer from Monday. Please note that the area around the tabernacle is now both alarmed and with added CCTV. We have also had work carried out to improve the Cathedral sound system which will hopefully improve the quality of sound for the congregation including those with hearing difficulties.

PREPARATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2020-21. Due to the disruption of the pandemic, this year’s preparation is for children who are in Year 4 and above from September 2021. Please note that this preparation programme is now full. Only those parents who have already completed and returned a registration form will be able to join the 2020-21 programme.

The details to register your child (Year 4 and above in September 2022) for the 2022/23 programme will be released next year. We hope that the children being a year older will allow them to benefit more fully from this spiritual preparation and that supported by their parents that they will also be more familiar with the prayers and celebration of Mass.
BISHOP ALAN’S STATEMENT ON EDUCATION - Education Sunday is a day on which we can focus on the wonderful work that is done in Catholic schools up and down the country. The last year has been a challenging time for all, as we have had to face the full impact of the pandemic and find new ways to live and work. Only time will show the full impact of the days that our children have had to stay at home and try to study. There are, I fear, some areas of inequality in the provision of the pupils’ learning, which may impinge on their development for some time. Having said that however, I know that the schools in the diocese have worked tirelessly to mitigate the effects of the pandemic on the children. On behalf of the diocese, I offer my deep gratitude to our Catholic schools for all that they have done and achieved during the pandemic.

When the Catholic hierarchy was re-established in the nineteenth century, one of the first actions was to establish schools to support the Catholic community and help them overcome the many obstacles, including illiteracy, in the way of so many people. In our times the call to make Education a priority has not diminished in any way. As your bishop I heed the call of Pope Leo XIII given over a hundred years ago when he called on the bishops of the world to carry on “making the young your chief care; press onward in every way your work; and cultivate with enthusiasm and hopefulness whatever good seeds you find: for God, who is rich in mercy will give the increase.”

In recent times some of our schools have had to face hostile approaches from those who do not share our vision for Catholic education. They would want to influence the direction of travel for their own purposes rather than for the benefit of the children and young people in our Catholic schools. Pope Francis writes that “Education is an enterprise that demands cooperation on the part of all involved - the family, the school and social, cultural and religious institutions.” A positive way of achieving this cooperation which, in turn, furthers the vision and tradition of those pioneers, is for our schools to work more closely together by joining Catholic Multi Academy Trusts (CMATs). Whilst this may be in line with thinking coming out of national Government it is also genuinely my firm belief that this is the best future for our schools. It is an opportunity for schools to work together actively and formally to shape the Catholic education system in their locality. It is this approach that will enable high standards of Catholic education to be maintained and where schools can contribute more widely as beacons of good practice in the local community. Indeed, where CMATs have been established in our diocese benefits have already been identified, including financial savings, greater inter-school support and renewal of the mission they share as Catholic schools.

As the pandemic recedes and a growing sense of normality returns, I know that we will be able to move forward collaboratively with the wonderful work of enabling our young people to reach their full potential. I encourage all associated with our Catholic schools, as Pope Francis has said, to “persevere with courage and tenacity”[3]. Once again, thank you to all who work in and support Catholic education whether as pupils, staff, governors or parents. I will keep you in my prayers and ask that you join me in praying for the flourishing of our Catholic School communities.

Yours in Christ and Mary, Bishop Alan, sm

VACANCY St. Helen’s Catholic Junior School Academy is a highly respected and popular Catholic school, committed to excellence in all areas. The Governors invite applications from an experienced and suitably qualified, practising Catholic leader to play a key role in building on the success of our excellent school. For more information, an Application Pack or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office on 01277 213962, email: HR@st-helens-jun.essex.sch.uk. Full details of the post and application form are also available on www.st-helens-jun.essex.sch.uk

Application Deadline - Monday 27th September 2021 at 10.00 a.m.

THANK YOU TO MAIDI BROWN who is stepping down from her role as Chair of the Parish Finance Committee and parish Health and Safety representative. The community is indebted to her for
all the work she has carried out with great professionalism in order to ensure that the finances of the parish are managed in a proper fashion and that Health and Safety regulations are followed. These are not small tasks in a parish of our size. Her generosity and service of the Church has helped to ensure that our parish community has flourished and weathered the storm of a pandemic in order to be witness to Christ in our world. For this, we are hugely grateful to her.

Please let Fr Martin know if you have a Health and Safety background and would willing to share your expertise with the parish.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is available on Saturdays in the Cathedral from 10.00 - 11.00 a.m.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the soul of Dr Tracy Tai and Roselina Malindi who died recently. May all who have died know the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.

NEXT WEEK’S NEWSLETTER WILL COVER 3 WEEKENDS so if you have items that you would like to be included, please email these to the Parish Office by Tuesday 7th September at the latest.

PLEASE NOTE the parish office opening hours are Monday to Thursday (8.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.).

CATHEDRAL TIMETABLE

**Saturday:** No morning Mass today  
Sacrament of Reconciliation 10.00 – 11.00 a.m.  
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 - Friday** Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION CATHOLIC SCHOOL APPLICATIONS. Will your child be starting a new infant, junior or secondary school in September 2022? If so, the following information is very important.

If you are going to apply for a primary or secondary Catholic school with your child starting in September 2022, please note that:

a) There will not be a Sunday Mass registration card. Fr Martin will know those families who have been practising their faith by coming to Sunday Mass. These families will receive a Certificate of Catholic Practice.

b) If you have not been practising your faith, please do not approach Fr Martin for a Certificate of Catholic Practice as he will not be able to provide you with this document. Instead, apply directly to the Catholic school of your choice.

c) If you plan to send your daughter or son to the Brentwood Ursuline High School, please note that you do not require a Certificate of Catholic Practice.

d) If you are applying for a non-Catholic school that requires evidence of religious practice and you have been practising your faith, please come to see Fr Martin.

e) If you are applying for a non-Catholic school that requires evidence of religious practice and you have not been practising your faith, please do not approach Fr Martin. Instead, apply directly to the non-Catholic school of your choice.

f) Please note that Fr Martin will not supply additional references or documentation to parents who may go to appeal for a place at a non-Catholic school.

Fr Martin will be available only at the following times in Clergy House to see parents who are known to him and who are practicing their faith by attending Mass every Sunday. There is no need to make an appointment:
SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS  
Wednesday 27th October - 4.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS  
Wednesday 1st December - 4.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Please ensure you make a note of these dates in your diaries.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH has been closed for the whole of the pandemic and remains closed. As a parish, we have been able to celebrate the Saturday evening Vigil Mass in the Cathedral because its size allows for social distancing and more people to attend Mass; it can also be well ventilated, has multiple entrances and exits and has all the necessary risk assessments.

As we edge out of the pandemic, we will review the situation with Holy Cross church in late September when schools have opened and we approach the winter months. It is important that we try and ensure the well-being of the whole community and that as many people as possible feel able and comfortable returning to the celebration Mass.

THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION is a forum for like-minded catholic men to meet socially with a commitment to faith, family and friendship. The Association supports the Catholic Church, young people and those in need. Lifelong friendships are developed by meeting once a month and there is a varied programme of social events.

Membership allows access to a World-wide organization and locally the Brentwood Circle meets in the evening of the second Wednesday of every month. There are other Circles nearby in Billericay, Chelmsford, Southend & Upminster. The Circle has continued during Lockdown in a restricted manner via Zoom, but with the anticipated resumption of full activities in September, is now looking for new members and a return to normality.

Further information can also be obtained from the Membership Officer, Peter Brisbourne on 01277 219746 or the website - info@thecatenians.com

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:

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donate £3.00</th>
<th>Donate £5.00</th>
<th>Donate £10.00</th>
<th>Donate £20.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="qr_code_3.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
<td><img src="qr_code_5.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
<td><img src="qr_code_10.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
<td><img src="qr_code_20.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donate without Giftaid-it

If you are unable to donate with Giftaid-it then please use the codes below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donate £3.00</th>
<th>Donate £5.00</th>
<th>Donate £10.00</th>
<th>Donate £20.00</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="qr_code_3.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
<td><img src="qr_code_5.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
<td><img src="qr_code_10.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
<td><img src="qr_code_20.png" alt="QR Code" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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.

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

BAPTISMS Please be aware that we have now reached full capacity for celebrating Baptisms this year and are unfortunately unable to offer any further dates for the remainder of 2021. If you would like to enquire about Baptism for your child, please contact the Parish Office no sooner than early January 2022; by this time, we will be in a position to give parents the details of the Baptism Preparation Programme which will need to be completed prior to you being invited to book a date for the Baptism.

Any new information regarding Baptism will be announced at Mass and also through the website and newsletter.

MAKING YOUR DONATION BY STANDING ORDER If you can, please support the Cathedral by giving by standing order and, if you are a taxpayer, please gift aid your offering. For information go to https:// cathedralbrentwood.org/gift-aid-explained/ Thank you for your continued generosity.

NEW GIFT AID BOXES are 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 that you sanitise your hands first and avoid touching other boxes when you are collecting yours. Thank you.

PARISH FINANCES 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

VACANCY Ursuline Sisters, Brentwood are seeking a Care Supervisor for 16 hours per week (over 3 days) to job share with our current Supervisor. Our Care team provide care for 6 resident Sisters. Applicants should have nursing qualifications and previous experience of caring for the elderly. Driving licence essential. Please telephone 01277 260156 for an application form.
BRAND NEW BCYS YOUTH MASS to be celebrated this Thursday 2nd September at 7.30 p.m. in Brentwood Cathedral. Taking place on the first THURSDAY of the month at Brentwood Cathedral, the BCYS are delighted to welcome young people back to Youth Masses which will be bigger and better than ever! The evening will start with a celebration in the Parish Hall at 6.00 p.m., where we will provide food and drink as we know many will come straight from school or work, followed by Youth Mass in the Cathedral at 7.30 p.m. We always welcome new people, old friends, school and confirmation groups so please do come along! For more information, please visit www.bcys.net/events/september-youth-mass/ or email info@bycs.net

CYCLING FOR CHARITY (“Pedalling through the Pandemic”). Fr Dominic Howarth, a priest of the Diocese, has been cycling for many months, heading towards 5,000km - and this weekend he will be pedalling the last few kilometres, to complete the distance! He is raising money for the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society, Walsingham House, HCPT Easter Lourdes Group 709, and Help Refugees. Find out more and sponsor him online via https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/frdominic5000at50, or phone 01708 740308 or email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org if you want to donate via cheque or cash. Thank you for any support you can give.

ARE YOU IN NEED OF A ‘FAITH LIFT’? Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane are running a series of day events to inspire, encourage and nurture faith: Saturday 11th September, 12.15 p.m. Mass, bring your own packed lunch, 2.00 p.m. praise and worship, followed by talk, quiet time, prayer ministry and from 3.30-4.30 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration. You are welcome to all or part of the day. Further info admin@sioncommunity.org.uk

YEAR 7 OPEN EVENING - BRENTWOOD URSULINE CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL Thursday 30th September 2021 from 6.30 - 9.00 p.m. with Headteacher’s talks at 6.30 p.m. and 7.30 p.m.
Year 7 Open Mornings (by appointment only), Thursday 7th & Friday 8th October 2021 from 9.30 a.m. -11.00 a.m.

SEASON OF CREATION STUDY DAYS During the 2021 Season of Creation, from 1st September to the feast of St Francis on 4th October, thousands of Christians on six continents will unite to pray and take action in defence of our common home www.seasonofcreation.org For access to these free live stream events go to www.whatgoodnews.org No registration needed. Talks will be available subsequently on the same website.

NATIONAL MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS This year’s National Mass for Altar Servers will be held at St Mary & St John’s Church in Wolverhampton on Saturday 25th September at 12 noon. This is in line with Cardinal Vincent Nichols request that the National Mass should be held in another part of the country every other year alternating with London.

BCYS AUTUMN YOUTH GATHER The BCYS invite all young people from school year 9 and above to join us at Walsingham House at Abbotswick for a one-day event on Saturday 23rd October, with outdoor activities and inflatables and 2 fantastic speakers - John Pridmore will speak about his conversion from a life of organised crime in the East End of London, to teach us that we are all capable of changing our futures and Leila Bousbaa will inspire and educate us on the Catholic response to climate change. We are asking £20 for the day and you can book online NOW at https://bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2021/

CATECHIST TRAINING AND RESOURCES DAY - Saturday 6th November, Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster. This training and resources day is open to all First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists, as well as those who look after the children’s liturgy in the Diocese of Brentwood.

It will be an opportunity to hear about fresh resources, as well as receiving input to assist you in your First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes. There will be keynote speakers and updates from the BCYS in the morning, with a variety of inspiring and exciting workshops for you to choose from in the afternoon. We would particularly like to welcome any young catechists or young people in your parish (16+) who may be interested in
working as or with catechists, and wish to develop their faith further post-confirmation.

**THE GOSPEL OF MARK** On most Sundays of 2021 we shall be reading from the Gospel according to Mark. In two new video presentations Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, demonstrates the skill with which Mark put his gospel together, and how Mark’s material was used by later evangelists. The talks are accessible free of charge from the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org and also on the page entitled ‘Faith Talks’.

**ANNUAL DIOCESAN MASS FOR ALTAR SERVERS** Archconfraternity of St Stephen, invites all Altar Servers to the annual Diocesan Mass for Altar Servers at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 2nd October 2021 at 2.30 p.m. The principal celebrant will be Rt. Rev. Nicholas Hudson, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster. Servers from beyond the Westminster Diocese are welcome to this Mass if they can’t attend the National Mass on 25th September in Wolverhampton. If MCs and Senior / Altar Servers would like to attend this event, please email johnmccormack528@gmail.com by 18th September 2021. We will need to know how many Altar Servers (& families) will be attending from your Parish, so that accurate numbers can be established.

**LIVING LAUDATO SI’ - Online Retreat - 15th - 18th October 2021.** Open to all, this retreat will help personal prayer and reflection, and parish action, on the critical issue of care for God’s creation. Bishop Alan will open the retreat, which will be led by expert speakers. For more information see poster at the back of church or email laudatosi@dioceseofbrentwood.org

**VACANCY** St Peter’s Catholic Primary School Billericay are seeking to recruit a Catering Assistant to join our established catering team preparing approximately 250 meals a day. Candidates must have experience of a similar environment as well as a passion for great food. Further information and application forms can be found on the Essex School Jobs website http://www.essexschooljobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=67107. Closing date is 15th September 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: Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Phil Carr, David, Patricia Decup, Eileen Driscoll, Fr Stewart Foster, Julian Goode, Concetta Hall, David Hill, Ann Hurcombe, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Brian Kelleher, Veronica Kelleher, Ginevra Lambourne, Lawrence, Tony Maule, Mary McCarthy, Carmel Micallef, Kath Murnane, Harry Newman, Barney O’Driscoll, Joe O’Herlihy, Steven Poole, Anne Rowe, Eileen Rossiter, 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: Christopher McKeon, Edward Bohannon, Sheila Julia Weston, Ann Dimery, John and Mary Banks, Michael O’Sullivan, Giacomo Panza, Toby Milburn, Thomas Flynn, Alfred Seager, Wilfred Pollard, Josephine Magorrian, Jack Permain, J Maurissen, Margaret Shepherd. Michael Maling, Hannah McDonnell, Caroline Avis, Dan Murphy, Gerry Shanley, Doris Lawlor, David Fairman, Bridget O’Carroll, Donald Clayton, Mary Caddell, Marie Maher, Peter Clarke, Arthur Willis, Teresa Lynch, Abby Julia Hart, Sarah Oliver, James Byrne, Edward Swift, Katherine Wisely, Joseph Rank, Bartholomew O’Mahoney, Gerry Dowds, Francis Rudd, David Richards, Alan Wakely, Eric Rose, Walter Cross, Tommy Mahan, Rosa Brind, Catherine Ryan, Mary Duffy, Mrs P Kelly, Gabrielle Young, Anthony Ratnam, Sr Carmelita Quinn OSU and Rupert Varmer.

**HOLY CROSS ANNIVERSARIES:** Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: Agnes Galcicus, Edmond
Horgan, William Coles, Eddie Connor, Chris Williams, Rosina Williams, Jim Connor, Mary Guilfoyle, Edward Gahagan, Gerry Shanley, Patrick O’Brien, Jack Spellman and Margaret Kenny.

Follow Brentwood Cathedral

Brentwood Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity No. 234092