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.

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

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

Father Martin Boland                               Father Gary Dench
Clergy House: 01277 265235                           Clergy House: 01277 265235
Deacon Paul: 01277 810321                            Deacon Simon: 07813 639929
Email: cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com

27th and 28th SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME (b)
3rd – 22nd October 2021

Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092
PLEASE NOTE the parish office opening hours are Monday to Thursday (8.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.).

THIS NEWSLETTER covers the period 2/3 October until 22 October. It is also available online.

HOLY HOUR OF PRAYER on Monday evenings. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at 6.30 p.m. and finish with Benediction at 7.30 p.m. This is an opportunity to come and spend some private time in the peaceful presence of the Lord.

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 Sr Eileen Bolger and Tony Murrell, husband of Liz Murrell, who died recently. Tony's funeral will take place in the Cathedral on Monday 18th October at 11.00 a.m.

May all who have died know the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.

THANK YOU to all those who brought items for the Brentwood Foodbank last weekend and for all who helped organise this collection.

CATHEDRAL PARISH MUSIC GROUP plays on the first Sunday of every month at the 9.30 a.m. Mass. The first rehearsal will be on Saturday 2nd October from 5.00 - 6.00 p.m. and the group will then play the following day at Mass. If you are an adult musician or singer and would like to use your musical gifts and help us all sing a new song to the Lord, please contact sarahconrad@hotmail.co.uk Thank you to Andrew Wright, the Cathedral Master of Music, for his support.

CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY COLLECTION will take place today, Sunday 3rd October. Please collect an envelope and if you are a tax payer Gift Aid your offering. Thank you for your generosity.

THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTIONS are a series of talks for adults who want to grow in understanding and confidence when questioned or speaking about their Catholic Faith. The talks and discussion take place on Zoom from 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon.

The next talks will be on the 3rd and 10th October and the question being explored is “What does it mean to talk about God?” Fr Mark Reilly, parish priest of Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wickford, will consider this question. If you would like to join this discussion, please forward a contact email to adultformationvicariate@dioceseofbrentwood.org

For more information about The Thresholds of Hope Questions go to www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

RETURN OF COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS We are delighted to let you know that we will be holding coffee mornings again from Sunday 17th October (bi-weekly to begin with); the first coffee morning will be hosted by the First Holy Communion Group. Please do come along and join us.

If you would be interested in hosting a coffee morning, email Claire at cathedralcoffeerota@yahoo.com

BABY LOSS AWARENESS WEEK 9 - 15th October This is an opportunity to remember babies lost to miscarriage, stillbirth, and infant loss. www.babyloss-awareness.org

Throughout the week, bereaved parents, their families, and their friends unite to commemorate the lives of babies who died during pregnancy, at or soon after birth and in infancy. It is also a moment to lift these babies in prayer to the care of the Lord and ask that parents may find hope in their grief.

The week is also a platform to call for tangible improvements in policy, research, bereavement care and support.
THE “LAUDATO SI’ INVITATIONS, COMMITMENTS AND ACTIONS” document has now been published and some copies are available in the Cathedral narthex. This important document is also available online at www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/laudatosi

Pledge cards will also be made available in the Cathedral Narthex from 10th October. This will be an opportunity to commit ourselves to playing our part in practical ways in the care of our common home, planet earth.

MASS FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE SYNODAL PROCESS will be celebrated by Bishop Alan on Sunday 17th October at the 6.30 p.m. Mass. The Synodal Process is a pilgrimage of the whole People of God in discerning the way the Church needs to be in its localities and worldwide at this moment in time. To find out more go to www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-conference-synodal-process

ST HELEN’S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL: PROSPECTIVE PARENTS MEETINGS There will be meetings and tours of the school for prospective parents (Reception 2022) on Tuesday 19th October 2021: 9.30 a.m./ Thursday 21st October 2021: 9.30 a.m. and Tuesday 2nd November: 9.30 a.m. Please contact the school office to book: admin@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk

MILLENNIALS “THINKING FAITH” GROUP is for anyone aged 18 - 40 who wants to deepen their Catholic Faith and to meet other Catholics in the parish. The first meeting will be on Wednesday 20th October at 7.00 p.m. in Clergy House.

GETTING READY FOR COP 26 - leaders from across the globe will be meeting in Glasgow from 1st-12th November to attend COP 26, the UN conference on climate change. Pope Francis in his encyclical, Laudato Si’, calls each of us to care for our common home. The CAFOD website has some great resources www.cafod.org.uk/Campaign/COP26-climate-summit

To mark the COP26 conference, the parish’s Green Guardians’ group is arranging an all-day Prayer Vigil in the Cathedral on Thursday 4th November. A rota will be available for you to sign up. Please email greenbrentwoodcathedral@gmail.com if you have any questions.

WE REMEMBER OUR DEAD and the communion that we still enjoy with them during this month of November. We also pray and offer Masses for the repose of their souls in the eternal life of God.

Why do we offer Mass for the dead? We believe that there exists a living communion between us and our brothers and sisters “who have gone ahead of us marked the sign of faith”. Just as we pray for each other and share each other’s burdens on earth, we can offer prayers and sacrifices to help the departed souls undergoing purification, and no better prayer could be offered than that of the holy sacrifice of the Mass.

It is a deep and ancient instinct for Catholics to pray and offer Mass for the dead. St. Ambrose (d. 397) preached, “We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayers into the house of the Lord.” St. Augustine (d. 430) recorded the dying wishes of his mother, St. Monica in his Confessions: “One thing only I ask you, that you remember me at the altar of the Lord wherever you may be.” Pope St. Gregory (d. 604) said, “Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them.”

How do you offer a Mass for a deceased person?

i) Please write the name of the deceased on an envelope and mark “RIP”

ii) There is no payment for having a Mass said for a deceased loved one, but you may wish to make an offering. In this way you participate more intimately in the sacrifice of the Mass offered, by making a sacrifice of your own, and, you help support and provide for the physical needs of the clergy.
iii) Please hand in your envelope to the office and, Mo, the parish secretary, will allocate a date and time for the Mass to be said either in the parish or the Mass will be offered by a priest elsewhere. Sometimes Mass intentions will be sent to priests in other parts of this country or abroad who have very few Mass intentions of their own.

iv) You may want to send a Mass card to the family of the deceased.

THE BOOK OF THE DEAD If you would like the names of deceased loved ones written in our Book of the Dead and displayed in front of the Cathedral altar, then please write CLEARLY their names on the sheets in the Cathedral narthex and at the back of Holy Cross. Please note the book already contains all names which have been given in up to November 2020.

NOVEMBER DEAD ENVELOPES During November, please write and place the names of your deceased in these envelopes. The names of your deceased will be placed before the altar at every Mass and those “who have gone ahead of us marked by the sign of faith” will be raised up before the Lord in prayer. Please place the name(s) of your deceased loved ones with any donation in the ‘Month of the Holy Souls’ envelope and hand it in to Clergy House.

INAUGURATION OF ADVENT AND NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS VIDEOS will be filmed by a professional company on the evenings of Friday 19th and Saturday 20th November from 5.00 - 7.00 p.m. Please make a note of these dates and come along and be part of the congregation at these beautiful services. These videos will be used on social media across the diocese and beyond.

MRS BOZENA LARAWAY, Headteacher of St Helen’s Junior School academy, retires this term. She has led St Helen’s for seventeen years and has been working in Catholic education for thirty-five years. If you attended St Helen’s during this time or you sent your child to the school, please come to the Mass of Thanksgiving in the Cathedral on Friday 26th November at 6.00 p.m. All welcome.

FIRE AND GENERAL HEALTH AND SAFETY INSPECTIONS will take place in all our buildings, including Holy Cross on the 25th and 26th November. This will be carried out by the Diocesan appointed SafetyToolbox.

PARISH HEALTH AND SAFETY. Do you have any expertise in the area of health and safety? If you do and are willing to share your expertise with the parish, please let Fr Martin know.

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: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.
Tuesday: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.
Wednesday: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.
Thursday: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.
Friday: Morning Mass at 9.15 a.m.

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.

**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.

**NUMBERS OF PEOPLE AT A BAPTISM.** How many people can attend a baptism at Brentwood Cathedral? It is now possible for any number of people to attend a baptism. However, the baptisms that took place when Covid restrictions only allowed small numbers of people to attend proved to be intimate, prayerful, and focussed on Christ into whose death and resurrection we are baptised. The parents who experienced the baptism of their child during that time have commented on how this allowed them to appreciate the spiritual meaning of the sacrament and that it was also less stressful.

Many couples are now deciding to have godparents and immediate family at the Church for the baptism of their child and then inviting other friends and acquaintances to join them for any celebration afterwards.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CATHOLIC SCHOOLS APPLICATIONS.** 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.

Please note that The Campion School have agreed that, as long as parents complete and submit the SIF on time, Certificates of Catholic Practice forms can be forwarded separately to the
school as soon as possible after 27th October, preferably by email to: admissions@thecampionschool.org

**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.

**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 more information go to https://cathedralbrentwood.org/gift-aid-explained/ Thank you for your continued generosity.

**DETAILS OF PARISH ANNIVERSARIES AND SICK LIST** can be found on the noticeboard in the narthex of the cathedral and also on the fuller online version of this newsletter at: https://www.cathedralbrentwood.org/news/news/latest.pdf

**THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION** is open to all Catholic men and membership offers access to an international organisation and provides a forum for those who share a set of common beliefs.

The Association has continued during lockdown and is now resuming and is looking for new members. Members will be on hand outside the main cathedral entrance after masses this weekend to explain the aims of the Association to anyone who might have an interest in considering joining. Alternatively, please contact the Membership Officer, Peter Brisbourne on 01277 219746.

**GENERAL NEWS**

**OCTOBER YOUTH MASS** The BCYS invites all young people from around the Diocese to join us on **Thursday 7th October** from 6.00 p.m. where we will provide a meal, before we begin a FREE music workshop and performance from the incredible One Hope Project. This will be followed by monthly Youth Mass at 7.30 p.m. celebrated in the Cathedral where we will have invited Fr Paschal Uche to preach. More information on our website www.bcys.net, there is no need to book but please email to let us know if you would like to bring a group gabriellafusi@dioceseofbrentwood.org

**THE MARIPOSA TRUST BABY LOSS REMEMBRANCE SERVICE** will be held on **9th October** at 2.00 p.m. in Chelmsford Cathedral. Our Saying Goodbye service is for anyone who has either personally lost a baby at any stage of pregnancy, at birth, or in early years, or who has been affected by family members or friends’ loss. Whether the loss was recent or 80 years ago, everyone is welcome to attend. We have also extended the services, and gladly welcome anyone who is grieving the fact that they haven’t had children - all are welcome. Babies and children are also invited to come with their families, as the Saying Goodbye service is truly a family event for all.

**YEAR 7 OPEN EVENING - BRENTWOOD URSELINE 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.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE GYPSY, ROMA AND TRAVELLER COMMUNITIES** We are looking for volunteers who would be interested in helping children from GRT communities prepare for the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. If you would like to find out more about this work, we will be running two training sessions in the Canon Roche Pastoral Centre behind the Most Holy Redeemer Church in Billericay, 21 Laindon Road, CM129LL on Thursday 14th October and Thursday 21st October from 7.30 to 8.30 p.m.

If you would like more information, please phone the Billericay Parish Office on 01277 624891 or email the Parish Office at: billericay@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Please note that as this
involves working with children, it will be necessary to have a DBS certificate issued by the diocese.

REDISCOVER YOUR MARRIAGE - Retrouvaille simply means ‘rediscovery’ and is a programme that offers you the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples having difficulties in the marriage and even heading for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work.

For confidential information about ‘Retrouvaille’ or to register for the programme commencing with a ‘Virtual’ weekend on 21st - 24th October 2021… Call or text +44 788 7296983 or +44 797 3380443 - or Email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

THE CAMPION SCHOOL OPEN EVENING concerning admission of boys who will be eleven years old during the current academic year will be held virtually on the school’s website: www.thecampionschool.org.uk and can be found under Admissions. The Supplementary Information Form (SIF) will be available online that evening until 4.00 pm on Friday, 22nd October 2021.

DO YOU ENJOY GARDENING? Do you have a few spare hours on a Monday? We are in need of volunteers to join the wonderful team who help look after the grounds at Walsingham House at Abbotswick. There are a wide variety of things to be done, suiting all types of gardening experience! If you would like to know more, please phone Joe Beattie, 01277 373959, or email josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org

VACANCY Cleaning Supervisor required at Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School. Full time post. Salary £19,559 per annum. Please contact Miranda Freeman for further details: 01277 238005 / mfreeman@buchs.co.uk

VACANCY St Marys Hare Park Catholic Independent School are seeking to appoint enthusiastic and motivated Midday Supervisory Assistants to join our friendly team as soon as possible. Hours: 11.30 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. For all enquiries please either call the school on 01708 761220 or email enquiries@stmarysharepark.co.uk. Application deadline - Monday 11th October 2021 at 3.30 p.m.

VACANCY for PA to the HR and Finance Team in Cathedral House, Ingrave road, Brentwood, CM15 8AT. The role is full time permanent, 35 hours her week, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. We are looking to recruit a suitability experienced individual to provide office management and oversight of the administration of the HR and Finance Team. For an informal chat, please email hr@dioceseofbrentwood.org To be considered for the role, please send a CV and covering letter (no longer than one side of A4) to: recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org Please note, only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

VACANCY for Accounts Clerk in Cathedral House, Ingrave road, Brentwood, CM15 8AT. We are looking to recruit a suitably experienced individual to provide effective and efficient support in all aspects of general accounts administration, including accounts payable and accounts receivable tasks. The successful candidate will have suitable, relevant, substantial experience working in a similar role including experience of using Sage 50 General Ledger. To be considered for the role, please send a CV and covering letter (no longer than one side of A4) to recruitment@dioceseofbrentwood.org For an informal chat with Richard Fairlamb, Finance Manager, please email hr@dioceseofbrentwood.org

VACANCIES at The Campion School for Relief Kitchen Assistant, Relief Cleaners and Examination Invigilators. For information on any of these roles or for an application pack, please email the Headmaster’s PA, Mrs Noddings on cnoddings@thecampionschool.org