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:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Donate £3.00</th>
<th>Donate £5.00</th>
<th>Donate £10.00</th>
<th>Donate £20.00</th>
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Donate without Giftaid-it

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

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<th>Donate £10.00</th>
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CATHEDRAL OF ST MARY AND ST HELEN
HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS

Father Martin Boland
Clergy House: 01277 265235

Deacon Paul: 01277 810321
Deacon Simon: 07813 639929

Email: cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING (B)
21st November 2021

INAUGURATION OF ADVENT

This beautiful service will be celebrated in the Cathedral on

Sunday 28th November at 4.00 p.m.

Please do join us for this beautiful service which includes music, prayer, readings and the lighting of the Advent wreath.
THE THRESHOLDS OF HOPE QUESTION: Why should we listen to the Church? takes place by Zoom today Sunday 21st November, 4.00 - 5.00 p.m. The input and discussion will be led by Fr Martin Boland. To join this meeting go to Events at www.thresholdsofhope.co.uk

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 this 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 inspection will be carried out by the Diocesan appointed SafetyToolbox.

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS Please note that this Mass will not be celebrated in the Cathedral next Saturday 27th November due to other events in the Cathedral; Mass will be celebrated at Holy Cross at 6.30 p.m. on this occasion. Sunday Masses in the Cathedral will be as normal.

FLASH MOB IS BACK! The ‘Flash Mob’ Choir/Orchestra is making a come-back next Sunday 28th November at the 9.30 Mass. The idea is that any child/teenager can turn up and join in with the singing for the Mass or if you play an instrument, bring it along. We would love to see some familiar faces from the past and invite new people in too. All you have to do is turn up early to 9.30 Mass if you can - there will be a rehearsal from 9am. It is certainly an experience that we have all missed. Let’s work together to bring it back! See you there!

PLEASE NOTE the parish office opening hours are Monday to Thursday (8.30 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.). The parish office will be closed on Monday 29th November.

COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS next Sunday will be hosted by St Helen’s Ladies Group; the next coffee morning after that will be on Sunday 12th November and will be hosted by the HCPT Group 8 team. Please do come along and join us.

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

CATHEDRAL MASS TIMES: Monday to Friday 9.15 a.m., Saturday vigil 6.30 p.m. and Sunday 8.00 a.m. / 9.30 a.m. / 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

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 Lynda Hills, Stella Buggle and Sid Curtis who died recently. Funeral details are as follows:

Lynda’s Requiem Mass - Monday 22nd November, 10.30 a.m.
Sid’s Requiem Mass - Thursday 2nd December, 10.30 a.m.
Stella’s Requiem Mass - Wednesday 8th December, 10.30 a.m.

Also, following the unexpected death of his dad, please also keep Fr Gary and all his family in your prayers at this time.

May all who have died know the Lord’s goodness in the land of the living.
DETAILS OF PARISH ANNIVERSARIES AND SICK LIST can be found on the narthex noticeboard and at www.cathedralbrentwood.org/news/news-latest.pdf

THE YOUNG ADULTS "MILLENNIALS" GROUP will next meet in Clergy House at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday 2nd December. This is an opportunity for 19 - 40-year-olds to meet other Catholics, reflect on the Sunday readings and pray together. All welcome. Just come along.

CHRISTMAS BRENTWOOD FOOD BANK COLLECTION On the weekend of the 4th/5th December we will be holding a food bank collection and so welcome any non-perishable foods such as tinned meats, jars of sauce, cereals as well as toiletries and cleaning products; seasonal items would be particularly welcome at this time. As with past collections, a parishioner will be in the car park collecting donations. Thank you for your continued support.

NEW CTS SUNDAY MISSAL We still have a few remaining copies of the new CTS 2022 Sunday Missal available for purchase from the parish office at a price of £7.95 each. The Missals run from the First Sunday of Advent 2021 to Christ the King 2022. They can also be purchased online www.ctsbooks.org/product/sunday-missal-2022/

WE HAVE NOW RESUMED passing the collection bag around the Cathedral. The evidence suggests that there is a very small risk of contracting Covid by touch; also, the majority of people are now vaccinated and this provides significant protection to themselves and others. Everyone is still asked to hand sanitise as they enter and leave the Cathedral.

However, if you are able to do so, we would encourage you to give BY STANDING ORDER and, if you are a taxpayer, please gift aid your offering. For more information go to www.cathedralbrentwood.org/gift-aid-explained/ Thank you for your continued generosity.

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.

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; these are available from the parish office.

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. Please note the book already contains all names which have been given 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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION - CATHOLIC SCHOOLS APPLICATIONS. If you are going to apply for a primary 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 direct to the Catholic school of choice.

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

d) 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. Apply directly to the non-Catholic school.

e) 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.

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.

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,

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

**GENERAL NEWS**

**ST HELEN’S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL RECEPTION ADMISSIONS 2022-23:** Parents of prospective Reception children 2022 now need to make an application for a place at the Infant School: [www.essex.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.essex.gov.uk/admissions). The statutory national closing date for applications is 15th January 2022. Please submit the Supplementary Information Form directly to the school. If you have any queries, please contact the school office: 01277 215626. The national closing date for applications is 15 January 2022.

**THE NATIONAL OFFICE FOR VOCATION (NOV)** which is part of the Mission Directorate under the Bishops’ conference are producing a Advent Video Calendar. This year they are focusing on ‘Keeping Christ in Christmas’. Each day from Sunday 28th November to The Feast of The Holy Family there will be a one-minute video explaining ‘Why is it important to keep Christ in Christmas?’ The messages will be shown on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and YouTube channels. All participants must be 18+ and agree for their message to be put out through the National Office for Vocation channels. The following could make up the one-minute maximum message content:

*First Name:*

*Diocese:*

*Job/State of life:*

**Why is it important to keep Christ in Christmas?**

If you would like to take part, please send the video and release to James Ryan who is the Discipleship Promoter at the NOV: james.ryan@cbcew.org.uk. Video’s need to be submitted by Wednesday 24th November 2021.

**“ALTERNATIVE GIFTS” THIS CHRISTMAS.** St Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, “It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you.” As part of Advent, we naturally reflect on our Christmas giving. Many charities now offer inventive and wonderful ways to support their work, as a gift to others - you can buy goats or bees, help preserve sections of rainforest, and much more. To help in your search for such gifts our Diocesan Caritas has brought a range of charity details all together on one page, and you will find it at: [https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/christmas/](https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/christmas/)

**WORLD YOUTH SERVICE (BCYS) AND WALSINGHAM HOUSE** at Abbotswick offer retreats, pilgrimages and many other events for many thousands of young people every year; most of the work is led by volunteers, trained as young leaders in the Church. The BCYS also supports our catechists and school lay chaplains. Next week a speaker will tell us more about the BCYS and there will be a collection for their vital work, or you can donate online at [www.bcys.net/donate](http://www.bcys.net/donate).

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY** is pleased to relaunch their virtual Tree of Angels which will allow you to light up an angel on a virtual Christmas tree in memory of a loved one who has died while making a donation to the work of ‘bccs’. Please visit bccs.org.uk and click on the Christmas tab where you will see ‘Tree of Angels’. You can read more about this initiative and can click onto the Tree of Angels portal to make your dedication and secure donation. If you have any questions about lighting an angel, please contact Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk
CENTRAL COUNCIL GUILD OF ST STEPHEN (AGM) on Saturday 27th November, at St Mary & St Joseph Catholic Church, Poplar. Mass at 12 noon and the AGM meeting at 1.30 p.m. The meeting will be in person and online via MS Teams. AGM notice and nomination forms will be on www.guildofststephen.org

AN ECCLESIAL ETHICS. You are warmly invited to the inaugural lecture of the Centre for Ecclesial Ethics on Thursday 2nd December at 6.00 p.m. on Zoom, in which Professor Jim Keenan SJ will explore how an ecclesial ethics of vulnerability can enrich the life of the Church. Book on https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/centre-for-ecclesial-ethics-inaugural-lecture-tickets-192356893647 - All are welcome and further details at www.mbit.cam.ac.uk

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE: You are warmly invited to join us at Walsingham House at Abbotswick for our annual Advent Carol Service on Sunday 12th December. We will have Christmas carols both classic and contemporary performed by our incredibly talented BCYS musicians, accompanied with readings from scripture and Christmas poems and stories. This year we are running two concerts, at 3.00 p.m. or 7.00 p.m. however, there will be limited capacity at each event and this will be dependent on any current Government restrictions or social distancing, in place at the time. Tickets are £10 and the money will go towards supporting our pilgrimages to Lourdes. To book your place please contact Joe Beattie on 01277 373959 or email josephbeattie@dioceseofbrentwood.org

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2022: 23rd - 30th July 2022. Applications are now open for our summer pilgrimage to Lourdes for those in Years 11-13, with those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders. This is one of our most popular events and after a 2 year gap we are excited to be returning next year. The week is spent travelling alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage as we assist the elderly and infirm with going to Masses and services, as well as visiting shops and cafes within the town. For those travelling with the BCYS the week will also include a retreat, reconciliation service, as well as social events and a party. Please see www.bcys.net/events/sl22/ for more information including visas, vaccinations and how to apply.

THE DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Sunday 24 - Friday 29 July in Lourdes. It will be the first time in three years that the diocese has returned to Lourdes. Brochures for the pilgrimage, which will include costs, will be available soon. If you would like further information now, please contact Cathy O’Connor, the Administrative Director: cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 07813 710070.

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY is thrilled to announce that they have launched their new on-line newspaper with the full support of their first subscriber, none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order your Digital copy by going to www.universecatholicweekly.co.uk or call on 0743661 7650 and ask for Michelle. Special offer: Only £20 for 3 months.

RELIGIOUS CHRISTMAS CARDS Pax Christi now have available for sale a variety of Christmas cards have real integrity and come in a mixed pack of 10 cards with envelopes; these can be ordered from https://paxchristi.org.uk/product/nativity-trio-cards/

VACANCY St Helen’s Catholic Infant School are seeking a Learning Support Assistant: 8.45am - 3.20pm (term-time only). We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and well-motivated person to join our staff in January 2021. Please contact the school office for further information and an application pack: office@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk Deadline: Monday 22nd November 2021

VACANCY A Parish Administrator is required in the parish of Our Lady of Walsingham, Royal Docks working at St Anne’s RC church, Berwick Road, E16 3DR. Candidates should have a background in Personal Assistance and Finance. Hours: 20 hours p/w Monday-Thursday. Salary: £11,284 p/a (£10.85 p/h). Apply by sending a CV and covering letter to
frdanielkelly@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Closing date for applications will be Friday 3rd December 2021.

**DIOCESAN SCHOOL VACANCIES** Details of current vacancies: https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/

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