God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another. I have my mission. I may never know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next. I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons. He has not created me for naught. I shall do good; I shall do His work.

St John Henry Newman

For those in good health, what is the one work that you can commit to in order to build up the life of our parish family and make it a place of encounter and mission with the living God?

There is something here for everyone to choose from:

Deepening your friendship with Christ

Holy Hour of Contemplative Prayer Monday 6.30 – 7.30 p.m. before the Blessed Sacrament will take place on January 10, 17, 24, 31, February 7, 28, March 7, 14, 21, 28 and April 4, 11, 25. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available at this time to assist in your conversion to the Lord. Would you commit to attending a Holy Hour at least once a month?

Married Couples Group is an opportunity for couples to come together, to reflect on the Sunday Gospel and to socialise together. In this way the vocation to married life is supported spiritually and fraternally. For more information, please contact the parish office.
Young Adults *Lectio Divina*, Sacred Reading, is an opportunity to prayerfully read together the Sacred Scriptures for the following Sunday and to allow the Holy Spirit to open our hearts to God’s living word. This is also an opportunity to meet with other young men and women of faith and to support each other.

The meetings will take place in Clergy House at 7.00 p.m. on 26th January, 23 February, 30th March and 20th April. All welcome.

Mothers’ Prayer Group allows mothers in the parish an opportunity to come together and pray for their children, wider families, and the needs of the Church and the world. This group has met every day throughout the pandemic for prayer. For more information, please contact the parish office.

**Participating in the Divine Liturgy**

**Readers at weekday and/or Sunday Mass.** Are you a confident and clear reader? Would you like to proclaim the living Word of God to the community at Mass? If so, please contact the parish office. Guidance and training will be available.

**Altar Servers.** Has your son or daughter made their First Holy Communion? Would they like to serve at Mass and work with other children and young people? If so, please contact the parish office. Training will be available.

**Adult servers at Funerals.** Would you be willing and have the time to assist at funerals in the Cathedral? If so, please contact the parish office. Training will be available.

**Sacred Music** at the 9.30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Our community is blessed with many gifted singers and musicians who greatly enrich our celebration of Mass. There are a number of parish music groups and, of course, the children’s flash mob choir and musicians.

Do you enjoy singing and would you like to sing with other people? Perhaps, you sing in other groups? Do you play a musical instrument? If you are willing to share your musical gifts and help the community to raise its heart and mind to God, then please contact the parish office for more information.

**Sacristans** Would you be willing to help make sure that vestments, sacred vessels, candles, linen, etc are prepared for the celebration of Mass. Support and guidance will available. For more information, please contact the parish office.

**A Master of Ceremonies** Do you have some knowledge and interest in the liturgy? Are you able to work well with others, young and old? Would you be able to make sure that our liturgies give proper praise to God? You will be required to complete a parish DBS. Support and guidance will available. For further information, contact the parish office.
**Children’s Liturgy of the Word Leaders.** Do you have experience of working with children or relate easily with them? Would you like to help them grow in their friendship with Jesus through their own Liturgy of the Word at Mass? You will be required to complete a parish DBS. For more information, please contact the Cathedral office.

**Handing on the Faith**

**Catechists: helping others to grow in friendship with Christ.** Support and training will be available in all areas of catechesis. You will be required to complete a parish DBS. Catechists are needed for the following sacramental areas:

(i) **Confirmation.** Do you have experience of working with teenage young men and women? Do you relate well to teenagers? If you do, this is an opportunity for you to support young men and women as their relationship with Christ matures.

(ii) **Journey in Faith (Rite of Christian Initiation of adults).** Do you want to support and help adults on their journey to being received into the Catholic Church and living in the life of the Risen Lord.

(iii) **First Holy Communion** Do you have experience of working with primary school age children? Do you want to help our parish children come to love Jesus in the Eucharist and come to know His love for them.

For more information, please contact the parish office.

**Love in Action**

**The Love in Action Group** focuses on practical actions to tackle social and environmental justice issues, for example, organising the parish food bank collection, litter picks, meeting up with our local MP and Brentwood Council as well as prayer vigils. It meets monthly. The next meeting is on Tuesday 8th February at 7.30 p.m. Please email greenbrentwoodcathedral@gmail.com for further details.

**Tea and Coffee helpers.** The offer of a cup of coffee or tea when people turn up at a meeting or event is a simple but important form of welcome. Would you be prepared to be part of a team of such helpers that could be called on when needed? If so, contact parish office.

**Project 58.7 in Basildon** “…share your food with the hungry and provide the poor wanderer with shelter- when you see the naked, clothe them, and do not turn away from your own flesh and blood?” (Isaiah 58.7)

This is a registered charity and part of Churches Together in Basildon. Among other things it provides hot meals for the homeless 6 nights a week and volunteers from the Cathedral support this by providing meals on some weeks for 3 of those days. If you would like more information about 58.7 and how you might help, please contact the parish office.

**SVP** (St Vincent de Paul Society) in Brentwood offers practical support to those in need in the parish whether
through home visits or taking people out in the community. For more information, please contact parish office.

**Other ways to support the parish family**

**Counters** of weekly offertory collection. The counting, accurate recording and banking of the Sunday collection is an important job. It requires trustworthy and sensible people. If you have these skills and character traits, please contact parish office. Support and training will be provided.

**Marriage Registrars.** There are many weddings here at the Cathedral and each requires a registrar to be present in order to make sure that all the legal requirements are met. This is an important role and requires registrars who are reliable and have an attention to detail. Training will be provided. For more information, please contact parish office.

**IT Skills** The parish database needs to be updated so that we know who all the members of the parish family are and how they can best be involved in the life of the community. Do you have the organisational and IT skills to help with the creation of a more efficient and accurate parish database? If so, please contact the parish office.

**Playing your part in building up the Body of Christ**

You can contact the parish office directly on cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com or 01277 265235

Alternatively fill in this form and return to Clergy House

Name...........................................................................................................

Address........................................................................................................

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Email address ..............................................................................................

Contact telephone number...........................................................................

Parish activity that you would like to assist with and take part in..........................

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Please tick

☐ I consent to Brentwood Cathedral contacting me to keep me informed about news, events, fundraising and activities in my parish and in the Diocese.

☐ I consent to Brentwood Cathedral using my contact details when arranging events in the parish.