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:

QR CODES and CONTACTLESS GIVING

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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.

Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092

“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly.”
CAFOD EMERGENCY APPEAL FOR UKRAINE Give online at www.cafod.org.uk

THIS NEWSLETTER covers two weeks. It is also available on the Cathedral website.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed from 28th March -1st April as Mo, the parish secretary, will be on annual leave.

COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS on Sunday 3rd April will be hosted by the Altar Servers while Sunday 10th April will be the turn of the Catenians. Please do come along and join us. All welcome.

Young Adults (20-40) Lectio Divina, Sacred Reading, is an opportunity to prayerfully read together the Sacred Scriptures for the following Sunday. Please note that the meeting on Wednesday 30th March is cancelled. The next meeting will take place in Clergy House at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 20th April. All welcome.

ROSARY FOR UKRAINE AND PEACE IN OUR WORLD will be prayed at 6.10 p.m. every Monday evening

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. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available during this time.

LENTEN SOUP AND CHAT Please join us for soup and chat in the Parish Hall between 12 noon and 2.00 p.m. each Friday during Lent. It’s a chance to get to know each other using the big airy hall that can easily accommodate us. Voluntary contribution, with any profit going to the homeless. If you want to help in any way, please contact Deirdre Smith on 07739 008330 or just come along. All are very welcome!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS will take place every Friday evening during Lent in the Cathedral 7.00 - 7.45 p.m. Please make a special effort to come to, at least, one of the Friday night Stations of the Cross.

HOSTING UKRAINAN REFUGEES IN BRENTWOOD If you are thinking of hosting a refugee (or are already doing so) or would like to be part of a support network for those who do so, please come along to a parish meeting on Wednesday 30th March at 7.30 p.m. in the parish hall.

The aim of the meeting is to bring people together to work out how we can support each other to care for the needs of those seeking refuge in our community. It will also be an opportunity to consider if there are further ways for the parish community to respond.

If you are unable to make the meeting but are interested in being involved with this parish response, please contact Brenda Underwood at brendaund@gmail.com

For more information www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine/

LENT FOODBANK COLLECTION - Lent is an ideal time to give to others. One way of doing that is to contribute to the parish food bank collection that will be taking place on the weekend of 2nd/3rd April. All the donations go to the Brentwood Food Bank to help local people in need. Donations of non-perishable items such as tinned meat/vegetables/fruit as well as toiletries and treats (biscuits and even Easter eggs!) can be left at the collection point in the car park before and after each Mass on Sunday 3rd April or in the Cathedral narthex.

If you wish to donate money instead, please place cash in an envelope clearly marked with ‘Brentwood Foodbank Donation’ or make cheques payable to Brentwood Foodbank.
HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Sunday 10th April - Palm Sunday
Saturday Vigil Mass 6.30 p.m.
Sunday Masses 8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m., 11.30 a.m. and 6.30 p.m.

Wednesday 13th April
11.00 a.m. The Mass of Chrism
Main celebrant: Bishop Alan

Thursday 14th - Holy Thursday
8.00 p.m. Mass of the Last Supper with washing of feet.
Watching at altar of repose until midnight.

Friday 15th - Good Friday
- A day of fasting and abstinence for those in good health

Stations of the Cross for Children in the Cathedral Parish Hall at 9.30 a.m.

Solemn Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion with veneration of the Cross at 3.00 p.m.

Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral at 7.00 p.m.

Easter Saturday 16th
Office of Reading and Morning Prayer 10.00 a.m. in the Cathedral
Confessions 10.00 - 12 noon
The Great and Holy Easter Vigil at 8.00 p.m.

Easter Sunday 17th
Masses at 8.00 a.m., 9.30 a.m. and 11.30 a.m.

EASTER OFFERINGS are your gift to the priests of the Cathedral. If you are a taxpayer, you can also Gift Aid your offering by using a Gift Aid envelope from the narthex.

GIFT AID BOXES are now available for collection from the narthex of the Cathedral from this weekend; please collect boxes as soon as possible. If there is no box for you to collect but you still wish to give regularly, please consider signing up for a standing order on the website https://cathedralbrentwood.org/contact-gift-aid/ or alternatively, contact Lorna Green on 01277 205923.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the soul of Jo Bergin-McCarthy and Derek Mitchell who died recently.

Jo’s Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Thursday 7th April at 11.00 a.m. in the Cathedral.
Derek’s Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Friday 22nd April at 2.00 p.m. in the Cathedral.

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

CATHEDRAL CAR PARK Due to the Mass of Chrism, the Cathedral car park will be for clergy only on Wednesday 13th April. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO 9.15 a.m. MASS THAT MORNING.

CATHEDRAL PARISH PILGRIMAGE to Walsingham Saturday 28th May 2022. Join Bishop Alan and parishes throughout the diocese of Brentwood as we come together to honour Our Lady of Walsingham. In order to determine levels of interest there might be for this pilgrimage, please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

SUNDAY MASSES in the Cathedral:

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS at 6.30 p.m. in the Cathedral.
SUNDAY: 8.00 a.m. / 9.30 a.m. / 11.30 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES Monday to Friday at 9.15 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION is available on Saturdays in the Cathedral from 10.00 - 11.00 a.m.
DETAILS OF PARISH ANNIVERSARIES AND SICK LIST can be found on the narthex noticeboard and at www.cathedralbrentwood.org/news/news-latest.pdf

AVERAGE MASS ATTENDANCE FOR FEBRUARY:

Saturday 6.30 p.m. Vigil Mass 92 (January 93)
Sunday 8.00 a.m. 102 (107)
9.30 a.m. 258 (237)
11.30 a.m. 156 (173)
6.30 p.m. 115 (103)

PLEASE CONSIDER supporting the work and mission of the parish by making your offering by STANDING ORDER. Once set up, you do not have to think or worry about your offering when you come to Mass. It is also a huge help to us as it is now impossible to bank cash in Brentwood and we are having to take it to Billericay. 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.

BAPTISMS If you would like to enquire about Baptism for your child, please visit https://cathedralbrentwood.org/baptism-2022/

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Phil Carr, David, Patricia Decup, Fr Stewart Foster, Julian Goode, Concetta Hall, Angela Harris, David Hill, Ann Hurcombe, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Brian Kelleher, Veronica Kelleher, Lawrence, Tony Maule, Mary McCarthy, Carmel Micallef, Kath Murnane, Harry Newman, Barney O’Driscoll, Joe O’Herlihy, 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.

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.

The details to register your child (Year 4 and above in September 2022) for the 2022/23 programme will be released in due course. 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.

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.

GENERAL NEWS

HELPING THOSE IN UKRAINE, and Ukrainian Refugees. Caritas Brentwood are regularly updating information on their website, covering donations, prayer, and welcoming those who are fleeing Ukraine. You will find everything at: https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/ukraine/

LENT READINGS: The Scripture readings for Lent are particularly rich and a major source of help in living a good Lent. Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest, Scripture scholar, and
member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has prepared commentaries on all the readings in the Liturgy of the Word at Mass throughout Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Good Friday. The full text of the biblical readings and commentary are accessible from the home page of www.whatgoodnews.org

THE NEXT “ENQUIRERS’ EVENING” for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 5 April at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Mgr Kevin Hale. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

BCYS YOUTH MASS on Thursday 7th April at Brentwood Cathedral. Come along from 6.00 p.m. for pizza, followed by praying the Stations of the Cross in the Cathedral for Lent, before we begin Youth Mass at 7.30 p.m. Open to all those in years 9 and above, no booking necessary.

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT 2022 Caritas Diocese of Brentwood are inviting people from the night of 8th to the morning of 9th April, to join the 2022 Sponsored Sleepout to help raise awareness and money to help our local homeless charities and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. All information can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/sleepout or by emailing sleepout@dioceseofbrentwood.org

PRAYING THE HOURS Three short videos are now available on www.whatgoodnews.org introducing The Liturgy of the Hours or Divine Office. Fr Adrian Graffy is in conversation with Sr Anne Spilberg and Fr Gerard Bradley. The different hours are explored and at the end of part 3 links are provided for text and livestream of the Office in various languages. Simply go to the website, scroll down on the home page and click on ‘Praying the Hours’. Thank you for your interest.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY has several charity Gold Bond places for the TCS London Marathon taking place on the iconic London course on Sunday 2nd October 2022. If you would like to be considered for one of our places and think you could raise a fundraising total of £1800 before Gift Aid, please email Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk All information is available on our website where our application form can be downloaded: https://www.bccs.org.uk/fundraising-and-events/all-events/tcs-london-marathon Please note that the closing date for applications is Friday 8th April.

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE WEEKEND If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential weekend to help you to heal will be held from 8th to 10th April 2022 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. If you would like more details, please ring Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

CATHOLIC WOMEN PRAYING TOGETHER ANNUAL MASS being celebrated on Thursday 28th April 2022 at 11.00 a.m.in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street, London W1K 3AH. All are welcome:

THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN’S SOCIETY is inviting parishioners across the Diocese to join in with their now-annual ‘Relay 100’ community event this May and June. This initiative is an opportunity to remind our community about the work we do, to reach families who may need our support and to raise some funds through sponsored walks, runs or cycles. We are looking for 100 individuals or groups to complete a ‘leg’ of our relay around the diocese both locally and further afield; we have routes of varying distances so there is something to suit all abilities. Can you help us? To find out more, please contact Damian Dillon: ddillon@bccs.org.uk / 07912 308000 or visit https://www.bccs.org.uk/fundraising-and-events/all-events/relay-100 to read more about this event.

THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Bishop Alan will lead the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 24 - 29th July; a time to pray at the Grotto of Our Lady and enjoy the opportunities of this experience. You can book now on-line at: www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood For further information,
please phone Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: 01206 735623.

**BCYS YOUTH GATHER** 22nd - 23rd October, Mersea Island. Stay in cabins and try a brilliant range of outward-bound activities from climbing high ropes, archery, zip wires and much more to keep you challenged and entertained, with guest speakers and workshops which will give you fresh insights into yourself, and your faith, by telling their stories. Open to all those in years 9 and above, book NOW at www.bcys.net/events

**VACANCIES** St Benedict’s College are recruiting for a Lay Chaplain and Chaplaincy Apprentice. For further details about either 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. Closing date for applications is midday on **Friday 29th April**.

**VACANCY** St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School, Upminster are seeking a Headteacher; deadline for applications is 5.00 p.m. on **Friday 29th April 2022**. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school. Please contact the school office on office@st-josephs.havering.sch.uk to arrange. Further information and an application pack are available from the school website: www.st-josephs-upminster.net

**VACANCIES** Sacred Heart of Mary Girl’s School, Upminster are seeking part time Cleaners. Completed support staff application form (available on the school website www.sacredheartofmary.net), letters of application and the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Business Manager at kj@mary.havering.sch.uk Closing date: **1st April 2022**.