“Stephen, filled with the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at God’s right hand.”

READERS AT MASS. Would you be interested in proclaiming God’s word to the community at Sunday Mass? Do you have a clear and expressive reading voice? If so, please contact Fr Martin through the parish office.

JANET POLLITT has acted as the Cathedral safeguarding representative for the past ten years. She is now stepping down from this role to spend more time with her family.

We are indebted to Janet for her commitment to the safety of children, young people, and vulnerable adults within our parish community. She carried out this safeguarding role with great care and ensured that we were following all the safeguarding directives. We wish her all the best, sincere thanks, and God’s blessings for the future.

COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS this Sunday 29th May will be hosted by the SVP representatives; next week will be the turn of the PACE (Parish And Community Events) team.

Please do come along and join us. Do make everyone feel welcome and introduce yourself to others, especially those who may be new to attending the coffee morning.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of Sarah Knight and Babs Page who died recently.

Sarah’s Requiem Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 1st June at 10.00 a.m. in the Cathedral.

Details of Babs’ funeral are not known.

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

ALL ARE WELCOME Parishioners and friends are warmly welcome between 1.00 and 3.00 p.m. on Friday 10th June in the small parish hall for teas/coffees/biscuits/cake and fellowship. Do come along if you are able. From July these gatherings will revert to the first Friday of the month.
NEW ALTAR SERVERS We are very fortunate in our parish to have a team of dedicated altar servers who contribute to the celebration of Mass by serving at the altar. If your son or daughter would like to start serving at the Cathedral, Fr Gary will be running a training course for them; please email cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com. The course consists of 3 sessions, all of which need to be attended, and will be on Saturdays 4th and 11th June, 9.00 - 10.00 a.m. in the Cathedral.

JUBILEE PARTY To mark the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee, the parish will be holding a party for everyone on the afternoon of Saturday 4th June from 2.00 - 5.00 p.m. We need your help. We are looking for:

i) singers and/or musicians to provide a ten-minute slot of musical entertainment of your choice.
ii) bakers of scones and cakes for the afternoon Jubilee tea.
iii) helpers to set up and to tidy up afterwards. We could do with some “muscle” just to move around tables and chairs.

If you think you can help, please contact Heather Leathley at heatherleathley1@gmail.com or the parish office 01277 265235.

JUBILEE TREE. To mark the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee a tree will be planted by Bishop Alan near the cenotaph memorial in the Cathedral cemetery after the Mass on Pentecost Sunday at around 1.00 p.m. All welcome to witness this event.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES. Please remember in your prayers those young men and women who will be confirmed by Bishop Alan next Sunday at the 11.30 a.m. Mass.

THE SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION is to be restored on PENTECOST SUNDAY, 5th June. It is an obligation for all Catholics in good health to attend Mass on a Sunday. It is a grave sin to deliberately not do so. This is because God “blessed the seventh day and made it holy” and has commanded us to keep the Sabbath day holy. For Catholics this means coming together as a worshipping community to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus, to be nourished by his living word and his Body and Blood in order that we can “go in peace to love and to serve the Lord” in our daily lives.

At the same time, the presence of fellow Catholics at Mass strengthens our own faith and commitment to Christ.

By keeping this day holy and coming into the presence of the Risen Christ we are given the graces to live our faith with great pride, courage, and joy. Sunday Mass anchors our lives in Christ and answers our deepest human yearnings. Without this, we cut ourselves adrift and begin to lose a proper sense of ourselves, others, and our relationship with God. St Pope John Paul II puts it like this:

“Sunday is a day which is at the very heart of the Christian life. From the beginning of my Pontificate, I have not ceased to repeat: “Do not be afraid! Open, open wide the doors to Christ!” In the same way, today I would strongly urge everyone to rediscover Sunday: Do not be afraid to give your time to Christ! Yes, let us open our time to Christ, that he may cast light upon it and give it direction. He is the One who knows the secret of time and the secret of eternity, and he gives us “his day” as an ever-new gift of his love.”

Dies Domini, On Keeping the Lord’s Day Holy, St Pope John Paul II

9.30 a.m. MASS FOR CORPUS CHRISTI, THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST, on Sunday 19th June will be an opportunity for the whole parish community to thank God for the children who made their First Holy Communion in May. We invite those girls and boys to wear their First Communion dresses and smart clothes on the day. They will sit together and be at the heart of our community at this Mass.

JOURNEY IN FAITH ENQUIRERS’ MEETING on Wednesday 22nd June in Clergy House at 7.00 p.m.

Have you, or someone you know, ever thought of becoming a Catholic?
Would you like to find out more about the Catholic Faith?
Are you planning to marry a Catholic or are you married to a Catholic and want to have a better understanding of what they believe?
Are you baptised but, for some reason, have never received the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion or Confirmation?

If you have answered “yes” to any of the above questions then The Journey in Faith programme is designed to help you reflect in an adult fashion on the Catholic Faith. Please come along to this initial meeting if you would like to find out more.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION  We continue to keep in our prayers those young people preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the next few weeks.

We are now beginning to make preparations for the 2022-23 Confirmation Course. If you are presently in year 11 or equivalent and are interested in learning more about your faith and/or feel ready to take this next step then please register your interest with Fr Martin and Fr Gary. You can do this by sending an emailing to cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com. The only information we need at this stage is your name, your year group at school, and parents’ contact details. Please do this before 3rd July. Full registration information will be sent out once we receive these details. Please bear in mind that classes take place on Sunday afternoons and attendance at these is compulsory.

ORDINATION TO THE DIACONATE OF NICHOLAS HOLMES on Saturday 9th July at 11.30 a.m. in Brentwood Cathedral. Everyone welcome. Please put this date in your diary.

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PLEASE REGISTER TODAY AS A CATHEDRAL PARISHIONER

Thank you to all those parishioners who have already taken the time to register. If you haven’t done so already, please do so now.

We are kindly asking every adult parishioner to register in order to make sure that we have up to date parish records and have a real sense of how we as a parish community can best continue our mission as disciples of Christ.

Our parish database has not been updated for almost ten years and, therefore, much of the information is inaccurate. At the same time, we must now comply with data protection regulations (GDPR) which means that any information you agree to give us is used only for the purposes of the parish.

It is also important that the priests know who are their parishioners. This is especially the case if someone requests a sacrament, e.g., a baptism for their child, or requires an official document to be signed, e.g., a school Certificate of Catholic Practice.

How do you register?
It is very simple and will take no more than five minutes of your time. Each adult parishioner should either go to “Parish Census” at www.cathedralbrentwood.org or use the QR code below:

For those of you who cannot complete the registration form online, forms are available in the narthex of the Cathedral. Once you have filled in the form, please return it to Clergy House.

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HOLY HOUR of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Monday evening from 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available during this time. Please note, there will be no Holy Hour on Monday 6th June.
ROSARY FOR UKRAINE AND PEACE IN OUR WORLD will be prayed at 6.10 p.m. every Monday evening.

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

DAMIAN DILLON’S RIDE 100 FOR THE BCCS Philip Young from the Brentwood parish will be running on behalf of our parish for the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society (BCCS) Relay 100 event between St Helen’s in Ongar, and the church of The Blessed Sacrament in Chelmsford to help raise awareness and funds for the work that the BCCS do to support children’s mental health in our local schools. He would welcome both encouragement and sponsorship. You can sponsor him in person or online at https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/relay100 but please add a reference of ‘Young Ongar’ to help identify support. Thank you.

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 and all our sick in Marillac, Mascalls, Brentwood Community, The Beeches, Queens, Nuffield and Hartswood Hospitals and St Francis Hospice.

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.

PREPARATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022/23 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.
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/

THE NEXT “ENQUIRERS’ EVENING” for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 7th June at St Edmund of Canterbury Church in Loughton. The speaker will be Mgr John Armitage.

For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

ST BON’S ALUMNI EVENT On 17th June 2022 from 4.00 - 6.30 p.m. All former students and staff are welcome to attend - please help spread the word! Order a ticket www.stbons.org/alumni Email any questions to alumni@stbons.org

A STUDY DAY FROM GIDEA PARK - ‘Your Sins Are Forgiven’ On Saturday 18th June from 11 am Fr Gerard Bradley will lead a study day entitled ‘Your sins are forgiven: exploring the sacrament of pardon and peace’. To follow this free live streamed event please go to www.whatgoodnews.org Our speaker, Fr Gerard Bradley, is a parish priest in the archdiocese of Southwark and taught Liturgy and Spirituality at St John’s Seminary, Wonersh. Two sessions will be followed by the opportunity for questions. The event will end by 1 pm.

FAITH LIFT DAY The next in our series of successful FAITH LIFT DAYS at the Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, will be on Sunday 10th July. More details to follow soon.

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 on 01206 735623.

LATE VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD A vocation discernment weekend for men between the ages of 30 and 55 will take place at St Beuno’s in North Wales from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th September 2022. The direct link for further details and booking: Discernment Weekend https://www.pathwaystogod.org/courses-events-retreats/discernment-weekend-older-men-2

BCYS YOUTH GATHER will take place from 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

VACANCY St Helen’s Catholic Infant School are seeking a Learning Support Assistant. The governors, staff, and parents are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and well-motivated person to join us in September 2022. Hours: 8.45 a.m. - 3.20 p.m. term time only. Please contact Mrs Onslow via the school office for further information. Deadline: 12pm on Thursday 16th June 2022.

ST PETER’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL are hoping to engage with teachers that may be looking for a career move now or in the near future. We are a two- form entry school with fantastic children and very supportive parents. We invest a lot of time and resources into our CPD so there are great opportunities for you to develop your career here with us. If you would like an informal chat with our Headteacher or a visit to the school, please contact Teresa Lammin by email on finance@st-peters-pri.essex.sch.uk or telephone 01277 653770.
LEADERSHIP VACANCIES IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS Details of all positions can be found at the following link https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/

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:

Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092

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