

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

|  |                             |  |
|--|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>SATURDAY</b>  | <b>6.00 pm</b>              | Jan Pawlowski RIP (Anniv)  |
| <b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF YEAR B</b>                          |                             | <b>World day of prayer for sick &amp;<br/>Day of prayer for the unemployed</b> |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024</b>                        | <b>9.00 am</b>              | Matthew Nash RIP (Anniv)   |
|  | <b>11.00 am</b>             | The People of our Parish   |
| <b>MONDAY</b>  | 9.15 am                     | Bridget Stevens RIP  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | 10.15 am                    | John Gaut RIP (Watters)  |
| <b>ASH WEDNESDAY - Day of Fasting &amp; Abstinence</b> |                             |  |
|  | 10.30 am                    | Madge Caulfield RIP (Byrne)  |
|  | 8.00 pm                     | Peter Richards RIP (Herbert)   |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | <i>No Parish Mass today</i> |  |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>  | <i>No Parish Mass today</i> |  |
| <b>SATURDAY</b>  | <b>6.00 pm</b>              | Ida & George Zarb RIP  |
| <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR B</b>                     |                             |  |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2024</b>                        | <b>9.00 am</b>              | Frank Finnigan RIP   |
|  | <b>11.00 am</b>             | John Ellul RIP (Anniv)   |

**Weekday Masses:** This week masses are at 9.15am on Monday and at 10.15am on Tuesday. On Ash Wednesday masses are at 10.30am and 8pm. There is no mass on Friday as Fr Dan is away.

**No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Sunday:**

There is no Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Sunday (11<sup>th</sup> February) or the following Sunday (18<sup>th</sup> February).

**Confessions** take place on Saturdays in the Church from 11am – 12 noon.

**Spiritual Reading: My Day by Day (£1.15) and Bible Alive (£3) for Lent** are in the Church Porch – please put the money in the wall box.

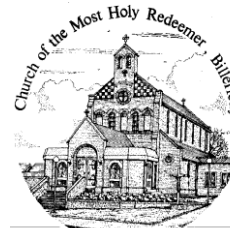
**Parish Safeguarding Representative** Adrian Scantlebury Tel: 01277 623325

**Parish Family Life Co-ordinator - Kristin De Freitas:** Email address: [kristindefreitas@brcdt.org](mailto:kristindefreitas@brcdt.org) Mobile number is: 07492 910138

**Hall Bookings** The booking officer is Jane Maddocks who can be contacted by e-mail [canonrochehallbookings@gmail.com](mailto:canonrochehallbookings@gmail.com)

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF YEAR B

11<sup>th</sup> February 2024



**21, Laindon Road, Billericay, CM12 9LL**

**Parish Priest: Father Daniel Mason**

**Telephone: 01277 624891**

**Email: [office@mostholyredeemer.org.uk](mailto:office@mostholyredeemer.org.uk)**

**[www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk](http://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk)**

*As a parish community we are committed to Growing Together in Faith & Love.*

### **From Fr Adrian Gaffy:**

We continue to read from the opening chapter of the Gospel of Mark, and once again we are told about a healing worked by Jesus. This time it is the healing of a leper. In his desperation the leper violates the rules about keeping away from people.

The reaction of Jesus mirrors the compassion of God. When our text says that Jesus 'felt sorry for him' this points to the deep compassion of the loving God. What is perhaps most remarkable about this miracle is that 'Jesus stretched out His hand and touched him'.

Our first reading from the Book of Leviticus tells how lepers used to be taken to a priest and formally declared to be 'unclean'. They were banished and had to live apart. This was still the practice in Jesus' day. Jesus' attitude is completely different. He is not afraid to violate the law by reaching out and touching the leper. In this way Jesus challenges the rules about what is 'clean', and what is 'unclean'.

In this miracle story it is by His touch and a simple word of command that Jesus heals the man. Perhaps surprisingly Jesus then orders the healed man to comply with the law by going to a priest and making a thanksgiving offering for his recovery. Jesus orders the man to tell nobody about his healing. This is a rather curious feature of the gospel, which shows that Jesus did not want popularity and was anxious that His work should not be misunderstood. But in his enthusiasm at being healed the man proclaims the word everywhere. The gospel ends with the irony that, while the leper rejoins society, Jesus the healer stays outside 'in places where nobody lived'.

***What does Jesus' acceptance of the leper teach us?***

***How do I try to reach out to those who are rejected by society?***

***Let us pray for a spirit of compassion and understanding.***

***Let us share the healed man's enthusiasm to make known the goodness of God.***

## OUR PARISH VISION PRAYER

Loving Father, we ask you to bring this vision to life within us. Embolden us with a desire to grow and mature as missionary disciples of Jesus. Give us the courage and grace to reach out to others within and beyond our parish with compassion and perseverance, so that they too may encounter Jesus and become His disciples. Lead our parish forward in the power of Your Spirit, help us to respond to Your call to evangelise by using our gifts and talents and proclaim Jesus in faith and love to all people. Amen.

The YouTube links to this weekend's Masses are here:

**6pm on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February (Sixth Sunday of Year B):**

<https://youtube.com/live/KhnS57t-5cs?feature=share>

**9am on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February (Sixth Sunday of Year B):**

[https://youtube.com/live/42y\\_rDUeZ0E?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/42y_rDUeZ0E?feature=share)

We try to ensure that the Masses are livestreamed without any interruptions but occasionally we do encounter problems with the internet connection or with sound. If you do come across any issues with a livestream that you have watched please email the Parish Office and we will do our best to rectify the issue.

**Father Dan away:**

**Please note that Father Dan will be away from the 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> February and the Masses will not be livestreamed on that weekend.**

**Father Royston Price from the Redemptorist Order will be saying the weekend Masses and talking about the work of the Redemptorists.**

**Parish Grotto Opening:** The Parish Grotto will be open every day from Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> February until mid-afternoon.

### Prayer for the Israel-Gaza Conflict:

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen

**PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR SICK AT HOME, IN HOSPITAL AND THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME.**

**WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES & PARISHIONERS:**

**Padraic Kirrane RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Padraic Kirrane who died this week. May he rest in peace.

**Clive Sage RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Clive Sage. Clive's Requiem Mass will take place at 11am on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. Please note that this Mass will replace the normal 9.15am Parish Mass on that day. May he rest in peace.

**David Willats RIP:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of David Willats who died recently. David's Funeral Service will take place at 12pm on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> February. We remember Pauline and all of David's family at this difficult time.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** David Foley, Edna Etherington, Gisela Trinnaman, Joseph Aldorino, Joan Duffett, Fred Porter, Geoff Topple, Siobhan Phillips, Patrick Jordan, Johanna Lidlow, John Nolan, Walter Pinnington, Frank Finnigan.

**Clergy:** Pope Pius XI, Fr Donald Mills, Fr John Garrett, Fr Charles Snell, Fr John Joyce.

**Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.**

---

### PARISH REGISTRATION:

A big thank you to all of you who have already completed the online parish registration form. We have already had over 430 entries! If you are new to our parish, or you are an existing parishioner, please could you take a few moments to complete the electronic registration form which is on our parish website: <https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/register2.php> *Adults who are living in the same household will need to complete separate registration forms in order for the database to recognise you as separate individuals.*

You can scan the QR code below and it will take you straight to the link!



# KIDS' CORNER

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | A | N | Y | F | R | E | E | L | Y | O |
| P | L | E | A | D | E | D | H | A | N | D |
| R | Y | T | O | U | C | H | E | D | O | A |
| I | O | N | C | E | O | S | A | R | P | T |
| E | U | F | S | I | V | O | L | K | F | A |
| S | T | O | F | F | E | R | I | N | G | L |
| T | S | L | A | R | R | R | N | E | T | K |
| O | I | E | C | T | Y | Y | G | E | O | I |
| R | D | P | U | M | O | S | E | S | W | N |
| Y | E | E | R | L | E | F | T | E | N | G |
| S | T | R | E | T | C | H | E | D | L | T |

|          |           |         |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| Leper    | Recovery  | Pleaded |
| Knees    | Cure      | Sorry   |
| Hand     | Touched   | Priest  |
| Offering | Healing   | Moses   |
| Man      | Talking   | Freely  |
| Story    | Once      | Town    |
| Outside  | Stretched | Left    |

**Most Holy Redeemer Children's Choir (MHRCC)** Our Children's Choir rehearsals take place in the Most Holy Redeemer Church on Thursday afternoons from 4.30pm to 5.15pm, during term time. We sing at the 6pm Saturday evening Mass twice each term and give a musical presentation for parents and friends at the end of each term. If you have a child in Years 3 – 6 and they are interested in joining our enthusiastic choristers, please email Bernadette via the Parish Office: [office@mostholyredeemer.org.uk](mailto:office@mostholyredeemer.org.uk) and we will pass your details on.

## Gift Aid and Standing Orders

By Gift Aiding your donations it means that for every £1 that you give to the parish we are able to claim an extra 25p. If you are a tax payer you are able to join our Gift Aid scheme by downloading the Gift Aid form from the Parish website (<https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/giftaid.php>) or by collecting a Gift Aid form from the Church Porch. This then needs to be returned to the Parish Office and you will be issued with a Gift Aid number which you will use whenever you make a donation to the church.

We would also encourage you to consider setting up a **Standing Order** to the parish if you haven't already done so. Standing Orders enable us to budget more effectively and they mean that you don't need to bring money with you when you come to Mass. You can set up a Standing Order electronically through your banking app. If you email the Parish Office we will be able to provide you with the Sort Code and Account Name for the parish or alternatively you can download a Standing Order form from the parish website (<https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/giftaid.php>) and take it to your bank.

**Contactless Payments:** As fewer and fewer people are carrying cash we have introduced a new way for people to donate to the parish. In the entrance to the church we now have installed a contactless donation system which enables you to donate directly to the parish using your credit or debit card. If you are a taxpayer you also have the option of gift aiding your donation. You will only need to fill in your contact details once and then the machine will automatically gift aid any subsequent donations provided you use the same payment method.

**Foreign Currency for 'Mary's Meals':** Please donate any unwanted currency or any UK notes and coins that are no longer legal tender to the **Parish Office**. 'Mary's Meals', is a charity which helps to provide nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries. [www.marysmeals.org.uk](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk)

## CAFOD's ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at [cafod.org.uk/ipc](http://cafod.org.uk/ipc) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

**Billericay Foodbank** The green box remains in the church porch, all donations continue to be gratefully received. Thank you

**St Peter's Led Mass this Sunday (11<sup>th</sup> February):** The Year 3 children from St Peter's will be leading the 11am Parish Mass this Sunday with refreshments served in the Pastoral Centre afterwards.

**Laminated Mass Cards** with prayers of the Mass are available at the entrance to the church as an alternative to the Mass Books. They are also very helpful for visitors and for those who have just started coming to Mass.

**Lent Lectures at Brentwood Cathedral:** There will be a series of Lenten talks at Brentwood Cathedral on the subject of the Synod that took place in Rome in October given by four of the participants who were present.

**Fr Timothy Radcliffe OP** will be speaking on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February.

**Revd Dr Jan Nowotnik** will be speaking on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

**Mr Austen Ivereigh** will be speaking on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March.

**Bishop Nicholas Hudson** will be speaking on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the Synod on Synodality. **Each talk starts at 7.30pm in the Cathedral.**

**Connect Groups Start Dates:** A big thank you to all of you who have expressed an interest in leading or joining our newly formed Connect Groups. Connect Groups are designed to enable parishioners to be able to meet together for prayer and fellowship in each other's homes.

If you are interested in joining any of these groups please email or phone the Parish Office and they will pass your contact details on to the Group Leader.

**Connect Group Information:**

**Group 1:** Meets every Monday evening at 8pm and is a women's only group. Leader: Liz Killeen.

**Group 2:** Meets monthly on Tuesdays from 10am-12pm and is a women's only group. Leader: Jenny Brentnall.

**Group 3:** Meets monthly on Mondays from 12.30pm-2pm and is a mixed group. Leader: Janet Harvey.

**Group 4:** Meets monthly on Wednesdays from 7.30-9.15pm and is a mixed group. Leader: Hugh Connolly.

**Group 5:** Meets fortnightly on Monday evenings from 7.30-9pm and is a mixed group. Leader: Gabrielle O'Regan.

**Baptisms at the Most Holy Redeemer:** If you are enquiring about having your child baptised at the Most Holy Redeemer then please contact the Parish Office so that we can put you in touch with a member of the Baptism Welcome Team.

**MHR Flower arrangers** If you would like to know more about this friendly group, please contact Esther Wilkins on 07702 139120.

**Ash Wednesday and Lent:**

The season of Lent begins on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February (Ash Wednesday) Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the holy forty days of Lent and our spiritual preparation for Easter.

Mass times with the imposition of ashes will be at 10.30am and 8pm in the church. The 10.30am Mass will also be livestreamed. It can be watched by following this link: <https://youtube.com/live/bPUJprK1TMI?feature=share>

A reminder that you do not have to be a Catholic in order to receive the ashes at Mass. On Ash Wednesday we are also asked to refrain from eating meat.

**Stations of the Cross:**

Stations of the Cross will take place at 7pm every Friday during Lent starting on **Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February** (there are no Stations on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> February because Father Dan is away). This devotion is an opportunity for us to be reminded of the love that Jesus showed when He made the journey towards the cross of Calvary.

**Lenten Walk With Me Calendars and My Day by Day booklets:**

From this weekend (10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> February) the Lenten Walk With Me calendars for children and the Day by Day prayer booklets for adults will be available in the church porch. The calendars are free and for the booklets are £1.15.

**Parish Outreach Group for New Parishioners:**

We are hoping to re-start a New Parishioners' Visiting Group which was in existence pre-Covid. This group will visit those who are new to our parish and who have indicated that they would like a home visit. In order to join the group you will need to have a DBS certificate issued by the diocese. If you would like to find out more about taking part in this form of outreach please come to a meeting on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February at 7.30pm in the Small Hall of the Pastoral Centre or speak to Father Dan after Mass.

**About Becoming Catholic:** Please pray for all of the adults on our ABC course who are preparing to be received into full Communion with the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. On Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm they will be joining with men and women from across our diocese at Brentwood Cathedral for the Rite of Election which will be presided over by Bishop Alan.

**BCYS Summer Lourdes Youth Pilgrimage –July 2024 (exact dates TBC)**

Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July. Open to all those in school year 10 – 13. All details and applications can be found on the website [www.bcys.net/events/sl24](http://www.bcys.net/events/sl24)

**The Diocesan Directory 2024** is now available for purchase from the church porch - £3 per copy.