

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	6.00 pm	The People of our Parish
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)		
1st Dec 2024	9.00 am	Ros Kelk RIP (Anniv)
	11.00 am	Lena Smith RIP (Mills)
MONDAY	9.15 am	Intentions of the Padre Pio Prayer Group
TUESDAY	St Francis Xavier, Priest	
	10.15 am	Tom & Phyllis McLay RIP
WEDNESDAY	9.15 am	Tim & Alan Griffiths RIP (Anniv)
THURSDAY	<i>No Parish Mass Today</i>	
FRIDAY	10.30 am	Betty Skinner RIP Requiem Mass
SATURDAY	6.00 pm	Bernard Regan RIP (Anniv)
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)		
8th Dec 2024	9.00 am	The People of our Parish
	11.00 am	Pauline Keane RIP

Weekday Masses this week are at 9.15am on Monday, Wednesday and at 10.15am on Tuesday. There is no 9.15am Parish Mass on Friday because we have the Requiem Mass for Betty Skinner at 10.30am on that day.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place at 5pm in the church this Sunday (1st December). It is also available to watch via our parish livestream by following this link: <https://youtube.com/live/65WZU-yjYi0?feature=share>

Saturday Confessions: from 11am to 12pm - also available by request.

Diocesan Safeguarding Representative Simon Moules 01277 265234

Parish Family Life Co-ordinator - Kristin De Freitas: Email address: kristindefreitas@brcdt.org Mobile number is: 07492 910138

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

Walk With Me Advent Calendars for children: Free

Hall Bookings The booking officer is Jane Maddocks who can be contacted by e-mail canonrochehallbookings@gmail.com

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)

1st December 2024



From Fr Adrian Gaffry:

It may come as a surprise that on the first Sunday of Advent we are suddenly immersed in Luke's version of the long speech of Jesus concerning the future and the end of time. We just need to remember that in Advent we look forward both to the first coming of the Son of God in Bethlehem, and to His glorious return.

Our gospel passage speaks of the Son of Man coming 'with power and great glory'. In the Creed we say 'He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead.' What should our attitude to this coming be? Our gospel reading tells us. There may be great horrors to witness and endure. We have seen plenty of these in recent years. Jesus tells us not to fear the violence of men, or the devastation nature can bring. Jesus tells us to 'stand erect and hold our heads high'. Jesus speaks of our coming 'liberation'.

Since Jesus has conquered sin and death, and demonstrated that the love of God is stronger than both of these, we have no need to fear. There is also some timely advice for our daily lives that our hearts should not be "weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the cares of this life". Our faith in Jesus means that our very life-style will change and will challenge the values and behaviour of our contemporary society. Finally, we are told to 'stay awake, praying at all times'. We do not know the day or the hour in which the Lord will call us. But as Christians, though we may still fear the process of death, we know that death is the gateway to eternal life.

Does my faith really inspire the whole of my life?

What is my attitude to the future and the end of my life on earth?

Let us pray for all those who are fearful today for whatever reason Let us pray with the early Christians 'Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus!'

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, 30th November (First Sunday of Advent Year C)

<https://youtube.com/live/2YEZJXGMwkY?feature=share>

9am on Sunday, 1st December (First Sunday of Advent Year C)

<https://youtube.com/live/6yKssmHsClo?feature=share>

Change of email address:

Please note that our email address is changing to billericay@brcdt.org. This is to bring us in line with other parishes across the diocese. While this change is taking place the old office email address is still active.

Gift Aid: A big thank you to all of you who are members of the Gift Aid scheme. If you are a taxpayer and you would like to join the scheme you can do so by picking up a form from the church or following this link on the parish website: <https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/giftaid.php>

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.

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.

Mass Bags for Children. We have Mass bags available at all of the weekend parish Masses for children aged 1-3 and children aged 3 and older. The bags contain colouring books, pencils and soft toys. Please speak to the Welcomers before Mass if you would like to have one of the bags, specifying which bag you would like, and please make sure that at the end of Mass they are returned to the church porch so that other families are able to use them.

Parish Grotto Opening: The Parish Grotto is now open every day from 8am until mid-afternoon.

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:

Betty Skinner RIP: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Betty Skinner. Betty's Requiem Mass will take place at 10.30am on Friday, 6th December. Please note that this Mass will replace the 9.15am Parish Mass on that day. May she rest in peace.

Helen Folland RIP: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Helen Folland. Helen's Requiem Mass will take place at 11am on Wednesday 18th December. Please note that this Mass will replace the 9.15am Parish Mass on that day. May she rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARIES: Debbie Williams, Maureen Keating, Maisie Shotton, George Deverill, Tim Griffiths, Jim Kennedy, Sheila Hill, Betty Delaney, Anne Rowe, Peggy O'Sullivan, Peter Hawkes.

Clergy: Fr Bart Lynch, Fr Pat Hannon, Fr Brian Drea, Fr Michael Healy.

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

PARISH REGISTRATION:

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!



New Contactless Machine in the church porch: We now have a new contactless machine in the church porch which should be quicker and more reliable than the previous one. If you normally gift aid your donations you will need to submit your details the first time you use the machine and then it will remember your information every time you use it subsequently provided that you use the same debit or credit card. Thank you to all of you who have donated to the parish using this method. To date this has raised over £11,000.

Billericay Foodbank The green box remains in the church porch. Please donate any **NON-PERISHABLE** food ONLY, and food that is 'in date'. Thank you

KIDS' CORNER

1st Sunday of Advent

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

FULFIL	PROMISE	HONESTY
INTEGRITY	GENEROUS	LOVE
CONFIDENCE	HOLINESS	MOON
BLAMELESS	PROGRESS	SUN
AUTHORITY	INSTRUCTIONS	STARS
POWER	GLORY	AWAKE
STRENGTH	SURVIVE	WATCH

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

New Lectionaries:

This weekend parishes across England and Wales will be using a new edition of the lectionary which contains the readings that we hear at Mass.

While the readings will still be from the same parts of the Bible, the translation that we will be using will be changing. For over 50 years the Bible translation that has been used at Mass has been from the Jerusalem Bible. This will now be changing to the English Standard Version Catholic Edition.

One practical consequence of this is that the Mass books that we have been using up until now will no longer have the correct version of the readings. Instead of the Mass books you will be invited to use Missalettes which contain both the readings of the Mass and the prayers that we say at Mass.

If you attend the Saturday evening or 9am Sunday Masses please make sure that you return the Missalettes at the end of Mass so that they can be used by parishioners at the later Masses.

For more information about the reason why the lectionary is changing please visit the Catholic Bishops' Conference website: www.cbcew.org.uk/lectionary

Gingerbread Bethlehem

It's this time of year and Christmas is nearly here. We would love to invite you and your children to come to the Parish Hall on the 14th of December, between 11am and 1pm, to decorate gingerbread houses, one house per family.

We need lots of families to take part as we are recreating Bethlehem. The houses will be collated after the decorating is done and displayed in the parish hall for all to come and see on Sunday the 15th of December after 11am Mass. After the display you can take your house home.

If you're interested, please contact me; kristindefreitas@brcdt.org so that I can ensure there are enough houses for everyone.

A donation of £5 will cover the cost of sweets and the gingerbread house.



Advent and Christmas Information:

If you would like to know more about the activities and events we have planned during Advent and the times of the Christmas Masses please visit our parish website by following this link:

<https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/seasonal.php?page=Christmas24>

Advent Resources: My Day by Day and Walk With Me Advent Calendars

The Day by Day prayer books for adults and the Walk With Me Advent Calendars for children are both available in the church porch.

The Advent Calendars are free and the Day by Day books cost £1.15.

Confessions During Advent:

All Catholics are encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the season of Advent.

Confessions will take place in the church from 11am to 12pm on Saturday the 7th, 14th and 21st December. There will also be an opportunity to go to Confession on Christmas Eve (Tuesday, 24th December) from 11am to 12pm.

Advent Carol Concert: Sunday, 15th December at 7pm Our Parish Advent Carol Service will take place in the church at 7pm on Sunday, 15th December. At the end of the service there will be a collection to help pay for additional microphones to be installed in the choir loft.

Carols By Candlelight will be held at Our Lady & St Joseph Church, Stock, December 7th at 7.30pm and sung by our 9am Choir. Tickets are £12.00 (includes glass of Prosecco and mince pies) Please call Martin Gurnett 07802 155897. All are welcome

The Repository will be open after all Masses this weekend (30th November/1st December) for the sale of Christmas cards and Advent calendars etc. We also now have copies of the new translation Sunday Missals (£25).

Parish Outreach Group: Joining a new parish can sometimes be a little bit daunting. To help welcome new parishioners to our church, we have a small group of volunteers who 'reach out' to new members of our community. The volunteers will arrange to come and visit you (usually in pairs) in your home at a time that is mutually convenient and chat to you about our parish and share some helpful information leaflets. Hopefully, they can also answer any questions that you might have and point you in the right direction if you have a particular interest in a specific area of parish life. If you would like a member of the Outreach Group to visit, please contact the Parish Office.

The Padre Pio Prayer Group will hold its next meeting on Monday 9th December at 10am in the lounge of the Pastoral Centre. Ring Claire Wallis for details on 01277 658783

The Parent and Baby Friendship Group Christmas Party will be on Thursday 12th December from 9.30 am until 11.30. All Parents and Carers with children under two years old are very welcome. Come and join us in the Small Hall at the Pastoral Centre for Christmassy singing, games, stories, mince pies, and fun.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is celebrating its 40th year, and they will be selling their anniversary **draw tickets after each Mass on Saturday 30th November and Sunday 1st December** to help support their work with children's mental health. If you would like to buy tickets that weekend then a card reader will also be available too. Thank you.

VACANCY St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School, Hutton are looking to appoint a deputy headteacher for April 2025. For more information and a full advert, visit our school website: <https://st-joseph-the-worker-catholic-primary-school.secureprimarysite.net/recruitment-1/>
Closing date for applications: Tuesday 28th January 2025 at 12 Noon. Visits welcome. Please contact Mrs Lesley Willats on 01277 227282 or admin@stjosephworker.essex.sch.uk for an application pack or to arrange a visit.

Walsingham House Team 25/26: applications are now open for the volunteer retreat team at Walsingham House. If you are in Yr13 or finishing university and enjoy working with young people then a year on the retreat team could be the perfect next step. Live and work as part of a young Catholic Christian community, sharing your faith and helping to run retreats for the young people of Brentwood diocese. For more information then please see the website: www.bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/ or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

Foundation Governor Vacancies have arisen at a number of Catholic schools across the Diocese and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by the Bishop to Diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. Our schools would benefit from people with a range of skills and experiences including Finance, Education, Special Needs, Legal and Administration. Anyone interested in the role and mission of Foundation Governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service. If you are interested in becoming Foundation Governor please email your expression of interest to governanceappointments@brcdt.org.