### **MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

**SATURDAY** 6.00 pm Michael Ruane RIP (1st Anniv)

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)

23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 9.00 am The People of our Parish

11.00 am Dorothy Wheeler RIP (Anniv)

**MONDAY** 9.15 am Intentions of Martin & Teri Taylor

(50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)

**TUESDAY** The Annunciation of the Lord

10.15 am Intentions of The Padre Pio Prayer Group

**WEDNESDAY** 9.15 am Heather Parish RIP (Johnson)

THURSDAY No Parish Mass Today

**FRIDAY** 9.15 am Paedac Quinn RIP

**SATURDAY** 6.00 pm John Leggity RIP

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) 'Laetare' Sunday

30<sup>th</sup> March 2025 9.00 am David Thomas RIP

11.00 am The People of our Parish

**Weekday Masses** this week are at 9.15am on Monday, Wednesday & Friday and at 10.15am on Tuesday.

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** takes place in the church at 5pm this Sunday (23<sup>rd</sup> March). It is also available to watch via the parish livestream by following this link: <a href="https://youtube.com/live/\_UwqGFlijFc?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/\_UwqGFlijFc?feature=share</a>

**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: <a href="mailto:kristindefreitas@brcdt.org">kristindefreitas@brcdt.org</a> Mobile number is: 07492 910138

**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.

**Hall Bookings** The booking officer is Anna Sloper who can be contacted by e-mail <u>canonrochehallbookings@gmail.com</u>

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)

23rd March 2025



21, Laindon Road, Billericay, CM12 9LL
Parish Priest: Father Daniel Mason
Telephone: 01277 624891
Email: billericay@brcdt.org
www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk

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

### A message from Jill Stebbing:

"Saints are sinners who have tried". These words on a banner outside a church caught my eye. They summed up our need for effort and change of heart if we are to draw closer to the holiness of God. Setting our sights on our Heavenly Inheritance leads to God's love and mercy.

Jesus' famous parable of the Prodigal Son, whose journey from the stark misery of his waywardness led to reconciliation with his generous, welcoming father, illustrates the overwhelming joy and compassion God shows to a repentant sinner.

On their journey to the Promised Land the Israelites forgot their obligation to God. Suffering hardship in the desert made them arrogant and disobedient and they failed to fulfil their part in the covenant God had made with their ancestors. Their complacency towards God's generosity led them to relapse into sin and many of them perished in the desert. Their physical Passover through the Red Sea points to our spiritual Baptism in Christ. Through His Life Death and Resurrection, we are reborn in the sacrament as Children of God.

In the Gospel, Jesus emphasises the need for sincere contrition and persevering effort to reform our life. As His disciples we should reflect the light of the Gospel to an unbelieving world. As fellow workers in His gardens, orchards and vineyards, we produce the fruits of His redeeming love by gaining more labourers to bring in the harvest of salvation.

All the readings of this 3rd Sunday offer the hope of redemption if we hear the Word of God and keep it. Fear of death is discounted by Jesus in His Sermon on the Plain. We should be ready for our final judgement, praying constantly to receive forgiveness. To value treasures in Heaven more than material gain gives us the abundant hope of Life Everlasting.

In this Jubilee Year, our journey of faith in Lent becomes a Pilgrimage of Hope as we follow Jesus to the Heart of our merciful Father.

### **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.

# **Prayer for Pope Francis:**

Almighty and Eternal God, you are the everlasting health of those who believe in you. Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy, through Christ our Lord. Amen. Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.

The YouTube Links to this weekend's Masses are here: 6pm on Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> March (Third Sunday of Lent Year C) <a href="https://youtube.com/live/fN-EPg9f-ag?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/fN-EPg9f-ag?feature=share</a>

9am on Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March (Third Sunday of Lent Year C) https://youtube.com/live/iqokG5k3I3w?feature=share

## Change of email address:

Please note that our email address is changing to <a href="mailto:billericay@brcdt.org">billericay@brcdt.org</a>
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: <a href="https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/giftaid.php">https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/giftaid.php</a>

**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.

**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:

**Freda Barter RIP** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Freda Barter. Freda's Requiem Mass is going to take place in the church on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April at 12pm. May she rest in peace. Please note that this Mass replaces the normal 9.15am Parish Mass on that day.

**Eileen Smith RIP** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eileen Smith who died on 11<sup>th</sup> February. Her family will be celebrating her life at St Teresa's of Lisieux, Clairmont Rd, Colchester on 28<sup>th</sup> March at 11am. All are welcome The Mass will also be livestreamed: <a href="https://stteresa.co.uk/mass-live-stream/">https://stteresa.co.uk/mass-live-stream/</a> or via YouTube: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EX9S7BXYBo">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EX9S7BXYBo</a>

**ANNIVERSARIES**: Delia Carvill, Pat Ferriss, Maureen Guppy, Michael Glavin, Gertrude Davies, Julia Maltby, Justin White, Linda O'Boyle, Terence Crow, Frank Giorgi, Frank Markey, Joy Coates, Ann Paloyannidis, James Sullivan, Wesley Lockhart.

**Clergy:** Canon Arthur Holmes, Fr John Sherlock, Mgr Canon Alfred Gilbey, Fr Denis Hall, Fr Joseph Tuohey, Fr John McCullough.

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: <a href="https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/register2.php">https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/register2.php</a> 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!



Contactless Machine in the church porch: We now have a contactless machine in the church porch. 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.

**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

# 3rd Sunday of Lent Year C

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GUILTY	HOREB	JACOB
JESUS	MOSES	PERISH
REPENT	SINNERS	VINEYARD

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.

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

Vacancy: Head Teacher - St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Hornchurch. https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-03-26\_1600\_St-Marys-Primary-School-Hornchurch\_Headteacher\_Job-Advert.pdf Closing date: 12pm on Wednesday 26th March 2025.

**Vacancy - Director of Education.** Bishop Alan is seeking to appoint a Director of Education to promote and implement his vision for Catholic education within the Diocese. This is an inspiring, rewarding and fulfilling position as the Diocese serves a network of 90 schools, providing for the formation and educational needs of some 40,000 children and young people. The successful candidate will have extensive leadership experience in an education context, a strong grasp of current educational issues (including CMATs' evolving role within the parish, diocese and local community); excellent leadership and management skills; and a deep knowledge and understanding of Catholic education as structured in this country. The closing date for applications will be Monday 7th April at 12 Noon. See: https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/ for more information.

Vacancy: Learning Support Assistant – St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Billericay For more information about the position and to apply, please visit <a href="https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=109344">https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=109344</a> Closing date: Monday 21st April. Visits are welcome and to arrange, or for further information, please contact the Office Manager, Mrs Foster by phone 01277 653770 or email on admin@st-peters-pri.essex.sch.uk

**Vacancy:** The Canonesses of The Holy Sepulchre invite applications for the post of **Bookkeeper**. (Relevant skills and experience required). 20 hours a week, based in Colchester CO4 3XD. For further details please look at our website – <a href="https://www.canonesses.co.uk">www.canonesses.co.uk</a> Closing date for a May 9th, and interviews on May 23rd.

Holy Week Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 13th April – £849 pps, includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights' in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, B&B, lunch on three days, all entertainment, excursions and transport. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, outdoor Passion Play at Ballintubber Abbey, Quiet Man Museum. Contact 01268 762278, 07740 175557 or email <a href="mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com">knockpilgrimages@gmail.com</a>

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2025:** Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Friday 18 to Friday 25 July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangney Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: Brentwood Lourdes Pilgrimage - Tangney Tours

**Brentwood Ursuline - 125**<sup>th</sup> **Anniversary** To mark out 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we invite past and present staff and students to attend an anniversary Mass at Brentwood Cathedral at 11.15am on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025, followed by a community celebration at Brentwood Ursuline, from 1pm-5pm. For further details and to book a place at the event, please refer to the school's website: www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk

British Summer Time begins next Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> March) A reminder that our clocks **go forward** one hour at 1.00 a.m. on Sunday 30th March.

**Mothering Sunday:** Next Sunday (30<sup>th</sup> March) is Mothering Sunday and as usual we will have gifts for children to give to their mothers at the end of all of the weekend Masses.

### **LENT 2025**

### **Lent Leaflets:**

You can find all of the information about the events and activities that are taking place in our parish during the season of Lent by following this link: https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/media/events/Lent-Leaflet-2025.pdf

### **Stations of the Cross:**

Stations of the Cross continue this Friday (28<sup>th</sup> March) at 7pm in the church and will then take place every Friday throughout the Lenten Season.

#### **Confessions:**

Confessions take place every Saturday in the church from 11am to 12pm. All Catholics are encouraged to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent.

**A Lenten Reflection** The Most Holy Redeemer Musicians warmly invite you to a short presentation of words and music on **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 5.30 pm**, in the Church. There will be music from Palestrina to Rizza, readings and organ pieces appropriate to the Season of Lent. Please join us as we prepare for Holy Week.

## **Connect Groups:**

During Lent we're going to be launching some new Connect Groups. Connect Groups are small faith sharing groups made up of parishioners who meet together regularly to pray and to support each other. If you would like to find out more about joining a Connect Group please email the Parish Office at <a href="mailto:billericay@brcdt.org">billericay@brcdt.org</a>

Lent Lectures at Brentwood Cathedral on the power and significance of the Holy Eucharist in our lives of faith, entitled, "Those who believe, don't leave." Bishop Alan Williams will be speaking on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March. Fr Stephen Morrison (O Pream), will be speaking on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Each talk starts at 7.30pm in the Cathedral.

Life in the Spirit: The Life in the Spirit Seminars Registration is now OPEN. Register by using the link below and receive more information on this special Diocesan event taking place from Easter to Pentecost in Brentwood Cathedral Large Hall. The Seminars are being held over 6 Tuesday evenings from 29th April - 3rd June inclusive and are open to all. You are warmly invited to come along to hear inspiring speakers, be filled with the Holy Spirit and travel through your own 'Holy Door' as we celebrate this Jubilee Year as "Pilgrims of Hope". Register here: Life in the Spirit Registration

**Parish Safeguarding Workshop: Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm** All parish volunteers and new volunteers are invited to attend a parish safeguarding workshop led by Simon Moules, our Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator which will take place in the Pastoral Centre. This will also be an opportunity to hear from Angela Sparke, our new Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator and to renew your DBS certificate if it is more than 3 years old.

Faith in Action Lenten Walk around Mill Meadows in aid of Little Havens Hospice. Faith in Action invites you to put on your walking boots/wellies and join us for a Lenten walk in aid of Little Havens Hospice, on Sat 29th March, 12pm. The walk starts at the church at 12pm and finishes at the Pastoral Centre where you will be served hot dogs and hot refreshments including hot chocolate. The walk will take approximately 1 hour and is suitable for both adults and children. All are welcome! Children will receive puzzles to solve and items to find along their walking adventure. A suggested donation of £5 per person or £10 per family will help support the work of Little Havens Children's Hospice. If you would like to take part in this please make sure that you email Kristin at kristindefreitas@brcdt.org

Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <a href="https://walk.cafod.org.uk/">https://walk.cafod.org.uk/</a>

**The Liturgy of The Word** In the second talk in the series 'Proclaim the Word', entitled 'A richer table of God's word', Fr Adrian Graffy explains how after the Second Vatican Council readings from all parts of the Bible were arranged so that more abundant provision of Sacred Scripture is available to all at Mass. The talk will be at 7 pm (tea and coffee from 6.30 pm) on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. The talk is also available via live stream on www.whatgoodnews.org. No need to book

**Beginning Experience Weekend** is a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. The weekend is led by trained volunteers, who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again. This next programme will be held on 4-6 April at the Sion Community, Essex; details from: Mary: 07730 884315, or email <a href="mailto:BeginningExperience.SoE@gmail.com">BeginningExperience.SoE@gmail.com</a>.

The St Vincent De Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales, from  $22^{nd} - 27^{th}$  June in London. Candidates must have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on the 20th April. Please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk