



**Sacred Heart**  
Southend-on-Sea  
**St John Fisher**  
Prittlewell

Parish Priest. Fr Graham Smith  
The Presbytery  
418 Southchurch Road  
Southend-on-Sea  
Essex SS1 2QB  
01702 465720  
parish@catholicsouthend.org.uk  
[www.catholicsouthend.org.uk](http://www.catholicsouthend.org.uk)

## PARISH NEWSLETTER

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Sixth Sunday of the Year (c)**

*Dear Friends*

Today's Gospel reading is the beginning of what is often called the Sermon on the Mount. Because Jesus is speaking on top of a mountain we can't miss the impression that Jesus is speaking with the authority and voice of God because the mountaintop is a symbol of closeness to God. From the mountain Jesus teaches us a way to find favour with God. The word blessed in this context means "happy," "fortunate," or "favoured."

As we listen to this Gospel, the Beatitudes seem strange. Those who are poor, hungry, weeping, or persecuted are called blessed. This is, indeed, a Gospel of reversals. Those often thought to have been forgotten by God are called blessed. In the list of "woes," those whom we might ordinarily describe as blessed by God are warned about their peril. Riches, possessions, laughter, reputation . . . these are not things that we can depend upon as sources of eternal happiness. They not only fail to deliver on their promise; our misplaced trust in them will lead to our demise. The ultimate peril is believing that they are the source of our eternal happiness.

The Beatitudes are often described as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God.

*Fr Graham*

### **St John Fisher Hall**

The hall is out of action this coming week while essential electrical work is carried out.

### **ABC (About Becoming Catholic) Course**

The course continues on Thursday at 7.30pm in the Sacred Heart Presbytery.

### **Tea, Cakes and Reflection Fridays at St John Fisher**

On 22<sup>nd</sup> February the meeting will take place in the side chapel of the church. Father has agreed to have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament between 2.00pm and 2.30pm when we will say special prayers together before the Blessed Sacrament. We will then continue with our meeting until 3.30. Please try and be there by 1.45pm. In case it is helpful the reading for the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of ordinary time is Luke 6: 27-38. See you there!!

### **CAFOD Coffee Morning – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February at Sacred Heart**

The call for CAFOD's help around the world is continuous and in fact ever growing – through the network of worldwide Catholic parishes CAFOD are well placed to reach poverty at its very roots... Please join us for a bacon or cheese roll and a cup of tea immediately after 11am Mass and help support CAFOD in their vital work. Bacon or cheese roll, cake and a cup of tea all for just £2.50. Of course the event would not be complete without the customary raffle.

### **Baptism Preparation**

The next Course for parents and expectant parents who wish to have a child baptised at Sacred Heart or St John Fisher will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm in Sacred Heart Hall. Please pick up a form from the church porch to register for the course and request the Baptism. **Please note that in order for a child to be baptised, at least one of the parents must be a baptised catholic and a copy of the parent's baptism certificate must be attached to the application for the child's baptism. Parents are expected to attend a Preparation Course prior to the baptism of each of their children.**

### **Southend Churches Winter Night Shelters**

Thank you for all of the generous donations received so far. We now have enough of everything for the foreseeable future and so we ask that you hold off from bringing any more donations – we will let you know if and when we need more.

#### **Collections of items for HARP, Southend Foodbank and the Night Shelter**

	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Priority Items</b>
HARP	2 <sup>nd</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Coffee and sugar
Foodbank	16 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> February 23 <sup>rd</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> February	Tinned carrots and tinned fish
Winter Night Shelter	<b>Nothing currently needed (thank you for all of the donations so far!)</b>	

## **Sacred Heart Hall Toilets**

We have had some serious problems recently on Saturday nights and Sunday mornings where toilet rolls are being unravelled and left spread out over the floor of the toilet cubicles. Not only does this cause a serious trip hazard but is also a needless waste of parish money.

## **Parish Craft Club**

The Craft Club runs every Tuesday in Sacred Heart Hall from 11.00am to 2.00pm. A £2.00 attendance fee includes light refreshments. So whether you are a craft expert, a beginner or just fancy a cup of tea and a chat, please come along. All are welcome. For more information, please contact Maddy on 07837 215757.

## **Cat Flap – free to anyone who wants it**

Nearly new, well loved "magnet" cat flap up for grabs - please see Fr Graham for details.

## **Appeal for a Volunteer – Missio Red Boxes – Sacred Heart**

We need a new volunteer who can process the Missio Red Boxes at Sacred Heart. If you think you can help, please contact the Parish Office.

## **\*\*\* Catholic Schools \*\*\***

### **Learning Support Assistant vacancy – Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School**

Details available from [office@ourladyoflourdes.southend.sch.uk](mailto:office@ourladyoflourdes.southend.sch.uk) or 01702 475689.

## **\*\*\* Around the Deanery, Diocese and Beyond \*\*\***

### **Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2019**

This will take place from Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2019. Travel is by air from Stansted and prices range from £794 to £884 (depending on the hotel) plus insurance and any relevant single room supplement. Information leaflets are available in the porch. Alternatively you may wish to travel with the Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL) Parish Pilgrimage which runs from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July to Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July. Five nights (full board) travelling from Stansted to Lourdes with Ryanair and staying at the Grand Moderne Hotel will cost £665 per pilgrim (this includes one 20g suitcase per passenger, plus one hand-luggage bag). Outbound flight departs at 13.10/arrives 16.10 and return flight departs Lourdes at 11.10am/arrives 12.10pm. Please collect an information sheet/booking form from OLOL Parish office or ring 01702 478078.

Some funding assistance may be available from the Millie Wake Lourdes Fund and/or from the Diocesan Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund.

### **Pilgrimage To The Holy Land - 26<sup>th</sup> November to 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019**

8 Days for £1195.00. Organised by Salvatore Burzotta and led by Fr Jeff Woolnough. For more information please contact Salvatore Burzotta on 07753 203129 or 01702 432458. Non refundable deposit & completed booking form is due by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

### **To all Couples who Married in St Helen's Church, Westcliff on Sea**

St. Helen's will celebrate its 150th anniversary this year and we are asking any couples who married in the church to please contact the Parish Office 01702 342324 with date of marriage, full names and a wedding photo. These will be displayed and the couples invited to attend a mass for a special blessing. (Please advise if you do not wish the photos to be added to the Parish Facebook page).

### **St Patricks Night Social on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March from 7.00pm to 10.30pm**

The KSC are holding a St Patricks Social at St Peter's Eastwood (59 Eastwood Road North, Leigh-on-Sea SS9 4BX). Tickets are £10 per adult, children 5 to 16 years £7, under 5 free. Ticket includes a meal of Irish Stew or Jacket Potato, dancing and a singsong. Please bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets from Bruno (01702 528766), Damian (01702 551258), Liam (07952 954833) or Ian (07503 465249).

### **Calling all young Catholics – Internship Opportunities**

The deadline for applications to be an intern with Faith in Politics, the Catholic Parliamentary and Public Affairs Internship Scheme, is approaching – but it is not too late to apply. The intern scheme provides up to eight recently graduated Catholics with intensive experience of political and social action in a spiritual context. Interns are placed with Christian MPs at Westminster and in public policy and social action roles at the Catholic Education Service (CES), CAFOD, and CSAN. For more info go to [www.faithinpolitics.org.uk](http://www.faithinpolitics.org.uk)  
Deadline for applications: Thursday 28 February 2019

### **40 Days for Life London Launch Event**

By offering love and support to women and babies, 750,000 volunteers for 40 Days for Life have saved the lives of over 15,000 babies from abortion in 56 countries. Come and see how you can help save lives in London, hear Alina's remarkable story and join us for a buffet and beverages at, 7.30pm-9pm Wednesday 20th February St Patrick's Church, Soho Square, London, W1D 4NR, UK (nearest tube: Tottenham Court Road) Sarah 07776 256838 or email [London40daysforlife@hotmail.com](mailto:London40daysforlife@hotmail.com) [www.40daysforlife.com/London](http://www.40daysforlife.com/London)

## **Fully Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland**

27<sup>th</sup> May 2019. £649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all taxes, luxury transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours included. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Limited single rooms at supplement of £100. Groups and individual bookings welcome. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

## **Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) Anniversary Concert- "The Priests"**

Northern Irish classical singing trio 'The Priests' will perform an Anniversary Concert for BCCS on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> June at the Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30pm. Early bird tickets are available now at a special price of £15 plus booking fee until 1<sup>st</sup> March after which all tickets will be £20 plus fee. All tickets can be purchased directly through Eventbrite – [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) - look for **The Priests** under **Event**, or click the link on our website [www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk) under **Our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Anniversary Events**. We expect this to be a sell-out event and would urge you to book early in order to avoid disappointment.

A small number of copies of its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary newsletter are available in the porch.

## **HARP'S Spring Walk Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2.00pm**

Join us for a gentle 3.5 mile stroll along the Prittle Brook Greenway, from Priory Park to Belfairs Park. Every step you take will show your solidarity with local homeless people and help HARP beat homelessness for good. Enjoy free tea and cake at the Belfairs Woodland Centre. The route is pushchair friendly, and dogs on leads are welcome. <https://www.harpsouthend.org.uk/spring-walk-2019>

## **World Day of Prayer service Come - Everything is ready!**

This year the World Day of Prayer service will be held at 10.30am on Friday 1st March at Kings Road URC, Crowstone Road, Westcliff, SS0 8LH. Prepared by the Christian women of Slovenia this year's theme is focussed on an open invitation for all to come to God's table; 'Come - Everything is ready!'. We will be praying with people in over 120 countries encircling the globe. Please come and join us for this wonderful service.

## **Lenten Talks at St Theresa's Rochford - 'The Ten Commandments Through The Eyes of the Catechism'**

This is a series of talks hosted by St Teresa's Church (109 Ashingdon Road, Rochford, SS4 1RF) and led by Fr Gerry which will take place on Tuesdays 19<sup>th</sup> March, 26<sup>th</sup> March and 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Talks will commence at 8pm (following 7.30pm Mass.) Refreshments will be provided. Why not make this part of your Lent preparation? All very welcome.

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## **Money**

Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 Offertory Collection	£1105.14
Diocesan Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund	£346.48

There will be a second collection this weekend for Racial Justice Sunday.

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## **Sick Parishioners**

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, especially; Valerie Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Christina Arnold, Marie Biner, Guilda Brett, Barbara Briggs, William Bryan, Eric Carpenter, Alfossina Carson, Richard Campbell-Carr, Patricia and Richard Dixon, Pamela Dobson, Patrick Doherty, Helen Escott, Harleigh-Jo Farrar, John Fiore, Roy Fitchew, Danielle Honeyands, Katrina Honeyands, Peter Hopkins, Bartley Igoe Jr, Teresa Igoe, Maria Kintu, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Bernard Lovell, Jacqueline Lovett, Sheila Norris, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Anita Rogers, Maria Scinto, Geraldine Stephens, Jenny Warren and Sally Wray.

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## **Rest in Peace**

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Mary Holmes, Irene Nickels, Michael McHugh, Fr John Joyce, Louisa Elizabeth Collins, William Bradley, Matilda Higgins, George Hardiman, Lillian Devielli, Doris Clarke, Fr Thomas O'Connor, Fr Archibald O'Brien, Francis Small, Bridget Sammon, Catherine Leggett, Mike Downes, Lilian Dyce, Henry Starkey, Lily Palmer, Frederick Wakefield, Audrey Rice, Rebecca Burrows, Ralph Thomas, Catherine Anderson, Margaret Daly, and Deacon Sidney Lewis.

**Mass Text for 17<sup>th</sup> February 2019 – Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)  
(Divine Office Week 1)**

**Entrance Antiphon:** Be my protector, O God, a mighty stronghold to save me. For you are my rock, my stronghold! Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 17:5-8

**Psalms:** 1:1-4, 6 response Psalm 39:5

**Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.**

- 1 Happy indeed is the man who follows not the counsel of the wicked:  
Nor lingers in the way of sinners nor sits in the company of scorners,  
but whose delight is in the law of the Lord and who ponders his law day and night.
- 2 He is like a tree that is planted beside the flowing waters,  
That yields its fruit in due season and whose leaves shall never fade: and all that he does shall prosper.
- 3 Not so are the wicked, not so! For they like winnowed the chaff shall be driven away by the wind.  
For the Lord guards the way of the just but the way of the wicked leads to doom.

**Second Reading** 1 Corinthians 15:12, 16-20

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Luke 6:17, 20-26

**Communion Antiphon:** They ate and had their fill, and what they craved the Lord gave them; they were not disappointed in what they craved.

**Readings for the Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time:**

1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23, Psalm 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13 response v8, 1 Corinthians 15:45-49, Luke 6:27-38.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>	<b>5.30pm</b> <i>Mike Smith RIP</i>	
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)</b>	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> ) <b>11.00am</b> <i>People of the Parish</i> <b>12.30pm Baptism</b> <i>Jalou Calik McSpadden</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <i>John Luke King and John Short RIP</i> (11.30am Mass in the Syro Malabar Rite)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Feria	9.00am <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i>	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Feria		
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Feria	(No Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group this week)	10.00am <i>Intentions of Catherine Bristow</i>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	St Peter Damian	6.30pm <i>Eileen Lovas RIP</i>	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	The Chair of St Peter	12 noon <i>Intentions of Nora Hopkins</i>	2.00pm to 2.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Tea, Cake and Reflection until 3.30pm
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	St Polycarp	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am <i>Rita and Mario Migliorini RIP</i>
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	<b>First Mass of Sunday</b>	<b>5.30pm</b> <i>Mary Rand RIP</i>	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)</b>	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> ) <b>11.00am</b> <i>Mike Smith RIP</i>	<b>9.00am</b> <i>Lesley Googe RIP</i>