

Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea



St John Fisher
Prittlewell

Parish Priest: Fr Graham Smith

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

Sunday 28th April 2019 – Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Dear friends

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. Jesus also commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun. As Jesus was sent by God, so too does Jesus send his disciples. Forgiveness and reconciliation are gifts to us from Jesus. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share these with others. This is another essential aspect of what it means to be Christ's Church. The Church continues Jesus' ministry of forgiveness and reconciliation which we celebrate today on Divine Mercy Sunday.

In our Gospel we also encounter Thomas, the disciple who doubts. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. It is part of our human nature to seek hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to the disciples after his death is, indeed, the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative who obtains this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who had died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed for we have not seen and yet have believed.

Fr Graham

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who put so much time and energy into making the Holy Week and Easter celebrations so special once again this year. A huge amount of work goes into this week: cleaning, flower-arranging, serving, making music, organising behind the scenes, reading, ministering the Eucharist, welcoming, serving refreshments and so on. Thank you to all of you for your continued support to the life of the parish. Thank you also for your generous personal offering to me over Easter, Easter Eggs, wine etc. It is much appreciated!

Fr Graham

This is Divine Mercy Sunday!

The Divine Mercy Devotion will take place from 2.30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Church (161-181 Leigh Road, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 1NG). It will include Liturgy of the Word, Homily, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Veneration of the Relic, Exposition and the Chaplet and Benediction. Priests will be available to hear Confession.

Easter Bonnet Competition at St John Fisher – Today (28th April) during the Coffee Morning

Join us and be part of a colourful fun filled morning. Create your own hat, bright and beautiful as you, and win a prize. The younger generation can also compete with their skills. There will also be a Raffle and you can purchase Sausage in a roll (vegetarian option available) with tea or coffee for £3. Purchase your competition entry - £3.00 for adults or £1.00 Children after Sunday Mass or contact Phyllis (07789 555401) or Laura at St John Fisher.

Parish Annual General Meeting – this coming Wednesday (1st May)

This meeting takes place this coming Wednesday at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall. If you have any items for the agenda, please get them to Sue in the Parish Office by Tuesday lunchtime.

Collections of items for HARP and the Southend Foodbank		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	4 th -5 th May	Instant mash and microwave rice pouches
Foodbank	27 th – 28 th April 11 th – 12 th May	Tinned meat meals (eg meat pie, chilli, curry) and long life milk.

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 13th 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. 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.

Faith Study Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2nd May at 1.30pm. For further details please call Sandy Stidston on 01702 467188. Everyone is very welcome.

Fashion Show

Familiar faces flaunting the latest fashions on the catwalk with the opportunity of purchasing top quality affordable ladies clothing. On Tuesday 30th April at St John Fisher Hall from 7.15pm. Entry costs £2.50 to include tea & coffee, the fashion show and the opportunity to browse a vast range of clothing supplied by Evie Bleu of Southchurch Road. Profits will be split equally between SVP & The Food Bank. Tickets available from Sandy Rand 07875 124159 or email liam.rand@btopenworld.com

Southchurch & Prittlewell Parish Players Present: Death Mountain!

On Saturday 18th May in St John Fisher Hall, we will be presenting 2 performances of our latest murder mystery. A matinee at 2.30pm and an evening performance at 7.00pm. There will be afternoon tea for the matinee and a fish & chip supper for the evening. Tickets are £7.50 to include the meal. Funds raised will be shared between the Parish and our own funds to be able to put on future performances. Please come along and test your detective skills! Tickets now available from Tina 07771 628808 or Theresa 07956 628213.

Local Elections – Thursday 2nd May

Sacred Heart Church Hall is being used as a Polling Station on Thursday 2nd May. The 6.30pm Mass will take place as usual but car park space may be limited.

Weekday Masses at St John Fisher

Fr Graham says Wednesday and Saturday morning Masses at St John Fisher. Fr Wojciech from the Polish Catholic Mission continues, when available, to say Mass (in English) on the other weekdays. Please check the details in the newsletter each week for what Masses are taking place the following week.

Please Help Keep the Sacristy Reverent before Mass

In order to prepare spiritually for Mass, Clergy and altar servers need time for quiet reflection. Therefore people are respectfully asked to keep away from the Sacristy for the five minutes before Mass is due to start.

200 Club Winners for February, March & April

Apologies for the delay in reporting the draw for the last two months. Congratulations to our winners.

February: 1st Prize – Sandy Stidston (22) - £30; 2nd Prize – Anita Chaplin (147) - £15; 3rd Prize – Kieran Friel (175) - £10

March: 1st Prize – Peter Hopkins (16) - £30; 2nd Prize – Gladys Pope (95) - £15; 3rd Prize – Mary Leggett (9) - £10

April's draw will take place this Saturday evening at the CAFOD Quiz.

Coffee and Cake - St John Fisher

Please join us in the hall for homemade cakes, sausage rolls and coffee after Mass next Sunday. All funds raised will be for the refurbishment of the hall and new toilets. Please do make every effort to support this project so that we can continue to come together as a community to share social events.

Some Future Dates.....

Holy Day of Obligation – Ascension of the Lord – Thursday 30th May

Confirmations – 9th June

First Holy Communion Weekend - 22nd-23rd June

Diocesan Vision Document – Shaping our Future

Copies of the latest E-Bulletin are available in the porch.

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

March for Life UK – Saturday 11th May

Join thousands of other pro-lifers in creating awareness of the hurt and damage abortion causes and helping to promote a culture of life. Inside festival (LifeFest19) 9.30am - 1.30pm, booking required. March starts 2pm (no booking required). For more information visit marchforlife.co.uk or call 07773 501721

An invitation from the Justice & Peace group at St George & The English Martyrs, Shoeburyness

The response of the Catholic community in the Southend area to both the Family Fast Day and the Cyclone Emergency appeals has been truly awe-inspiring. Yet many people are unsure what happens after the appeal.

What does CAFOD actually do with our donations? In how many countries does CAFOD work? How much did CAFOD spend on international development and emergency relief last year?

Richard Sloman, CAFOD project manager, (currently based in Bangladesh, previously in Palestine/Israel and Lebanon) will be answering these questions at St George's Parish Hall, Ness Road, Shoeburyness at 7.30pm on Friday, 3rd May. In addition, he will deliver an illustrated presentation on CAFOD's work in Palestine and the Middle East. All very welcome. Light refreshments will be provided. For further info please contact Brian Fitzgerald at bfitzg6306@sky.com

Work and Pray

Join the Sion Community for a few days from 6th - 10th May volunteering your time and talents helping us with some essential upkeep of our large house and gardens. Each day will include community prayer and Mass at the cathedral. You can stay with us and experience a little of community life or come along on a daily basis. Meals provided (you can even take a turn in the kitchen if you would like to!). If you are interested in joining us, please contact Mary: admin@sioncommunity.org.uk or 01277 215011

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham – Saturday 25th May

Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham as we honour Our Lady of Walsingham. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House. If you would like to go please contact Liam Rand on 07952 954833. Once we have an idea of numbers of people wanting to go, we will decide on transport options and be able to publish the cost.

Calais Light – Car Sharing Convoy

On 21- 23 June, Calais Light, the car-sharing convoy which takes a bunch of like-minded, friendly volunteers to Calais to work with refugee charities - sets off again. Trip 11! We're returning to Care4Calais, to sort aid in their amazingly well-run warehouse. Every afternoon all volunteers go out with Care4Calais's team to meet refugees living rough. We chat with them, listen to their stories; offer them solidarity, normality, kindness & essential services. Our March weekend was a huge success - moving, unexpectedly joyful, crucial. So come with us! Sign up for a convoy at www.calaislight.com or donate by emailing: calaislight@yahoo.com Choose Love!

Sharing Hope in Crisis Seminar

This seminar is designed to help you know what to say—and what not to say—to someone facing difficulty and to compassionately share the love of Jesus Christ with those who need it most. It is on Saturday 18th May from 9.00am – 4.30pm at the Conference Centre, Brentwood Cathedral. Refreshments are provided, please bring a packed lunch. There is no charge for the event but there will be an opportunity to make a donation to cover costs. Please book your place at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sharing-hope-in-crisis-seminar-tickets-58994806053 or email adeleangel@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

Mass for Migrants – Monday 6th May at Westminster Cathedral

Together with the Dioceses of Westminster and Southwark, this is a joyful celebration of the diversity of our Dioceses, as well as reflecting on and praying for the great hardships that many migrants face. Please join Bishops, Priests and thousands of people from across London and the home counties on Bank Holiday Monday (6th May) at 10.30am. There will be a banner procession at 10am – banners from parishes and different ethnic groups are very welcome – gather outside the Cathedral from 9.30am. All welcome!

St Helen's Parish, Westcliff-on-Sea is celebrating its 150th Anniversary in May with the following events:

Friday 24th May - Holy Mass at 5.30pm followed by a special dinner with Bishop Alan at 7.00pm in celebration of all the couples who were married at St. Helen's Church over the years – everyone welcome! Please contact the office on 01702 342324 for tickets.

Saturday 25th May – 6.00pm to 8.15pm - concert featuring beautiful songs, instrumentals and dance by talented young people from Brentwood Diocesan schools and churches. No tickets required but there will be an opportunity to make a donation. Coffee and cake will be available in the hall during the interval.

On Sunday 26th May there will be an International Food Festival starting at 12.30pm with a cultural show at 3pm. Adult £8/ Children £3 (please contact the office on 01702 342324).

Catholic Charity seeks Trustees with Professional Skills

Caritas Anchor House (CAH) serves some of the most vulnerable people in East London, including rough sleepers and homeless people. As some Trustees' terms end this year, CAH is seeking Catholic Trustees with professional expertise in marketing, finance or property, to help guide and support the CAH Management Team in their vital work. Full details can be found at: <https://reachvolunteering.org.uk/opp/marketing-trustee-14>; or email trusteeworks@reachvolunteering.org.uk for more information.

Development Officer South East Catholic Partnership

(0.3 FTE, 2-year Fixed term contract) The Catholic Education Service (CES) has an opportunity for an individual, able to demonstrate an outstanding leadership track record in education, to work with diocesan directors, academies and Catholic teaching schools in the region to develop and deliver effective programmes of leadership development and ongoing formation. For more information about this post please email Sophie Russell at sophierussell@dioceseofbrentwood.org. Closing date 9th May.

Faith Evening on the Liturgical Year

On Wednesday 12th June at 7 pm at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH Fr David Manson will lead an evening on the Liturgical Year, exploring the main seasons of the Church's year and explaining how the feasts of the Church are celebrated. Admission is free but please book your place by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com. Refreshments will be provided.

George Wake RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of George Wake (father of Pete Wake) who died on 25th April. The funeral arrangements are not yet known.

Susan Minns RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Susan Minns who died recently. Her funeral will be on Thursday 9th May at 2.20pm at Southend Crematorium.

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, Alfosina 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.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Harold Carter, Sydney Cooper, John Norris, Willian Grout, Marie Therese Pinto, Florence Holland, Alfred Linvell, James Daly, Irina Misauskiene, Winifred Porter, Walter Pearce, Hugh Quirk, William Tate, Maria Cook, Marguerite Marshall, Terence Dear, Maud Coe, Amalia Greenfield, Alfred Delamere, Marco Sandi, Charles Ogden, Anne Sutton, Thomas Denny, Martha Collins, Pasquale Pacitto, Evelyn Dale, Ethel Chesham and Michael Wilson.

Mass Text for 28th April 2019 – Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) (Divine Office Week 4)

Entrance Antiphon Like new born infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

First Reading Acts 5:12-16,

Psalm 117:2-4, 22-27 response v1

Response: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.

1 Let the sons of Israel say: 'His love has no end.' Let the sons of Aaron say: 'His love has no end.'

Let those who fear the Lord say: 'His love has no end.'

2 The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad

3 O Lord, grant us salvation; O Lord, grant success.

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord; the Lord God is our light.

Second Reading Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe. Alleluia.

Gospel John 20:19-31

Communion Antiphon Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Next Sunday's readings

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41, Psalm 29:2, 4-6, 11-13 response v3, Apocalypse 5:11-13, John 21:1-19

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 27 th April	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm Mass <i>Mary Rand RIP</i>	
Sunday 28 th April	Second Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i>) 11.00am Mass <i>Paul Gunn RIP</i>	9.00am <i>People of the Parish</i>
		2.30pm Divine Mercy Devotions at Our Lady of Lourdes Church 161-181 Leigh Road, Leigh-on-Sea, SS9 1NG	
Monday 29 th April	St Catherine of Sienna	9.00am Mass <i>Intentions of Ethan Clinton-Ekuma</i>	10.00am Mass <i>Holy Souls</i>
Tuesday 30 th April	St George		8.00am Mass <i>Fr Seamus Noctor RIP</i>
Wednesday 1 st May	Feria	<i>10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group in the hall</i>	10.00am Mass <i>Kathleen Horvers RIP</i>
Thursday 2 nd May	St Athanasius	6.30pm Mass followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction <i>Eileen Lovas RIP</i>	10.00am Mass <i>Fr Adrian Walker RIP</i>
Friday 3 rd May	SS Philip and James	9.00am Mass <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i>	1.30pm Mass <i>Fr Gerard Burke RIP</i>
Saturday 4 th May	The English Martyrs	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am Mass <i>Intentions of Pat and Richard Dixon</i>
Saturday 4 th May	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm Mass <i>Brendan Sammon RIP</i>	
Sunday 5 th May	Third Sunday of Easter	(9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i>) 11.00am Mass <i>Mary and Patrick Greene RIP</i> 12.30pm Baptism <i>Oliver Hawker</i>	9.00am Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>

Regina Caeli

V. Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.

R. For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen, as he said, alleluia.

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.

R. For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia.

Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.

Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia.

Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia.

The Regina Caeli will be recited 5 minutes before Sunday (and Saturday 5.30pm) Masses.

Rosary - The Rosary is said in both Churches before the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. It is also said at Sacred Heart after 9.00am weekday masses and at 6.00pm when there is evening Mass.