

## Services During the Week

*(Morning Prayer - 20 mins prior to each weekday Mass)*

<b>Sat 05 Jan</b> 6.00 pm	<b>Vigil for the Epiphany of the Lord</b> <i>Mass Patsy Buckley. Intention.</i>
<b>Sun 06 Jan</b> 08.00 am 10.30 am	<b>The Epiphany of the Lord</b> <i>Mass Our Parish Community</i> <i>Mass Bernadette Mc Mahon. RIP</i>
<b>Mon 07 Jan</b> 09.30 am	<b>Weekday after Epiphany</b> <i>Mass Edward Gallagher. RIP</i>
<b>Tues 08 Jan</b> 7.30 pm	<b>Weekday after Epiphany</b> <i>Mass Greg Gallagher. RIP</i>
<b>Wed 09 Jan</b> 09.30 am	<b>Weekday after Epiphany</b> <i>Mass Patrick Wholey. RIP Anniversary</i>
<b>Thur 10 Jan</b> 09.30 am	<b>Weekday after Epiphany</b> <i>Mass Brendan Mitchell. RIP</i>
<b>Frid 11 Jan</b> 09.30 am	<b>Weekday after Epiphany</b> <i>Mass Elsie Barber. RIP</i>
<b>Sat 12 Jan</b> 5.00 pm	<b>St Aelred of Rievaulx, Religious</b> <i>Holy Hour with Exposition and Confessions</i>
<b>Sat 12 Jan</b> 6.00 pm	<b>Vigil Mass for the Baptism of the Lord</b> <i>Mass Prof. Osborn Viegas. RIP</i>
<b>Sun 13 Jan</b> 08.00 am 10.30 am	<b>The Baptism of the Lord</b> <i>Mass Our Parish Community.</i> <i>Mass Tushar Kanti Ghosh. RIP Anniversary</i>

### **RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION) AND EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:**

Unless otherwise stated, there is a Holy Hour every Saturday from 5 pm, during which time the priest will be available in the Reconciliation Room to hear confessions. Confessions are also available on request after weekday Masses or whenever Fr Matthew is in the Presbytery, or by appointment at any time.

## PARISH NEWSLETTER



St Teresa's Catholic Church  
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Parish Priest: Rev Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi



### The Epiphany of the Lord (Year C) - 06 January 2019

#### Happy New Year and Happy Epiphany!

We begin the New Year with a forward-looking feast. At Christmas, we join the holy family and the shepherds at the crib. The final part of the Christmas story is the visit of the wise men from the East. Epiphany means 'showing', and this is the moment Jesus is shown to be the saviour not just of his own people, but of the whole world. The gifts they bring have well-known prophetic meaning: gold for a king, incense for a god, and myrrh for one who is to die. There is a twist, however: the gold is given to one whose kingship is not of this world, who will reign from the cross wearing a crown of thorns; the incense is given to one who is not just 'a' god, but the eternal Son of the Father, God-with-us, who will offer himself as the perfect sacrifice on behalf of the whole human race; the myrrh is given to the one whose death will conquer death for ever, and the women who go to anoint his body will find the tomb empty. Led by a star, the wise men go on a journey to a new-born king expecting to find him in royal palace. Their journey leads them to kneel in worship before the God they did not know they were looking for, and they return by 'another way', changed by their encounter with the Christ-child. We pray for all people, whatever stage they are at on their own journey of faith and pray that those who seek the light but do not yet know Christ will one day come to know and adore him as their Lord and Saviour.

With this feast occurring at the beginning of the calendar year it is also an opportunity to consecrate the year ahead to God and resolve to place him at the centre of all that we do. This is expressed in two traditions associated with Epiphany. Firstly, the proclamation of the date of Easter and other moveable feasts that occur during the year. This had a practical purpose when people didn't have such information readily at their fingertips, but there is also a symbolic meaning. Like the prophetic meaning of the gifts brought by the Magi, this reminds us that the

Christmas story does not in fact end here but is really just beginning.

The second tradition is the blessing of chalk, which is then used to mark the doorways of our homes as a way of seeking God's blessing upon our families and homes in the coming year. It is also a reminder, each time we go in and out of our home, that Christ should be our constant guest and companion. The blessed chalk will be available to take away after all Masses. To use it, simply write **20 + C + M + B + 19** above (or near) the door to your home, using one of the prayers on the sheet provided. The letters C, M and B stand for the names of the Magi - Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar - who visited the Christ-child today and found a welcome in the home of the Holy Family. They also stand for the Latin phrase *Christus Mansionem Benedicat*: "May Christ Bless this House."

At a time when many people make resolutions for the new year, it is good for us to make one or two specific resolutions relating to our spiritual life: perhaps to go to confession more regularly, to invite someone to Mass, or spend some time learning more about the faith through reading or using resources available online. Finally, a challenge for 2019: can you invite at least one person to come with you to Mass or to another event at church at some point during the coming year?

God Bless

Fr Matthew

### CHURCH ROTAS

**This Week: Cleaning** - Team A.

**Next Weekend:**

**Readers - 6.00 pm:** Sini. **08.00 am:** Francis. **10.30 am:** Bernadine & Tarlach.

**Eucharistic Ministers - 6.00 pm:** Lucy & Margaret O'Leary. **08.00 am:** Gilbert & Kevin. **10.30 am:** Michael N, Nora & Michael Pierce, Nadine & Edna.

**Small Linen Laundry** - Monica. **Flowers** - Mavis & Vergin

**PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE AWARE OF THE POSITION OF THE EMERGENCY FIRE EXIT DOORS IN THE CHURCH**

## Parish - Regular Notices

**SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL:** If anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is most important to let Fr Matthew know so that the sick person may receive the spiritual help of the sacraments. Relatives or friends should also inform the Catholic Chaplain of the hospital concerned (*at King George Hospital, 8590 9026; at Queen's Hospital, 01708 447761; at Whipps Cross Hospital, 8520 5877*).

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please pray for those in our community who are sick and housebound as well as the patients in Goodmayes, King George's and Queen's Hospitals. Also, the sick Priests of the Diocese - Frs Tom Jordan & Martin Nott.

**ANNIVERSARIES IN JANUARY:** Don Baker, Leonard Beeby, Bernard Beine, Mary Blue, Bill Bush, Winifred Chainey, Samuel Chingyonga, David Clarke, Peter Clarke, Nora Cunningham, Harry Everett, Eileen Ferrier, Diane Foster, Tushar Ghosh, Ellen Hiscock, Dennis Jackson, Sylvia Keeley, Ellen Kelleher, Harold Kemp, Tommy McCabe, Jim McDonnell, John Page, John Pearson, Ellen Ronan, Dunkstan Sebastiampillai, David Smith, Paddy Walsh and Kathleen Ward.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION:** If you are expecting a baby or have a baby for baptism in the next couple of months, please contact Helen Mac Mahon on 020 8590 9981 who will help you make the appropriate arrangements.

**MASS REQUESTS:** Special envelopes for this purpose are available at the back of Church. Please use one for each request and place your donation within it.

**CHURCH HALL:** The Church Hall is available for bookings by Parishioners. Please contact Sid on 07887983310 for bookings and conditions.

**CHURCH CAR PARK:** Please remember it is essential that emergency vehicles have clear access to the Church at all times. During the week, please do not park in front of the Hall gate and remember to leave your details at the Parish Office if you are leaving your car here outside Mass times.

**CHURCH GROUNDS:** Please remember to do what you can to keep the church grounds tidy - if you see some litter and it is safe to do so, please pick it up and put it in one of the two bins provided.

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER 10.30 AM MASS ON SUNDAY:** Tea & coffee will once again be available in the Hall after Mass.

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** You are very welcome here. Please make yourselves known to Fr Matthew and complete one of the Parish Registration Forms as soon as possible.

## Meetings this Week

**Tuesday:** Legion of Mary in the Pastoral Centre at 7.30 pm.

## Parish - In & Around

**CHANGE OF MASS TIME:** Please note that **on Tuesday**, Mass will be in the evening at 7.30 pm. Please pray for baby Clara, goddaughter of Fr Matthew and Lucy, whose funeral takes place on this day in Westminster, and for her family.

**GREG GALLAGHER, RIP:** Sylvia and family would like to thank everyone for all the Sympathy cards and Masses, condolences, gifts of flowers and food received by us on the death of Greg. A very big thank you to Fr Matthew for being with Greg the day before he died, and also for his help and support after his death. Thank you too for the beautiful Requiem Mass, to Fr Eamonn Power for concelebrating the Mass, the choir, and of course all the Altar Servers past and present who came to serve. Greg would have been so proud as we all were.

**THANK YOU:** Fr Matthew, Lucy and Felicity would like to thank all those who have given them gifts for Christmas and/or contributed to the Christmas collection. Although it is not possible to thank individuals as many gifts were made anonymously, we are very appreciative of such kindness and generosity.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** The Offertory collection (inc. Standing Orders) for the **last two weekends amounted to £980.10 of which 76% was "Gift Aided" and £ 676.55 of which 71% was "Gift Aided" respectively.** In addition, we received the sum of £400 from one of the group of parishioners who make their donations on an annual basis; all of this was "Gift Aided". Thank you all for your continued generosity and support. Also, since there are significant benefits to the parish if you make your regular donation to the Church by a Standing Order, please consider doing so now.

**RETIRING COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND:** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual "White Flower Appeal" **next weekend (12/13 January).** In common with the Catholic Church, SPUC defends and upholds the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. The Society's work covers a wide spectrum of pro-life, pro-family issues. It seeks to protect unborn children from abortion and

defends the disabled, elderly and incapacitated from euthanasia and assisted suicide. SPUC also provides trained speakers for schools. Please give generously to this worthy cause. But as SPUC is not a registered charity, you cannot "Gift Aid" your donation, so there is no need to use one of your Special Collection envelopes.

**CRIB DONATIONS:** A reminder that all the money placed in the basket at the Crib will be sent to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. The Society provides an early intervention service to children, young people and their families which enables them to address difficulties that may be impeding their educational, social and emotional development. The finance comes from a mixture of sources but without the support of the Catholic community, the vital work done by the Society for children in need could not continue. Please be as generous as you can and, if possible, "Gift Aid" your donation by using one of the special "Gift Aid" envelopes which you can find at the back of the Church. You are invited too to take a moment to pray for those children and families for whom Christmas may be a difficult time.

**ROTAS & DATA PROTECTION:** Would those Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who haven't already completed and returned their GDPR forms, please do so as soon as possible.

**SAFEGUARDING CHECKS:** A reminder too that **it is a requirement** that Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who visit the sick, Catechists, Adult Servers, and members of parish groups which involve visiting or working with young people or vulnerable adults must have been subject to a DBS check. So, if you haven't had your DBS check recently renewed or, if you need one for the first time, please speak to Jane McParland, the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

**REFRESHMENTS AFTER 10.30 AM MASS ON SUNDAY:** Tea & coffee will be available once again in the Hall **after Mass this Sunday, (06 January).**

**ST TERESA'S LADIES GUILD:** With effect from 01 January, and with Fr Matthew's blessing, the previous membership of the Catholic Women's League, Newbury Park Section has re-formed to become the "St Teresa's Ladies Guild". The Guild is open to all women in the parish and will operate as an informal group. It is hoped that this informality will help attract many women of the parish to join. It is also hoped that parishioners generally will continue with their generous support of future fund-raising activities. **The inaugural meeting of the Guild will be at 7.30 pm on Monday, 14 January in the Pastoral Centre.**

**THE TUESDAY COFFEE & PRAYER GROUPS:** The two Groups will reconvene after the New Year **on Tuesday, 15 January**. All are welcome.

**BRING AND SHARE LUNCH:** The lunch, which has become a customary way of ending the Christmas season. **will now take place on Sunday, 03 February**, to celebrate the Presentation of Our Lord (Candlemas). As the event has already been advertised in the parish Christmas Card with the original date, please make a note of the new date and spread the word to anyone who might have seen it in the card.

**BCYS SUMMER LOURDES 2019:** If you are in school Year 10 or above, why not come and join the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service on its hugely popular Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage **which will take place next year from 20 - 27 July**. If you are interested in going but the cost is of concern don't let that put you off as the parish will help with fundraising and financial support. So, do apply as soon as possible – there is no financial commitment at this stage. **Applications can be made (until 31 January 2019) at [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events)** where you will also find more information about the trip.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** Would you please look to see if any of the unclaimed Christmas cards remaining at the back of the Church by the Reconciliation Room are addressed to you. Also, if you see any cards addressed to one of your near neighbours, then please help by taking and delivering the cards to them. **All unclaimed cards will be removed after next weekend.**

**BRENTWOOD NEWS:** Copies of the December edition are now available at the back of the Church. They are **FREE** so please take one home with you and keep up to date with what is happening in the Diocese.

**DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2019:** The Directory for next year is now available from the Repository at the back of the Church priced at £2.75.

**TWIN PARISH:** Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters in the parish of Sacred Heart, Pomeroy, in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa, with whom we are twinned and their new parish priest, Fr Mandla Makhanya. Please pray especially for those who worship at the Nocomboshe outstation, which has been badly damaged in a severe storm.

**BECOMING A CATHOLIC:** If you are feeling drawn to the Catholic faith and would like to begin exploring the possibility of baptism or being received into the full communion of the church if you were baptised in another Christian community or completing the journey of initiation if you have not yet been confirmed, please speak to Fr Matthew as soon as possible. You will not be committed to anything at this stage, only encouraged to seek the gift of faith with an open heart.

**VISITORS:** If you are a visitor to St Teresa's then you are most welcome, and we very much hope you enjoy the service you are attending. If you are a tax payer and would like to "Gift Aid" your Offertory donation, then please use one of the special "Gift Aid" envelopes which you will find at the back of the Church.



**UK POWER NETWORKS:** How would you cope if you had no electricity for a short while? In the rare event of a power cut, you can get help from UK Power Networks. This company looks after the electricity network in our parish (no matter who you pay your energy bill to) and also runs a free Priority Services Register for people with medical needs, families with babies and the elderly. Being on the Register gives you free access during a power cut to services including a welcome pack with useful advice about preparing for a power cut, a home visit by our staff or the British Red Cross and a 24-hour priority phone number. To join the Priority Services Register for extra help during a power cut call 0800 169 9970, email [psr@ukpowernetworks.co.uk](mailto:psr@ukpowernetworks.co.uk), or visit [ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority](http://ukpowernetworks.co.uk/priority)

**ILFORD SUNDAY DROP-IN CENTRE:** Established by the Diocese more than 27 years ago for the homeless, the Centre runs each Sunday in the Small Hall at Ss Peter & Pauls. It has 21 volunteers, 9 men and 12 women. If you can help out once a month, please get in touch. We offer a hot meal and sandwiches for people to take away for later every week thanks to the support of local community groups. Please remember us in your thoughts and prayers over Christmas and we welcome donations however small so we can keep helping those in need. Contact Wendy Taylor [wendytaylor99@gmail.com](mailto:wendytaylor99@gmail.com)

**REDBRIDGE COLD WEATHER CENTRE:** This year the Night Shelter at The Salvation Army, is opening earlier and for longer. To make this possible it needs more volunteers for every evening from 7.00 – 10.00 pm or overnight 10.00 pm - 8.00 am. Overnight volunteers are able to nap when guests are settled! Volunteers can sign up at [www.ilfordshelter.com](http://www.ilfordshelter.com), call 020 8478 2961 or email [ilford@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:ilford@salvationarmy.org.uk)! Please pray for the shelter guests and team in the months to come.

**GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK: Next Saturday, (12 January)**, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed, and it really does save lives. This is the day before the 22nd anniversary of the founding of the Good Counsel Network, for details of our live saving work please visit [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)

**THE GOSPEL OF LUKE:** On Wednesdays 23 and 30 January at 7 pm, Fr Adrian Graffy will lead an exploration of the Gospel of Luke, the gospel being read on Sundays in 2019. These 'Gidea Park Faith Evenings' will take place in the Hall at Gidea Park Catholic Church (410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH). Please book by email to [GPstudydays@gmail.com](mailto:GPstudydays@gmail.com) Refreshments provided. Admission free.

**TRADITIONAL PANTO:** Come to St George's Hall Woodford Ave, Gants Hill and be thoroughly entertained by the Dragon Theatre Company with their production of "Puss in Boots". **Performances are scheduled for Friday, (18 January) at 7.30 pm and Saturday, (19 January) at 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm and at the same times on 26 & 27 January.** Tickets cost £7 (£5 Concessions) and are available from the Box Office on 07960676180 or from [www.dragontheatrecompany.com](http://www.dragontheatrecompany.com)

**ST AUGUSTINE'S PLAYERS** present "Sleeping Beauty" on **Thursday, 31 January, Friday, 01 and Saturday, 02 February** in the Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Mossford Green, Barkingside. Doors will open each evening at 7 pm for 7.30 pm start and at 1.30 pm for a 2 pm start for the Matinee on Saturday. Tickets (£8 with concessions at £6 on Thursday and Saturday matinee only) are available from the Box Office on 0208 554 7747 or via website [www.staplayers.webs.com](http://www.staplayers.webs.com)

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Bank Holiday Monday, 27 May – Friday, 31 May.** Flying from Southend Airport and staying at the 4\* Hotel Grande Moderne on full board basis. Price is £545 per adult based on two sharing a twin room. Children under 12, £420. Full spiritual direction under Fr Alex Poblador. Further details please ring Sue on 07979746707.

**VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT WEEKEND:** Are you a man over thirty, content, but wondering about the direction of your life? Do you sense that you may be approaching a major threshold or turning point? Have you sometimes found yourself wondering whether the priesthood or religious life may be an option? The discernment weekend at St Beuno's in north Wales **from Friday, 30 August to Sunday, 01 September,** will take place in a prayerful spirit and aims to provide some tools for discernment about future choices. It will be mainly in silence but there will also be input and the opportunity for one-to-one guidance. Please contact Fr. Graham Smith on 01702465720 or on [fr.gjdsmith@gmail.com](mailto:fr.gjdsmith@gmail.com) More details and a booking form for the weekend can be found at <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/courses-events-retreats/discernment-weekend-older-men>.

**ST CEDD'S CATHOLIC CLUB: Music every Sunday night from 9 pm,** admission £5. Social Dancing in the Lower Hall every Monday from 8 pm to 9.30 pm – Learn to Jive, Foxtrot, Quickstep, Waltz and Line Dance. Classes £7 (OAP £5).

**ST CEDD'S YOUTH CLUB** is a Youth Club based in the middle hall of St Cedd's Church in Blythswood Road, Goodmayes. For Years 5, 6 and 7, it opens from 6 pm to 8 pm and the Senior Youth Club (for all in Year 8 & upwards), runs from 8 pm to 10 pm. All are most welcome, come along for a game of Table Tennis, Badminton or Pool, play on the PS4s, air hockey or table football, or just come along to listen to music and have a chat. Bring a friend on your first night and you can both join for free. Our youth club has been running since 1974 but without new members we will have to close, please come along and try us during September. Any questions please ring John on 07803116729.

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS:** If you have any items for inclusion in the weekly Newsletter then please email them to Gerry Gillan at [gerry.gillan5@gmail.com](mailto:gerry.gillan5@gmail.com) and copy to [admin@stteresasnewbpark.com](mailto:admin@stteresasnewbpark.com) The copy deadline for including items in the Newsletter **is Thursday 12 noon.** Unfortunately, we cannot guarantee to include all requests we receive in the paper edition but we will make every effort to accommodate articles and insertion requests in the on-line edition including job vacancies.

## Job Opportunities.

**VACANCIES, PALMER ACADEMY:** Vacancies currently exist for a Second in Charge of Religious Education, Student Learning Mentor, Network Manager, Finance & Resources Assistant and HR Officer. Full details of the posts and application forms are available from the Academy's website [www.tpc.cacademy](http://www.tpc.cacademy).

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY** is seeking to recruit, on a full time, fixed term contract to July, a new Admin Assistant to join a small team at the Society's busy National Office in London SE1. For an application pack and further details contact Moira Dawe on 0207 703 3030 or [email moirad@svp.org.uk](mailto:moirad@svp.org.uk) **Closing date for applications is 5.00 pm on this coming Tuesday, 08 January.**

**PREMISES OFFICER:** The Ursuline Academy, Ilford requires a full time Premises Officer. This would suit anyone competent in DIY skills. For further information please see the school website [www.uai.org.uk](http://www.uai.org.uk) or contact the School Business Manager, Mr Mariano Scotti, on [mscotti@uai.org.uk](mailto:mscotti@uai.org.uk) **Closing date for applications is 12 Noon next Sunday, 13 January.**