

Services During the Week

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

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| Sat 23 Feb 6.00 pm | Vigil Mass for the 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Peter Clarke. RIP</i> |
| Sun 24 Feb 08.00 am 10.30 am | The 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Our Parish Community.</i> <i>Mass Dennis O'Sullivan. Intention</i> |
| Mon 25 Feb 09.30 am | Weekday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Billy Regan. RIP</i> |
| Tues 26 Feb 09.30 am | Weekday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Aurea del Castillo-Santiago. RIP</i> |
| Wed 27 Feb 09.30 am | Weekday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Phyllis Lee. RIP Anniversary</i> |
| Thur 28 Feb 09.30 am | Weekday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Kathleen Linge. RIP</i> |
| Frid 01 Mar 09.30 am | St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales <i>Mass Intentions of the Sick</i> |
| Sat 02 Mar 5.00 pm | Weekday in Ordinary Time <i>Holy Hour with Exposition and Confessions</i> |
| Sat 02 Mar 6.00 pm | Vigil Mass for the 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Our Parish Community.</i> |
| Sun 03 Mar 08.00 am 10.30 am | The 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Mass Harry Phillips. RIP Anniversary</i> <i>Mass Mary Britto. 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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Website: stteresasnewpark.com
Parish Priest: Rev Fr Matthew Bemand-Qureshi

The 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C) - 24 February 2019

Last week I began a reflection on the theological virtues of Faith, Hope and Charity, to prepare us for the season of spiritual growth known as Lent, which begins on Wednesday, 6th March. Prompted by last week's readings I started with the virtue of Hope; this week the readings naturally suggest a reflection on Charity.

Charity comes from the Latin 'caritas', which is one of the words used to describe 'love'. In English, the word 'love' has a range of meanings expressing everything from romantic desire to a preference for particular food or activity. We tend to use the word charity to describe an act of generosity to those in need, and organisations dedicated to meeting the needs of others in some form. It can imply an attitude of superiority or condescension, or at least a feeling of relief at one's own relative security; and so, whilst there is still an element of generosity and selflessness it falls well short of the true meaning of 'caritas' and the proper virtue of charity.

Love, in the truest sense of this word, is not an emotion or feeling, but an act of the will. To love another means to will that person's good for their own sake. This definition needs a little unpacking. To will a person's good means to actively choose and desire what is truly good for that person – the greatest good of course being the life God wishes to share with us, for God is love and he is the source of all good. To will that good for the person's own sake means we are not seeking it for any benefit that man come to us.

A virtue is an acquired habit for something good. The virtue of charity therefore is the habit of consistently seeking the good for every person. Every decision we make must be based on a desire to bring about some good for another person. It is not always easy to discern what is truly good – the question of whether to give money to someone who asks for

it is a good example of this – but as long as we are seeing the other person *as a person*, and sincerely seeking his or her good, then we are practicing this virtue.

The theological virtues are those which are only possible with the assistance of grace because they are ultimately directed to God. Human reason leads us to see some virtue in generous, altruistic behaviour; to seek the good of the other entirely for their sake, however, goes far beyond reason. It is the revelation that God is love, and has, for no other reason than love, made us in his image, that leads us to recognise love as a virtue, and the greatest of all virtues. Only by his grace can we love one another as Christ has loved us. Love stands apart even from the other theological virtues as the only one that last for ever (1 Corinthians 13). However, we need to cooperate with grace if we are to acquire these virtues. We grow in the virtue of charity by practicing love in each moment of our lives. Habits begin to be formed early on in our lives, and so the greatest responsibility of parents is to love their children and love each other, thus ensuring that the family is a school of virtue and especially a school of love.

Fr Matthew

Meetings this Week

- Monday:** Confirmation Group in the Pastoral Centre at 7.30 pm
Tuesday: Coffee Morning Group in the Pastoral Centre after Mass.
Legion of Mary in the Pastoral Centre at 7.30 pm.
Prayer Group in the Church at 7.30 pm.
Thursday: FHC Group in the Hall & Pastoral Centre at 7.00 pm

Church Rotas

- This Week: Cleaning** - Team D.
Next Weekend:
Readers - 6.00 pm: Julie. **08.00 am:** Kevin. **10.30 am:** Edna. Ron.
Eucharistic Ministers - 6.00 pm: Michael N, Margaret O'L. **08.00 am:** Kevin, Stephen. **10.30 am:** Mavis, Atilla, Pam, Sylvia, Margaret F.
Small Linen Laundry - Monica. Flowers - Ching & Fay.

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 MARCH: Charlotte Allen, Sofia Delfina Almeida, Francis Amoordon, Billy Brennan, Tony Chainey, John Cahill, Val Carter, Myles Gibbons, Bill Guise, John McGrory, Kathleen Miley, Peter Murphy, Dorothy Newton, Mick Newton, James Nolan, Richard O'Driscoll, Michael O'Neill, Henry Phillips, Charles Roberts, Alice Santos, Maura Swatts and Ann Zammitt.

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.

Parish - In & Around

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: The Offertory collection (inc. Standing Orders) for **last weekend amounted to £998.04 of which 66% was "Gift Aided"**. Thank you all for your continued generosity and support.

PARISH ROTAS: A new rota for Eucharistic Ministers, **effective from next weekend**, is now available at the back of the Church. A copy is also on the Notice Board in the Porch and can also be viewed on the parish website. A new rota for Readers is currently being prepared by Gerry Gillan and he would be extremely grateful if everyone on the current rotas would please let him know as soon as possible of any weekends in the 3-month period to end June **when they will not be available** to undertake their ministry. You can email Gerry at gerrygillan5@gmmail.com or call him on 020 8599 0013.

CONFIRMATION GROUP: The next meeting of the Group will be **on this coming Monday, (25 February) at 7.30 pm** on the Pastoral Centre.

FHC GROUP: The next meeting will take place **on this coming Thursday, (28 February)** with the theme *"We share God's word"*. Parents should ensure their son or daughter is in the Hall by 6.55 pm before going themselves to the Pastoral Centre for a prompt 7 pm start. Don't forget to get your Mass Cards signed!

ASH WEDNESDAY: Did you know that the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made by burning the palms blessed and distributed on Palm Sunday the previous year? If you have some palms at home, you are encouraged to bring them to church and give them to Fr Matthew **no later than next Sunday, (03 March)**. Ash Wednesday itself is on 06 March and Mass will be celebrated on that day, with the imposition of ashes, at 9.30 am and 7.30 pm.

FROM JOSEPH LEE – SHRINES OF FRANCE 2019: Monica and I will be going on pilgrimage to the Shrines of France from the 7th – 14th October. The pilgrimage includes visits to Lisieux, Paris, Nevers, Lourdes, Avignon, Ars and Paray le Monial, where the Sacred Heart of Jesus appeared to St Margaret Mary. If you would like any further information, please contact Celine Bui at Joe Walsh Tours on 02034680617 or e-mail celine.bui@joewalshstours.ie Also, should you wish for me to place your personal petitions at any of the shrines, I would be happy to do so if you give them to me in sealed envelopes.

VOTIVE CANDLES: Please be extremely careful when lighting votive candles and only use those provided on the stand.

LEAVING A LEGACY: Once you have made provision for your loved ones, leaving a gift in your Will to your church is one of the most valuable and lasting ways you can continue to support the mission and ministry in your community. A gift can be an expression of your gratitude and thanksgiving towards God, and can help keep your local church alive, and help transform its future. If you are minded leaving a legacy to St Teresa's Church in your Will, then please speak to Fr Matthew who can advise on the form of words to use.

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 parish priest, Fr Mandla Makhanya.

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.



BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: Children and families are now able to access direct therapeutic support in one of its clinics. Sessions take place after school or at an evening clinic at the BCCS counselling suites in Rayleigh. Their highly experienced counsellors provide support directly to the whole family or to children and adolescents on a 1:1 basis. If you are concerned that your child may need someone to talk to, please contact Catherine on cmunns@bccs.org.uk. There is a sessional charge, so please enquire.

PRAYERFUL MOMENTS: You are invited to come and spend some time with the Lord in the Adoration Chapel at Ss Peter & Pauls Church, Ilford. The Chapel, which is located in the Porch, **is open from 10.00 am till 10.00 pm Monday to Friday**. Our Lady's Grotto and Prayer Garden is also available by the side of the church as well. There is a pay car park by the side of the Church. Regular visitors to the Church may request a free parking permit from the parish office. Further details can be found at ssppilford.org.uk

CALLING ALL YOUNG CATHOLICS: 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 **Deadline for applications is this coming Thursday, (28 February).**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: The World Day of Prayer, formally the Women's World Day of Prayer, will be held at St Peters Church, Aldborough Hatch **at 2 pm on this coming Friday, (01 March)** and all are welcome.

BCCS ANNIVERSARY CONCERT: BCCS is delighted to announce that the Northern Irish classical singing trio 'The Priests' have agreed to hold an Anniversary Concert for us **on Saturday, 15 June at the Brentwood Cathedral at 7.30 pm.** Early bird tickets are available now at a special price of £15 plus booking fee **until this coming Friday, (01 March)** after which all tickets will be £20 plus fee. All tickets can be purchased directly through Eventbrite – www.eventbrite.co.uk - look for The Priests under Event, or, click the link on our website www.bccs.org.uk under Our 35th Anniversary/Anniversary Events. We expect this to be a sell-out event and would urge you to book early in order to avoid disappointment.

CALAIS LIGHT: Would you like to help vulnerable migrants in Calais but don't know where to start? We run weekend car convoys from Brentwood Cathedral with the **next trip being over next weekend (01-03 March).** This we'll be supporting a different charity, Care4Calais, who go out with their volunteers to distribute aid, clothes & food to refugees. Please think about this & volunteer with us. Sign up to volunteer on our "Calais Light" Facebook page, or email calaislight@yahoo.com or visit www.calaislight.com. If you can't, please donate with compassion at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/calaislight.

LONDON 40 DAYS FOR LIFE PRE-CAMPAIGN HOUR OF PRAYER: Led by Monsignor Keith Newton, **from 6 pm-7 pm on Tuesday 05 March**, Outside Marie Stopes Abortion Centre, 108 Whitfield Street, London W1T 5BE (nearest tube: Warren St – Northern/Victoria lines) Through God's Grace 40 Days for Life have saved the lives of over 15,000 babies from abortion. For further information please call Sarah on 07776256838 or email london40daysforlife@hotmail.com

COLCHESTER LENT TALKS (with guest speakers) will be held at St James the Less and St Helens church **every Friday starting on 08 March - 12 April at 7.30 pm** in Cardinal Bourne Hall, Priory Street. Admission Free. All are welcome.

THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY is holding an Anniversary Charity Ball to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of its founding. The Charity Ball is their largest and most glamorous event of

the year and takes place at The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge **on Saturday, 09 March.** Tickets are on sale now, costing £55 per person, which will include a drinks reception and three course dinner along with a full evening of entertainment. Guests will be seated on tables of 12, making it the perfect opportunity to get together with friends, family or colleagues, have a fantastic night out whilst at the same time raising vital funds for BCCS. As tickets for this event sell out quickly, please contact Julie asap to avoid disappointment on 01268 784544 /07912277413 or email jabbott@bccs.org.uk

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO POPE FRANCIS: A study day on this theme will be held at the Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, **on Saturday, 16 March.** Six years after his election, we look at Pope Francis' efforts to bring renewal to the Catholic Church. The speaker will be Fr Alban McCoy OFM Conv, who is Dean of St Edmund's College, Cambridge. The day begins at 11 am and ends at 3 pm. Admission is free, and refreshments will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. Please make your booking by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com

CATHOLIC TEACHING: Two fantastic opportunities from the Agnus Dei Teaching School Alliance. The first **on Thursday, 21 March** - "Get Into Teaching - Catholic Education" is a drop-in event in Billericay for anyone considering a career in teaching (primary or secondary) who wants to find out more about training and employment opportunities. The second **on Saturday, 06 April** - "Moving Into Catholic Education" is a Saturday networking event with a free lunch provided in Brentwood for teachers working in any non-Catholic school. For more details please contact <http://tiny.cc/catholicteaching> or email agnusdei@stbons.org

SPONSORED SLEEPOUT: Help get the homeless out of the cold! This winter Catholics are leading projects providing 45,000 nights of care, warmth and shelter for the homeless in Essex and East London. Support them! Join 1000 people from across the Diocese sleeping outside for the night at Walsingham House at Abbotswick **on 12-13 April.** No tents! Just you and a sleeping bag. Open to all ages, from 15+. Sponsorship target of £100/participant. Why not ask your company to match fund your sponsorship? Money will help local homeless charities and the work of the BCYS with young people. Mass at 11.15 pm, sleep out Midnight – 7am. Full details and sponsor forms <https://bcys.net/events/sponsored-sleepout-walsingham-house-abbotswick/>

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY has several charity places for The Vitality London 10K run **on Monday, 27 May.** This May Bank Holiday event has a lovely atmosphere and takes in many of London's iconic landmarks, finishing in front of Buckingham Palace with all the event

facilities, food and entertainment close by in Green Park. For each place, we ask for a pledge to raise a minimum sponsorship of £100 before Gift Aid. For further information, please email Julie at jabbott@bccs.org.uk or call her on 07912 277413.

THE GENDER AGENDA: What does it mean to be male or female? How – and why – are the two sexes different? Come and explore a Catholic perspective at a conference sponsored by the Association of Catholic Women **on Wednesday, 12 June** at St Mary Moorfields, Eldon Street London EC32M 7LS. Tickets cost £15.00 to include a buffet lunch. Send cheque made out to Association of Catholic Women to ACW, Flat 2, Salamander Court, 135, York Way. London N7 9LG.

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 **next year 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 More details and a booking form for the weekend can be found at <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/courses-events-retreats/discernment-weekend-older-men>.

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND: From 07-14 May with the parishioners from Holy Family Church, Dagenham, led by Fr Stephen Myers. Cost is £1363 per person including flights with El-Al. This price includes half-board accommodation based on shared rooms with private facilities and two lunches. Contact the Parish Office on 020 8592 1634 for further information.

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Bank Holiday Monday, 27 May to Friday, 31 May with St Helen's, Westcliff on Sea. Flying from Southend airport and staying at the 4* Hotel Grande Moderne on full board basis. Price £545 per Adult based on two sharing a twin room. For further details please ring Sue Baillie on 07979746707.

PILGRIMAGE TO SAN GIOVANNI, ASSISI AND CASCIA: Join the parishioners from Our Lady of Canvey Parish for 6 nights/7 days **from Saturday, 14 to Friday, 20 September** following in the Footsteps of St Padre Pio, St Francis, St Clare and St Rita. Cost £899. For any queries or for more information please call Cathy on 01268 691323 or 07885577342.

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 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.

THE URSULINE ACADEMY, ILFORD is seeking to recruit individuals to join their team of Invigilators to start in April. If you are interested in one of these posts, then please apply at uai.org.uk **before Wednesday, 27 March**.

THE URSULINE PREPARATORY SCHOOL ILFORD: The Academy is seeking to recruit a part-time Facilities Assistant with an immediate start. Application packs are available from Helen O'Loughlin, at holoughlin@urspsi.org.uk or telephone 020 8518 4050, or via the School website www.urspsi.org.uk