

SERVICES & MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sat 23 Mar	Vigil for the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
5.00pm	<i>Holy Hour</i>
6.00pm	<i>Avelyn Kearney. RIP Anniversary</i>
Sun 24 Mar	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
08.00am	<i>Our Parish Community</i>
10.30am	<i>Dilly Firmin. RIP (Service begins in the Parish Hall)</i>
Mon 25 Mar	Monday of Holy Week
09.30am	<i>Chris & Aimee Arearakis. Intentions</i>
Tue 26 Mar	Tuesday of Holy Week
09.30am	<i>Bernadette O'Reilly. Intentions</i>
Wed 27 Mar	Wednesday of Holy Week
	NO MASS
	THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM
Thu 28 Mar	MAUNDY THURSDAY
10.00am	<i>Holy Hour</i>
8.00pm	<i>Mass of the Lord's Supper – Fr David's Intentions</i> <i>(Adoration at the Altar of Repose in the Hall until Midnight)</i>
Fri 29 Mar	GOOD FRIDAY
09.30am	<i>Office of Readings & Morning Prayer.</i>
10.30am	<i>Children's Stations of the Cross</i>
3.00pm	<i>Solemn Liturgy of the Passion</i>
7.30pm	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
Sat 30 Mar	HOLY SATURDAY
9.00pm	<i>The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night – Our Parish Community</i> <i>(Service begins outside by the Parish Hall)</i>
Sun 31 Mar	EASTER DAY
08.00am	<i>Dennyse & Sid. Intentions</i>
10.30am	<i>Mercedes & Ray Blake. 50th Wedding Anniversary</i>

This week the Church Porch will remain open for private prayer each weekday (except Wednesday) until approx. 5pm.

Exposition & Confessions will take place on Thursday from 10.00am.

Follow Fr David on Facebook: [stteresasnewburypark](https://www.facebook.com/stteresasnewburypark)

Read the Newsletter at www.stteresasnewburypark.com

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR MOBILE PHONE IS SWITCHED OFF/TURNED TO SILENT WHILE YOU ARE VISTING THE CHURCH. ALSO, PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE AWARE OF THE POSITION OF THE EMERGENCY FIRE EXIT DOORS IN THE CHURCH.



PARISH NEWSLETTER

St Teresa's Catholic Church

The Presbytery, Brook Rd, IG2 7JA

Parish Priest: Rev Fr David Pearce

Tel 0208 590 2414

Email: newburypark@brcdt.org

Website: stteresasnewburypark.com

Parish Office Hours: Mon & Tue 10.30am - 2pm; Fri 10am-1pm
Reg Charity 234092



PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (YEAR B) - 24 MARCH 2024

Dear Parishioners,

I have a confession to make. One of my many faults is that I am sometimes absent minded. Because St Patrick's Day fell on a Sunday last week it was not marked in the Church's calendar and I forgot all about it at the 8.00am Mass before I was, quite rightly, reminded afterwards. I apologise to all of our Irish parishioners – my late mother would be appalled!

We are now approaching the crescendo... of our celebration? It seems a strange thing to celebrate but in one sense it is a climax. Some people say that forty days are too long. I read recently that the custom in the early church was for those to be baptised to fast for a few days but this fast extended to the current forty days to mirror Christ's fasting in the desert. Christ was preparing for his public ministry – and what a task that was! We too are preparing. The apostles were told in the great commission: "Go ye and make disciples of all nations". What an ask! We can't all do that but we can preach in our own circles in our own way. St Francis of Assisi is alleged to have said: "Preach the gospel and use words if necessary." We don't have to be eloquent. In many ways actions do speak louder than words. I was once "warned" that people don't lapse from the faith due to liturgy, although that may cause them to start frequenting another church. Unkindness in a priest is the most devastating fault – please advise me if I ever stray! Hence, we can all preach through compassion, understanding and above all empathy.

How does this relate to Holy Week. Our Lord gave up his life – but he gave it willingly to show obedience to his Father and to save us. Such is our value – this should fill us with a sense of our own dignity. Yet this should be tempered with awe.

It makes me think of the time I first went to the Waterford Crystal factory showroom. I was struck by the beauty and terrified by the idea of damaging anything that beautiful. We were given a beautiful soul at baptism – each time we sin we tarnish it. Now the little sins, the venial ones, can be washed away when we receive Holy Communion. The mortal sins require us to go to Confession; yet when we go, we receive mercy and healing.

I would encourage all of you to consider coming to this sacrament. I am always gentle but for those of who would rather not confess to your Parish Priest then there are plenty of others nearby. The disciples on the Road to Emmaus rushed back to Jerusalem to share the good news only to be told "We know [that he has risen] – he has appeared to Simon". Think of Simon his closest friend and the joy he felt after receiving forgiveness for his sins. Think of yourself greeting your risen saviour on Easter Sunday with a pristine soul. Our Lord beckons... will you answer?

May God bless you all. *Fr David*



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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK Please pray for those in our community who are sick and housebound, especially all the patients in Goodmayes, King George's and Queen's Hospitals and all the sick Priests of the Diocese. **If you would like a sick family member or friend to be included in the "Prayers for the Sick", please speak to Fr David or contact the Parish Office.**

SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL If anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is vitally important to let Fr David 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 435000; at Whipps Cross Hospital, 8520 5877).

CHURCH ROTA

This Week: *Cleaning - Team A Altar Linen - Cheryl Offertory Counters - Michael /Sid*

30-31 Mar: *Readers for Easter Weekend - Please see Notice Board in the Porch.*
Eucharistic Ministers - Please see Notice Board in the Porch.
Flowers - All available members of the Flower Group.

ALTAR SERVERS' EASTER TRIDUUM REHEARSALS There will be a rehearsal for altar servers for the Easter Vigil on the morning of Saturday, 30th March at 9:30am. For the Holy Thursday and Good Friday services if servers can please arrive 20 - 30 minutes early for a brief run through.

REFRESHMENTS AFTER 10.30am SUNDAY MASS The members of St Teresa's Ladies Guild are taking a two-week break and teas & coffee will once again be available in the Hall immediately after the 10.30am Mass **on Sunday, 07 April.**

"RICH MAN POOR MAN" MEAL Many thanks to everyone who came along and supported this fundraising event **which raised £327.00.** This, together with a donation from the Parish Community Fund, means that we shall shortly be able to present to the Ilford Sunday Drop-in Centre a cheque for £500.

ST TERESA'S LADIES GUILD EASTER RAFFLE Many thanks to everyone who bought raffle tickets and/or Easter novelties last weekend in aid of the Guild's fund for charitable causes. **The amount raised totalled £300.75** and the individual prize winners were £30 M&S Gift Voucher - Tricia Callaghan; Easter Egg - Dennyse Ramuite; Chocolates & Wine - Maire Jeffries. Congratulations to them all.

HOLY WEEK POSTERS Holy Week Posters, produced annually by the Knights of St Columba are at the back of the church. Please take one home with you and display it prominently as a witness to the importance of this great week.

EASTER FLOWER COLLECTION There will be a collection after all Masses **this weekend** for flowers to decorate our Church over the Easter season. With the help of your generous donations, we feel sure our church will look lovely for this special feast. Remember, your donation may be "Gift Aided", so, if you use the envelope scheme, please use one of your "Special Collection" envelopes. Taxpayers can also use one of the special light blue "Gift Aid" envelopes or specially marked "Flower Donations" envelopes which you will find at the back of the Church.

PRAYER WHEN YOU ARE UNABLE TO BE AT MASS

Dear Guardian Angel, go for me to the church, there kneel down at Mass for me. At the Offertory, take me to God, and offer Him my service: What I am, what I have, offer as my gift. At the Consecration, with your seraphic strength, adore my Saviour truly present, praying for those who have loved me, for those who have offended me, and for those now deceased, that the blood of Jesus may purify them all. During Holy Communion, bring to me the Body and Blood of Jesus uniting Him with me in spirit, so that my heart may become His dwelling place. Plead with Him, that through His sacrifice all people throughout the world may be saved. When the Mass ends, bring home to me and to every home, the Lord's blessing. Amen.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

The following traditional prayer is commended to those who are prevented from receiving Holy Communion at the present time.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

**Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace You as if You were already there and
unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.**

Job & Volunteer Opportunities

SCHOOL VACANCIES All Brentwood Diocesan Catholic School Vacancies (of which the Education Services Department are aware) are posted on the Diocesan website-<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

THE URSULINE ACADEMY is looking for:

- an Exam Invigilator, casual working hours.
- Teacher of Biology (ability to teach Health & Social Care desirable. MPS Outer London. 3 or 4 days per week. Closing date 12pm Wednesday 2 March
Please see www.uai.org.uk/vacancies for further information

SUPPORTING YOUR CHURCH Provided your circumstances allow it, please try to support the parish financially even if currently you are unable to attend Mass. Your continued generosity is much needed and, of course, greatly appreciated. Ideally, we would prefer all donations to be made by a Standing Order through your bank. This is by far the best way for the parish to receive your offering as well as providing a steady income as there are no cash handling fees and we still receive your donation should you be on holiday or miss Mass. Also, please Gift Aid your donation if you are able to.

FOSTERING IN REDBRIDGE There are over 300 children needing to spend time in foster care each year in Redbridge alone. If you would like to find out more about fostering for Redbridge, please email fostering@redbridge.gov.uk or call us on 020 8708 6068. Alternatively, join our next information session. Visit <https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/fosteringfaith> to book a place.

APF/MISSIO RED BOXES If you wish to take part in this vital fundraising activity to help finance the overseas missions, boxes can be found at the back of the church together with other Missio literature. Please help yourself.

CAR PARKING Please park responsibly and take care not to obstruct emergency access to the church.

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.

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 David who can advise on the form of words to use.

MAINTENANCE MATTERS If parishioners have any suggestions for works/defects which they think need attention either in the Church, Parish Hall, Pastoral Centre or grounds then please let Fr David or the Parish Secretary know either directly, or by email to newburypark@brcdt.org. Suggestions will be considered and prioritised according to urgency and available funds.

PARISH HALL All enquiries about the booking arrangements for and conditions of hiring the Parish Hall should be addressed to Sid James, the Hall Manager. He can be contacted on 07887983310 or by email at cjf65@btinternet.com

PARISH ON FACEBOOK The Parish has a Facebook page - simply search for 'St Teresa's Newbury Park' or go to facebook.com/stteresasnewburypark. *If you use Facebook, please 'like' this page to keep up-to-date with what's on in the parish - this is also a simple way of giving witness to your Catholic faith.*

PARISH WEBSITE The website is an ideal medium for sharing with fellow parishioners' photos of various Parish events. So, if you have organised or attended a parish event and have some great pictures, please send them to newburypark@brcdt.org and we'll try and put them on the website for everyone to see and enjoy. Also, if you would like a copy of any of the photos on the website then please email newburypark@brcdt.org

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 taxpayer and would like to "Gift Aid" your Offertory donation, then please use one of the special blue general purpose "Gift Aid" envelopes which you will find at the back of the Church.

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

NEWSLETTER ITEMS If you have any items for inclusion in the weekly Newsletter then please email them to newburypark@brcdt.org **The copy deadline for including items in the Newsletter is Thursday, 12noon.**

GIFT AID" ENVELOPES If you currently use the parish "Gift Aid" envelopes for your Offertory donations, your box of envelopes for the coming financial year will be available for collection from the Pastoral Centre after all Masses **this weekend**. Pat Callaghan, who looks after the parish finances, will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about the "Gift Aid" scheme itself or on how to set up a Standing Order for your Offertory donations, the preferred donation method as it minimises the cash handling processes and, importantly, also ensures that we receive a regular income from you all year round even when you are away from the parish. Finally, if you are a taxpayer and currently don't use the "Gift Aid" scheme, then please consider doing so now. It's a wonderful way of supporting your Church and Parish and makes a huge difference to parish funds. And it won't cost you a penny more - that's a promise!

LENTEN ALMSGIVING Please remember to bring back your CAFOD box to the Church **on this coming Thursday (Maundy Thursday) for the Mass of the Last Supper**. If you cannot attend this Mass, then please remember to bring the box back at any Mass over Easter period and place it in one of "Collection Baskets" as you leave church.

GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION **The retiring collection on Good Friday** is traditionally the annual international collection for the Church in the Holy Land. Remember, your donation may be "Gift Aided", so, if you use the envelope scheme, then please use one of your "Special Collection" envelopes. Taxpayers can also use one of the special light blue "Gift Aid" envelopes which you will find at the back of the Church.

EASTER OFFERTORY DONATIONS Please remember that at all the Easter Vigil & Day services, your normal "Offertory Donation" **is your personal gift to Fr David**. Together with your gift at Christmas, your donation at Easter forms the major source of his income over the year. All cheques should be made payable to "St Teresa's Catholic Church". Donations may be "Gift Aided" so, if you use the envelope scheme, please remember to use the one marked "Easter Offering". If you can't find the envelope there are some spares at the back of the church. If you don't belong to the envelope scheme but are a taxpayer, you can also use one of the special light blue "Gift Aid" envelopes which you will find at the back of the Church.

TUESDAY MORNING COFFEE GROUP is taking a short break over Easter. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday 9 April** in the Pastoral Centre.

SANCTUARY LAMP *Next week* the lamp by the Tabernacle will be burning in loving memory of Hazrath Mohammed, RIP. If you would like to offer a candle to be placed in the Sanctuary Lamp for your own private and personal intentions, please put your donation (£2.50 min) in an envelope marked "Sanctuary Lamp" and the intention and place it in the Repository Box marked "Candles" at the back of the Church. Do take advantage of this truly wonderful and prayerful way to place your intentions before Jesus, our Eucharistic Lord, truly present in the Tabernacle.

PALMER PARTNERSHIP NEWS: Our parish is part of the Palmer Partnership comprising the parishes of St Peter & Paul, St John the Baptist, St Cedd, St Teresa and St Bede. We had our first joint council meeting this week and decided to have a gathering of catechists, readers and eucharistic ministers from the parishes. If you are involved in one of these ministries, you are invited to St Cedd's hall on **Saturday 22 June from 14.00-16.00**. More details to follow nearer the time.

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL Youth Mass, Thursday 4th April 2024 - Celebrating the Easter week with a Praise and Worship Music Workshop. Meet in the Parish Hall from 6pm for pizza and refreshments, before being lead in a music workshop with Art Wangcharoensab from the Cathedral music department. Singing is a wonderful way of praying together, sharing our talents and celebrating our faith, particularly in the joyful week following Easter Sunday! You are welcome to sing, bring an instrument or just listen if you prefer! At 7:30, Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral, where you are also welcome to sing, play, read or serve (just bring along an alb or instrument.) All information can be found at www.bccys.net **Absolutely everyone is very welcome!**

ST JOHN VIANNEY, CLAYHALL is holding an afternoon of Divine Mercy Devotion on Divine Mercy Sunday, 7 April 2024. Starting at 1pm and ending with Mass at 5pm, it will comprise Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of St Faustina's Praises, the Litany of the Divine Mercy, the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and the Holy Rosary, prayers and time for Confession. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome at St John Vianney Catholic Church, 1 Stoneleigh Road, Clayhall IG5 0HE. Parking available, nearest TfL station Gants Hill, buses 123 and 179 pass nearby, also bus 462 slightly further away.

CONCERT FOR ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP Come and enjoy an exciting variety show of music and entertainment, to raise money for the camp, which provides holidays for over 100 children. The camp is restarting in 2024, under the umbrella of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood. The fundraising concert is on **Saturday, 13 April 2024 - New Windmill Hall, Upminster. 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Wine and refreshments included.** Adult tickets £10; children £5. Bookings by phone: 07957382592. Online bookings and more details: www.boscocamp.co.uk/events

HARLOW WATER TOWER ABSEIL The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) are looking for thrill seekers with a passion for fundraising to take part in Harlow Tye Rotary's annual Harlow Water Tower Abseil on Saturday 18th May 2024. For all details, please visit our Harlow Water Tower Abseil webpage here: <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> To secure your spot, a £35 entry fee will be paid to the Harlow Tye Rotary Club, with all funds raised through your efforts being donated to BCCS. Please reach out to Charlotte: cwalker@bccs.org.uk / 07986841178 to sign up!

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY will be hosting a very special Anniversary Afternoon Tea at the Roslin Beach Hotel, Thorpe Bay, Southend-on-Sea on **Tuesday 23 April 2024** at 1pm for service at 1.30pm. They are delighted that Bishop Alan, BCCS President, will be attending as guest of honour. Tickets for the event are £34.00 per person and should be purchased before Monday 8th April directly from their event webpage: <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> or by clicking on their secure payment form here: <https://form.jotform.com/240354018762352> Once you have purchased your tickets, please advise Julie of any special dietary requirements or seating requests by contacting her by email jabbott@bccs.org.uk or call her on 07912 277413. Guests will be seated at tables of 12.

CATHOLIC PARISH SUMMIT The Catholic Parish Summit is taking place in Harrogate from the **12 -14 June** with over 1,000 parish leaders from across the country. Our diocese has booked some places for the Summit which are available to anyone who is interested in attending. These places are free but they are limited and you will need to make arrangements for accommodation while you are in Harrogate. For more information about the Summit please visit their website: <https://catholicparishsummit.com/>. If you would like to find out more please email Father Dan Mason, the Episcopal Vicar for Parish Renewal at billericay@brcdt.org

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA 7-14 June Organised by A Day with Mary. £870 .00 per person twin room, £950 Single room. All rooms are en suite. Pilgrimage cost includes: Return Flights, Chartered coach travel, 6 days full board accommodation, 1-day half board. Booking Form with full details available on request at www.adaywithmary.org

VOLUNTEER AT THE ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP from **27 July - 3 August** help give 100 children a holiday. Helpers must be 18+, and the Camp will arrange for a DBS check, and appropriate training. To help at the Bosco Camp is a wonderful experience, but there are limited places. Applications open until the end of March. Details: <https://boscocamp.co.uk/volunteer-applications>

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

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 David 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.

BAPTISM PREPARATION If you are expecting a baby or have a baby for baptism in the next couple of months, please speak to Fr David who will help you make the appropriate arrangements.

PARISH BANKING DETAILS The key details for direct payments to the parish bank account are Account Name: **Catholic Church, Newbury Park; Sort Code: 40-13-22; Account No: 71019716.** Also, please remember that all cheques should be made payable to **"St Teresa's Catholic Church"**.

KIDS BULLETIN A children's version of the gospel is available weekly. This can be accessed on the following website www.thekidsbulletin.com and is aimed at primary school children. **MASS REQUESTS** Importantly, if you want a Mass said on a particular day or for a particular intention it is advisable to give the Parish Secretary **about 6 months' notice.** Special "Mass Request" envelopes are available at the back of Church. Please use one for each request and place your donation within it. All cheques should be made payable to **"St Teresa's Catholic Church"**. Alternatively, you may request a Mass by emailing newburypark@brcdt.org with all the details and send your donation direct to the parish bank account – see account details above quoting the reference **"Mass Stipend"**.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS If you have made your First Communion and wish to start training as an altar server, please speak to Fr David.

LIFTS TO CHURCH For some people getting to church, whatever the weather, is a genuine concern. It may be that some of you are in a position to offer a lift or would very much like a lift to church, particularly when the weather is bad. This is also a good way of getting to know others in the parish. Whilst those who can walk to church are generally encouraged to do so, if coming by car means you can bring someone else who can't so easily get here then it would be very commendable to do so. If you are able to offer a lift to someone on a regular basis, or if you could really do with a lift to church, please contact the Parish Office. If we can find a suitable match, we will then facilitate an introduction

HOLY SOULS The practice of offering the holy Mass for the repose of the souls of our departed relatives and friends originates in the early church and is deeply rooted in our catholic culture. Both as an act of charity and as a practical act of mercy, we might also care to remember in this way all the forgotten souls in purgatory. The Donations box on the counter at the back of the church by the Repository has a section that is marked for the "Holy Souls". All the donations put into that part of the box are used exclusively for Masses to be said for the Holy Souls here in St Teresa's or, are sent to Missio, for the Masses to be said in a mission diocese overseas.

HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED If any families or individuals in our parish community are experiencing serious hardship at present please contact Fr David in confidence: thanks to the donations accumulated over time specifically for those in need, he may be in a position to offer some support.

POOR BOX The Donations box on the counter at the back of the church by the Repository has a section that is marked for the "Poor". All the donations put into that part of the box are used exclusively to help those in need especially those who occasionally call at the Presbytery seeking assistance. Any contributions would, of course, be most welcome and gratefully received.

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 Khulekani Dube.

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

NEWSLETTER ITEMS If you have any items for inclusion in the weekly Newsletter then please email them to newburypark@brcdt.org **The copy deadline for including items in the Newsletter is Thursday, 12noon.**