



Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea
St John Fisher
Prittlewell

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PARISH NEWSLETTER
25th February 2018 – Second Sunday of Lent (B)

My dear friends

Every year on this second Sunday of Lent we hear one of the accounts of the Transfiguration of Christ: the glory of the Lord is revealed, and Jesus talks with Moses and Elijah in the presence of some awestruck apostles. It is a small glimpse of the destination of the Lenten journey, Christ's risen glory. It gives hope that we might reach that same destination, the abolition of death and the bringing to light of life and immortality through the Gospel. For our Lenten journey to be effective and fruitful, we need to have our destination in mind. There is, of course, a danger of losing sight of it, of turning our eyes away. We need Christ to lift us up, to take away our fear. We should have eyes for him only. We try, through our Lenten penances, to be detached from the things of this world and not to fix our faces on the earth, but rather keeping our vision fixed on the Christ who touches our very lives.

Father Graham

RCIA

The next meeting will be on Thursday 1st March, in Sacred Heart Hall, straight after the 6.30pm Mass.

First Holy Communion Children's Mass

We welcome our First Holy Communion children who will take a special part in the 11.00am Mass at Sacred Heart this weekend.

CAFOD Family Fast Day: Friday 23 February

Last Friday was CAFOD's Family Fast Day and we were asked to either give up a meal or eat a simple meal to be in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world who don't have enough to eat. With malnutrition still killing almost three million children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat. If you were unable to fast on Friday perhaps you would consider having a simple meal one day this week and donate what you save to the work of CAFOD.

This Lent, your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. Twice the number of children can have the opportunity to grow up healthy and strong.

Coffee and Cake - St John Fisher

Please join us in the hall next Sunday, after Mass, for homemade cakes, sausage rolls and filter coffee in aid of the parish maintenance fund. We look forward to seeing you all.

Church and Hall Toilets

We have had a serious problem with blocked drains at Sacred Heart which resulted in raw sewerage coming up through the man hole cover. Please do not put any wipes (including ones described as flushable), sanitary products, nappies or whole toilet rolls down any of our toilets.

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 14th May at 7.00pm in Sacred Heart Hall. Please pick up a form from the church porch to register for the course and request the Baptism. **Please note that in order for a child to be baptised, at least one of the parents must be a baptised catholic and a copy of the parent's baptism certificate must be attached to the application for the child's baptism. Parents are expected to attend a Preparation Course prior to the baptism of each of their children.**

Some Future Dates.....

- ... Deanery Lenten Talks at Nazareth House – up to 15th March (see later in the newsletter for details)
- ... Deanery Lent Reconciliation Service – Monday 12th March at Sacred Heart and 7.30pm
- .. Palm Sunday – Sunday 25th March
- ... Easter Sunday – Sunday 1st April
- ... Ascension of the Lord, **Holyday of Obligation** - Thursday 10th May - Mass at 9.30am at Sacred Heart and 7.30pm at St John Fisher.
- ... Confirmations – Sunday 20th May
- ... First Holy Communion Masses – Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th June – Mass at 2.00pm on both days.
- ... Ss Peter and Paul, **Holyday of Obligation** - Friday 29th June - Mass at 9.30am at Sacred Heart and 7.30pm at St John Fisher.

Sponsor John Smith for Cancer Research and Marie Curie

John Smith is participating in the Swimathon 2018 to raise money for Cancer Research and Marie Curie. If you wish to donate please go to the just giving page at:- www.justgiving.com/fundraising/John-Smith130

Thank you from Anita Chaplin

Thank you to everyone who sponsored Anita for her recent "Brave the Shave" in aid of McMillan Cancer Support. She raised £1033.31!

Stations of the Cross During Lent

There will be ample opportunities to pray the Stations of the Cross in our parish during Lent. They will be on Friday (straight after 9.00am Mass at Sacred Heart), Saturday (straight after 9.00am Mass at St John Fisher) and on Sundays (4.00pm at Sacred Heart). The exception to this is on Sunday 25th February when we will join the congregation of St Luke's Anglican Church for Ecumenical Stations of the Cross at 4.30pm at St Luke's Church, St Luke's Rd, Southend-on-Sea SS2 4AB.

Deanery Lent Talks at Nazareth House, 111 London Road, Westcliff SS1 1PP

All talks are on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm and will end with devotions and Benediction. Priests will be available to hear confessions. The Theme is 'The Ministries to which we are called'.

Thursday 1st March - 'Be it done unto me...' - Brian Holt, President of the Comitium for the Legion of Mary

Thursday 8th March - 'Here I am Lord' - Fr. Graham Smith, Parish Priest of Southend and Prittlewell and Diocesan Director of Vocations

Thursday 15th March - 'The Pastoral Formation of our Young People Abbotswick and Beyond...' - Fr Dominic Howarth

Faith Study Group

The next meeting will be on Thursday 8th March at 1.30pm. For further details please call Sandy Stidston on 01702 467188. Everyone is very welcome.

Appeal for Raffle Prizes and Bring and Buy Sale Items

If you have any items to donate, please give them to an usher at Sacred Heart or place in the box under the repository at St John Fisher. Donations will be used for fundraising for the Parish Maintenance Fund.

Appeal from the SVP

A local family need two single beds and a small wardrobe. If you can help please ring Pete on 01702 300870

New Craft Club at Sacred Heart!

Come along to Sacred Heart Hall on Friday afternoons from 12 noon to 3.00pm and bring your crafting project (knitting, crochet, card making etc). Sit, chat, have a cuppa, keep on crafting and enjoy! £2.00 admission per session. Tea/coffee and biscuits included. All proceeds to the Parish Maintenance Fund. If you have any queries, please contact Maddie on 07837 215757.

The first meeting will be on this coming Friday - 2nd March. All welcome - come along and bring your friends!

Sponsor Milo to Chop the Mop

Many of you know Milo Rouillion; he's best friends with Marcus McCarthy, an 11 year old who, as well as being a pretty awesome kid, also has cerebral palsy. Back in October 2015, Marcus had a major spinal operation called Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) which is the only surgical procedure that permanently reduces or eliminates stiffness and spasticity in the legs, and the results since have already shown massive improvements. To continue improving, Marcus has regular specialist physiotherapy, costing a total of £23,000 which will enable him to one-day walk unaided. So far the charity **Move a Mountain 4 Marcus** has raised an amazing £15,000 but there's still another £8,000 to go.

Milo wants to raise as much money as possible for Marcus, so he is asking you to sponsor him get his hair cut. He'll Chop the Mop on Friday 2nd March even though he has been growing it for 2 years and loves it so much! (As well as raising money for Marcus, Milo will also donate his hair to The Little Princess Trust; a charity that provides real hair wigs free of charge to children and young adults up to the age of 24, who have sadly lost their own hair due to cancer treatment and other illnesses.) If you would like to donate to this wonderful cause, please go to to www.justgiving.com/moveamountain4marcus or Text MMFM91 £5 to 70070.

Sacred Heart Red Missio Boxes

Please collect your empty red box from the Church porch.

Thank you from the Knights of Saint Columba

At our recent charity breakfast in aid of Sacred Heart & Saint John Fisher Maintenance Fund, through your fantastic generosity, you helped us raise £466.52 - thank you.

Next Edition of the Parish Magazine

To be published the weekend 24th and 25th March – This is your magazine and we solely survive with your submitted articles. The deadline for articles is Sunday 11th March.

Sacred Heart Film Club Presents – Murder on the Orient Express (Cert. 12)

Wednesday 7th March in Sacred Heart Hall – Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm screening. When a murder occurs on the train he's travelling on, celebrated detective Hercule Poirot is recruited to solve the case. Starring Kenneth Branagh, Penelope Cruz and William Defoe but there are just too many stars to mention. Free entry and usual refreshments available. Bring your friends and neighbours. If you need a lift please inform Sandy, Liam or Paul or phone Liam 07952 954833 or email: liam.rand@btopenworld.com

Shroud of Turin Exhibition – Our Lady Immaculate Church, Chelmsford

An exhibition about the Shroud of Turin, including a full sized replica of the Shroud, will take place at Our Lady immaculate Church, Chelmsford from 5th to 11th March. The exhibition opens with Mass at 7.30pm on Monday 5th March. Each day there are confessions, Stations of the Cross and Mass. The week culminates with Mass at 12noon on Saturday 10th March. The exhibition will remain in place on Sunday 11th March. The church is open from 7am until 8pm each day. If you would like to know more about this, please contact the parish office on 01245 352898, or simply come along to church that week. Everyone is very welcome.

Fr Graham is planning to visit the Exhibition on Monday 5th March and be there for the 7.30pm Mass. If you would like to go with him please either email the Parish Office or put your name and contact details on a piece of paper and put through the Sacred Heart Presbytery letterbox. It is hoped that some people will drive and offer lifts to others who want to go.

2018 Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Bishop Alan will lead our annual pilgrimage from Monday 23rd to Saturday 28th July. We shall be accompanied by an experienced medical team and there is plenty of help for those with mobility needs. The pilgrimage is no less ideal for couples, individuals, and groups of friends; all are welcome. There is a full programme to opt in and out of. Brochures are now available in the porches. For more information or for a brochure, please 'phone the pilgrimage administrator Cathy O'Connor: 01206 735623.

FOSH - Quiz Night

Feeling clever then come along to our Quiz night, Friday 16th March at 7.30pm in the school hall. The price includes either a hotdog, hamburger or fish finger sandwich, but please bring your own drinks and nibbles. £7 an adult & child £3 (with a maximum of 8 in a team). You don't have to have children in the school to join in the fun, everyone is welcome. Please see Michelle Truter- Banks 07982 429691.

Are You Going into Hospital?

If you go to hospital, make sure you tell the staff that you are Catholic and that you would like a priest to visit, otherwise the Chaplain has no way of knowing that you wish a visit. If you know of a relative or friend who is in hospital, make sure your parish priest knows, and he can arrange for the Chaplain to visit. The Chaplain for Southend Hospital is Fr Gerry Drummond, who can be reached through the hospital switchboard at 01702 435555.

Collections of Food and Toiletries

	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	3 rd and 4 th March	Coffee, teabags, sugar and toiletries.
Foodbank	24 th and 25 th February 10 th -11 th March	Tinned vegetables and strong carrier bags (eg "bag for life")

Lost Property Items in St John Fisher Hall

There are lots of "lost property" items in the hall (as you walk from the hall into the back room) – please have a look and if any of it is yours, please take it home as soon as possible.

Regular Bookings for Sacred Heart Hall

Sacred Heart Hall is available for hire on a regular weekly basis. If you know of any groups (eg slimming clubs etc) that may be interested in booking the hall, please ask them to contact Sue in the Parish Office.

Women's World Day of Prayer 'All God's Creation is Very Good'

This year's Women's World Day of Prayer will be on Friday 2nd March at 10.30am at The Salvation Army, Clarence Street, Southend. Praying for Suriname. A Service for Everyone. Please come along and be part of a great wave of prayer encircling our globe.

Suriname is a beautiful country in South America. This year the women of Suriname urge us to cherish God's exquisite gift of Creation and commit ourselves to caring for God's world responsibly, so that we may pass it on, unspoiled, to future generations. 'Lord God, listen to our prayer. Masra Gado, arki ie begi.'

Holy Hour to Pray for Vocations

Wednesday 28th February at 7.30pm at Brentwood Cathedral. Fr Martin Boland (Dean of Brentwood Cathedral) will share his vocation story. If you can't make it to Brentwood for the Holy Hour, please consider praying for vocations at that time.

Beginning Experience

This is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner. From 20th to 22nd April at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex. Details available from Freda 01322 838415, Sandra 01293 783965 or email johnabrotherton@hotmail.co.uk.

Preparing for Holy Week

On Wednesday 7th March from 7.00pm to 8.30pm, Fr David Manson will be presenting a talk entitled 'Preparing for Holy Week'. This 'Gidea Park Faith Evening' 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. Refreshments provided. Admission free.

World Youth Day, 16th – 30th January 2019

Travel with the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service to Costa Rica and Panama; gather with over a million young people from across the world, together with our Pope. Age 17(school year 12)-27 when we travel. Cost £1,750. More details of this "once in a lifetime" opportunity at www.bcys.net, email frdominic@dioceseofbrentwood.org or come to the information evening on Sunday 18th February 5.00-8.00pm, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, Nr Brentwood, CM14 5SH. Places are limited.

Government Consultation about Banning Pro-Life Vigils Outside Abortion Centres

The Government has launched a consultation as part of their plans to move pro-life vigils away from abortion centres. Since 2012, over 1000 women have kept their babies in London alone through help offered at these vigils. There have been no arrests, charges or evidence of harassment or intimidation at these vigils. Please defend the vigils and reply to the National Consultation before 19th February. You can post a response to: Abortion Clinic Protest Review Team, Police Powers Unit, Home Office, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF Or by email at ACPReview@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk You can respond by completing the online survey at <http://bit.ly/2Bsqr4q> For more information see www.goodcounselnetwork.com or call us on 020 7 723 1740.

Conscientious Objection (Medical Activities) Bill

This Bill has been tabled in the House of Lords. The Pro Life Research Unit are trying to build the profile of the Bill in the Commons by encouraging MPs to sign [Early Day Motion 861](#), which will allow MPs to show their support for the Bill and encourages the Prime Minister to give it the necessary time to be debated in the Commons. Please contact your MP and ask them to sign the Early Day Motion.

Across trip to Lourdes – June 2018

The Southend Across group has two spaces on the JUMBULANCE for any male pilgrim who, through I'll health or disability requires care and support. We leave for Lourdes on June 14th and return on June 23rd. For more information on costs etc., please contact Sheila Hussey on 07929241469

Retreats at Walsingham

Men's Silent Retreat: Finding God in Daily Life (8th -11th March). This is for adult men, single or married, of any age. It will be directed by a priest and a lay man from Opus Dei. Meditations and talks will be given on the central themes of the Catholic faith.

Walsingham Spirituality Retreat 1 (16th – 18th March). Join us for the first of a series of 4 weekends on Walsingham Spirituality. Accompaniment and talks will be given by the sisters of the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham, enabling retreatants to enter more deeply into the spirituality of Walsingham and, in particular, what it means to accept God's Will in one's life.

For more information about either event, please visit: www.dowryhouse.org.uk.

National Novena to St Joseph – Invitation to Submit your Petitions

This will take place from 11th – 18th March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and Herbert House in Liverpool. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer. Please write to Fr Liam Cummins, MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead SL6 7HT or e-mail novenamhm@gmail.com.

Easter Triduum Retreat for those aged 19-27

Experience the Holy Week liturgies in the tranquil and beautiful setting of Walsingham House at Abbotswick, with a programme that will weave reflection and prayer with a deeper understanding of each liturgy, in the company of other young adults. From the stillness of Adoration on Holy Thursday evening to an Easter Vigil

finishing with champagne and chocolates, we hope this will be a Triduum celebration to live in the heart and mind for the year ahead. £30 covers meals and accommodation 7.30pm Thursday 29th March – 9.00am Easter Sunday morning. Maximum 35 places – apply soon. Full details & online application at www.bcys.net

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) – London 10K Run

BCCS has several charity places for The Vitality London 10K run on Monday 28th 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 registration fee of £30 and a pledge to raise a minimum sponsorship of £200. If you have your own place in the race, we would love to have you on our team; we won't set a sponsorship target, but any funds you can raise for us would be hugely appreciated. For further information, please contact Julie at jabbott@bccs.org.uk or 07912 277413

Money

Offertory – Sunday 18th February 2018

£1194.86

There will be a second collection this weekend for CAFOD Lent Fast Day

Eileen Lovas RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eileen Lovas who died on 11th February. Her Requiem Mass will be on Friday 23rd March at 10.45am at Sacred Heart.

Pat Davidson RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pat Davidson who died on 10th February. Her Requiem Mass will be on Friday 2nd March at 2.30pm at St Gregory's, The Broadway, Thorpe Bay.

Jane Barker RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jane Barker who died on 15th February. Her funeral service will be at Sacred Heart on Wednesday 14th March at 2.00pm.

John Stewart RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Stewart who died on 29th January. His funeral will be on Thursday 15th March at Southend Crematorium at 2.40pm.

Christina Coath RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Christina Coath who died on 14th February. Her Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 22nd March at 12 noon at St John Fisher.

Patrick Moroney RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Patrick Moroney who died on 16th February. His funeral arrangements are not yet known.

Sr Mary Barry RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Sr Mary Berry (former Headteacher of Holy Family Catholic Primary School in Benfleet) who died in Derby on 16th February.

Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, especially; for Jack Allen, Val Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Marie Biner, Andrew Bines, Julie Borg, Barbara Briggs, David Bunce, Richard Campbell-Carr, Eric Carpenter, Sena Carson, Jenny Chappell, Paul Clark, Ann Cummings, Mary Curtis, Emily Davis, Bernadette Dawson, John Dermody, Richard Dixon, Pam Dobson, Helen Escott, (baby) Harleigh Farrar, Roy Fitchew, Katie Fitzpatrick, Dorothy George, Lesley Gooze, Paul Gunn, Anthony Herman, Joseph Honeyands, Katie Honeyands, Ann Husk, Bartley Igoe Jnr, Teresa Igoe, Alex Jackson, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Tony Lee, Elaine Liddon, "Dana" Danuta Luniewski, Ron Newman, Barbara Ann McLoughlin, Joy May, Carol Middleton, James Moloney, Dr Johnson Odufuwa, Margaret Parsad, Mary Rand, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Irene Reynolds, Jane Richardson, Anita Rogers, Geraldine Scraggs, Kaisha Secre, Jane Smart, Michael Smith, Daniel Snelling, Bill Spencer, Geraldine Stephens, Patricia Walford, Jenny Warren and Monty Wood.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Peter Murphy, Nellie Carpenter, Canon Aloysius Roche, James Pywell, Walter Ford, William Harty, Mgr Jules Van Meenen, Mary Gallagher, Thomas Butler, Ernest Tobias, Ethel Inge, Winifred Britton, Fr David Chapman, Norbert Donbavand, Thomas Tweedie, Ann Christmas, Roberto Bonora, Fr John Wall, Angela James, Hilda Frampton, Valerie Hunt, Keith McBrearty, Christine Gretton, William Wright, Marietta Nottage, John Frain, Thomas Griffiths, Doris Laguna, Marie Richardson, Reg Serjeant and Marcy Cooksey.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 24th February	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Peter Murphy RIP</i>	
Sunday 25th February	Second Sunday in Lent	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am (with the First Holy Communion Children) <i>People of the Parish</i>	9.00am <i>Kathleen Horvers RIP</i>
		4.30pm Ecumenical Stations of the Cross at St Luke's St Luke's Rd, Southend-on-Sea SS2 4AB	
Monday 26 th February	Feria	9.00am <i>Lila May Vickers RIP</i>	
Tuesday 27 th February	Feria		9.30am <i>Kathleen Horvers RIP</i>
Wednesday 28 th February	Feria	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group (in the hall) 12 noon <i>Miklos Lovas RIP</i>	
Thursday 1 st March	St David	6.30pm (followed by RCIA in the hall) <i>Jean Moulding RIP</i>	
		7.30pm Deanery Lent Talk at Nazareth House 'Be it done unto me...' - Brian Holt, President of the Comitium for the Legion of Mary	
Friday 2 nd March	Feria	9.00am followed by Stations of the Cross <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i>	
		10.30am Women's World Day of Prayer Service at The Salvation Army, Clarence Street, Southend.	
Saturday 3rd March	Feria	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am followed by Stations of the Cross <i>Doreen Murphy RIP</i>
Saturday 3rd March	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm (to include the First Scrutiny of our RCIA candidates) <i>People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 4th March	Third Sunday of lent	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Don and Florence Fell RIP</i> 12.30pm Baptism <i>Aurion McKenzie</i> 4.00pm Stations of the Cross	9.00am <i>Keith McBrearty RIP</i>

The Angelus will be recited 5 minutes before Sunday (and Saturday 5.30pm) Masses from next weekend.

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 6.30pm when there is evening Mass.

Morning Prayer begins 15 minutes before weekday Masses

Mass Text for 25th February – Second Sunday of Lent (B)

Entrance Antiphon Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

First Reading Genesis 22: 1-2. 9-13. 15-18

Psalm Psalm 115:10,15-19 response Psalm 114

Response: **I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

1 I trusted, even when I said 'I am sorely afflicted.'

O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.

2 Your servant, Lord, your servant am I; you have loosened my bonds.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make: I will call on the Lord's name.

3 My vows to the Lord I will fulfil before all his people,

In the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem.

Second Reading Romans 8: 31-34

Gospel Acclamation Glory and praise to you, O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel Mark 9: 2-10

Communion Antiphon This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Next Sunday's Readings

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalm 18:8-11 response John 6:68

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

John 2:13-25