



Sacred Heart
Southend-on-Sea
St John Fisher
Prittlewell

Parish Priest. Fr Graham Smith
The Presbytery
418 Southchurch Road
Southend-on-Sea
Essex SS1 2QB
01702 465720
parish@catholicsouthend.org.uk
www.catholicsouthend.org.uk

PARISH NEWSLETTER

30th September 2018 – Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year (B)

My Dear Friends

In today's Gospel, the disciple John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. Previously in Mark's Gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped Jesus' words to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers, and they do not want to share the power of Jesus' name with others. Jesus teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others. Later in this Gospel, Jesus teaches us not to create obstacles for those who are just beginning to have faith but to encourage even the smallest signs of faith. In vivid terms Jesus teaches his disciples the consequences to those who would put obstacles before people who are on the road to faith. So let us laws remember what Jesus teaches that whoever is not against him is for him.

Fr Graham

*** The Alpha Course starts this coming Thursday at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall ***

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or learning more about your Faith?

If so, please join us for the

ALPHA Course followed by the ABC (About Becoming Catholic) Course

The Alpha Course will run from Thursday 4th October until Christmas and, for those wishing to become Catholic, **CONTINUE as the ABC Course** in the New Year until Easter 2019. New Catholics will be received into the Catholic Church at Easter 2019.

In our Alpha course we explore some of the really important questions of life and look at the basic questions of the Christian faith surrounding the person of Jesus Christ.

For those who are interested in becoming Catholic – they must attend both the Alpha Course and the ABC course.

All sessions will be on Thursday evenings in Sacred Heart Hall at 7.30pm (ie. straight after the 6.30pm Mass.)

If you are thinking of becoming a catholic, please complete an application form **up to question 6** and bring it to the first session on 4th October. Application forms are available in the Church porch or from the Sacred Heart Presbytery.

Appeal for "Caterers" for the Alpha Course

We would like to be able to offer a meal to the people attending the Alpha Course. Are there any cooks out there who are willing to volunteer to cook a meal for one or more of the sessions? We are looking for "one-dish" meals for example lasagne or shepherd's pie. The cooking can either be done in Sacred Heart Hall kitchen or done at home and then warmed up at the Hall. The meals will be needed for twelve Thursday evenings starting on 4th October. If we get enough volunteers, we hope to set up a rota. If you can volunteer, please contact Theresa Donaghy on 01702 306893 or 07956 628213.

Advertising the Alpha Course

Thank you to everyone who took leaflets last weekend. There are still quite a few roads that have not been taken – **please take a bundle to cover a road or area near where you live.**

First Holy Communion 2019

This is for children in school year 3 and above. Application forms are available in the porches. Before handing in the application form, you will need to attach the child's baptism certificate. If the child is not a baptised catholic, you will need to attach a copy of the catholic parent's baptism certificate. If you do not have the relevant baptism certificate, please obtain a duplicate from the parish of baptism.

If you are from a non catholic family then one or both of the parents will need to become a catholic. This is done by following the ALPHA and ABC course (detailed earlier in this newsletter) – the first session of which is on Thursday 4th October. The family will also be expected to regularly attend Saturday evening or Sunday morning Mass.

The closing date for applications is Sunday 11th November (but non catholic families will need to join the Alpha-ABC course on 4th October). The initial parent's meeting is on Monday 19th November at 7.30pm in Sacred Heart Hall.

CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 5 October

On Family Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to share in the abundance that GOD has given us. We are asked to fast, pray and give help to people like Longora, who lives in a remote village in Uganda. The area is hot and dry, people used to struggle to get enough clean water to survive. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners in England and Wales, CAFOD has made sure Longora and her neighbours now have a reliable supply of clean, safe water.

On Family Fast Day (Friday 5 October), CAFOD invites us to eat simply - perhaps having a bowl of soup instead of a meal - and give the money we save to help people like Longora. Please give what you can. There will be a second collection next weekend.

Harvest Festival - St John Fisher - Sunday 7th October

We have, as a parish, always supported the needs of the poor around the world and within our own community and have, at this time of year, given additional help to HARP, who provide food for the homeless in this area. The harvest donations help them to stock their cupboards for the forthcoming winter months.

We invite you to donate 'one' item of non perishable food and place it in the Harvest Box in the porch.

Please also join us for home made cakes, sausage rolls and coffee in the hall after Mass. All proceeds will be sent to CAFOD.

Faith Group - A new study programme 'The Pivotal Players'

Would you be interested in learning more about the lives and faith of some of the most important people who have shaped the church and changed the course of civilization? If your answer is yes, why not come along to the Faith Group which resumes on Thursday 4th October, with an exciting new DVD 'The Pivotal Players' which explores the lives of six of Catholicism's most influential figures: St Francis of Assisi, St Thomas Aquinas, St Catherine of Siena, Blessed John Henry Newman, G K Chesterton and Michelangelo. The DVD has been described as an opportunity to "deepen our understanding of the Faith and be inspired in new and lasting ways". Everyone is welcome to join us for one or all of the sessions. Refreshments are provided.

We meet the first Thursday of the month (during term time) 1.30pm - 3.00pm. For further information please call Sandy Stidston on 01702 467188.

Tea, Cake and Reflection Afternoon at St John Fisher Hall

The next meeting is on Friday October 12th at 3.00pm. Please read the Gospel for the 28th Sunday of the year - Mark 10: 17-30. See you there.

St John Fisher Bring and Buy Sale

On Sunday 7th October after Mass. Come and buy some bargains in aid of the Parish maintenance fund. Donations of good quality goods always welcome. Please place them in the box under the repository table in St John Fisher Church. We collected £68, on the September Sale, for the parish maintenance fund. Thank you very much for your continued support.

New Youth Choir at Sacred Heart

If you are school year 4 and up and interested in music and singing, come along to our Youth Choir practice on Sunday mornings at 10.15am in Sacred Heart hall. Any questions to Lucy Wake on 07975 506646.

Applications to Catholic Schools - September 2019 intake

If you will be applying to a Catholic School for a place in the September 2019 intake you may want to obtain a Certificate of Catholic Practice. This will only be issued to families known to your Parish Priest, who are practising Catholics and the child has been baptised. (The child's baptism certificate will need to be shown to the Priest when asking for the Certificate of Catholic Practice.) For the purposes of the Certificate of Catholic Practice, a person is deemed to be a practising Catholic if they observe the Church's precept of attending Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation (see Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraphs 2041 - 2042).

If you want to request a Certificate of Catholic Practice from Fr Graham, please see him after Mass next weekend to arrange an appointment. (Appointment lists will not be at the back of the Church this year.)

In the meantime, please ensure that you already have the child's baptism certificate. If you do not have it, please **URGENTLY** request a duplicate from the Parish of baptism.

Sacred Heart Film Club Presents - Three Billboards outside Ebbing, Missouri (Cert 15)

Wednesday 3rd October in Sacred Heart Hall. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Mildred Hayes, a hard-nosed mother is seeking justice for her murdered daughter. With no arrests after seven months, Mildred puts up three roadside signs to goad Ebbing police chief into action. But the law - and especially Sam Rockwell's hot-headed deputy - don't take kindly to the provocation. And the townsfolk are on their side. But Mildred doesn't care about ruffling a few feathers. In fact, she's happy to pluck the whole bird.

Parish Christmas Fayre – Saturday 1st December – Appeal for Donations

Do you knit or sew clothes and gifts? Do you make jam? Do you pickle your own onions? If you do, please consider making some extras and donating them to the Christmas Fayre.

We are also looking for donations of toys or gifts for the "Christmas stalls". Our Tombola stall needs donations of wines and spirits and also a selection of beers.

Please donate what you can. At St John Fisher please give your donations to Charmaine, Karen, Helen or Malcolm. At Sacred Heart please give your donations in to the Sacristy.

Date for you Diary – Craft Fayre at Sacred Heart

Run by the Craft Group in Sacred Heart Hall on Saturday 24th November – details to follow!

Appeal for Baby Hangers

The Craft Group are busy making items to sell for the Maintenance Fund and need some baby hangers on which to display hand knitted items. If you have any you no longer need, please give them to Theresa Igoe or June O'Driscoll at Sacred Heart or Karen at St John Fisher.

Meal at East Asian Restaurant – Tuesday 16th October

The Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group invite you to join us for our final fundraising bash for Milly Wake, our dear friend who passed away in February of last year. Any monies raised will go towards sending members of our parish to Lourdes. It's on Tuesday 16th October at East Asian Restaurant, in Alexandra Street in town at 7.30pm. £15 per person for an "Eat as much as you Like" buffet. Drinks available at the bar, paid for separately. There will be a raffle on the night and we really hope you can make it. Please contact Marianna 07813 207497 or Madeleine 07837 215757 to book your place, or see a member of the Prayer Group after Mass. We still have a few copies left of Milly's Book for £5 if you're looking for an early Christmas gift.

Southchurch & Prittlewell Parish Players Present 100 years since the end of WW1

Please join us on Sunday 11th November to honour those that gave their time and some their lives for our future. We will sing, remember and celebrate this very special anniversary. More details to follow but please save this extraordinary date.

Collections of Food and Toiletries		
	Dates	Priority Items
HARP	6 th -7 th October	Coffee and sugar. <i>(Due to previous generous donations, HARP currently have enough tea bags and toiletries.)</i>
Foodbank	29 th – 30 th September	Tinned potatoes or packet mash

Some Future Dates.....

All Saints Holy Day of Obligation - Thursday 1st November. Mass will be at Sacred Heart at 9.30am and at St John Fisher at 7.30pm.

Christmas Sing-a-Long - Sunday 9th December at 7.30pm in St John Fisher Hall.

Carols by Candlelight – Sunday 16th December at 6.00pm in Sacred Heart Church.

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. If the priest does not know what ward you are in, he will need your date of birth so hospital staff can tell him where you.

"Let it be done unto me according to your word" – Sessions at Nazareth House

"Mary once gave us the Saviour of the World, today she helps us to be filled with the Spirit of God". Join the Deanery Stewards of the Gospel Group for an inspiring TV quality exploration of Mary, past and present. Filmed on location in Walsingham, the Holy Land, Ephesus, Rome, Montserrat, Lourdes and Knock. Six sessions starting on Monday 8th October at Nazareth House – 7.30pm start in the main hall. Each film is around 25 minutes long to be followed by a Q&A discussion. Entrance is free but donations towards the running costs of Nazareth House would be welcome.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society

Children and families are now able to access direct therapeutic support in one of our clinics. Sessions take place after school or at an evening clinic at our counselling suites in Rayleigh. Our 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.

St. Thomas More High School - Open Days

Thursday 18th and Friday 19th October by appointment. Telephone 01702 344933- for parents who have a son due to transfer to secondary school in September 2019 - come and see the school during a normal school day, meet the staff and pupils.

Parents of boys who wish to apply for a place from September 2019 should complete the Local Education Authority single application form (SAF) and fill in the supplementary information form (SIF) that can be collected from the school or downloaded from the website www.st-thomsmore.southend.sch.uk.

Beginning Experience

There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner. From Friday 5th to Sunday 7th October at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell. Details from Freda 01322-838415, Sandra 01293-783965 or johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk.

Calais Light

Ever felt you'd like to help the destitute migrants in Calais but not known where to start? We run regular weekend car convoys from Brentwood Cathedral to chop veg & sort refugee donations at the amazing Help Refugees UK Warehouse in Calais. Never mind the reasons WHY migrants are in Calais -the fact is they are there now - without resources, hungry, struggling. We feel strongly that part of our Christian mission is to support them one way or another. Please think about this and volunteer with us. If you can't, please donate so we can keep helping them at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/calaislight. Next Trip 30th November-2nd December. Sign up to volunteer or donate on our Facebook page 'Calais Light', or on our website calaislight.com or email us at calaislight@yahoo.com or check out the Brentwood Cathedral Website.

Governance Development Officer Vacancy Brentwood Diocesan Education Service

Details are available on the Diocesan Website in the Education section under Vacancies or can be requested by calling Sophie Russell on 01277 265284. The deadline for applications is 9.00am on Thursday 4th October.

The Catholic Church and the European Project

A study day on this theme will be held at the Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH on Saturday 6th October. The speaker will be Fr Ashley Beck, priest of the archdiocese of Southwark, and Senior Lecturer in Pastoral Ministry at St Mary's University, Twickenham. The day begins at 11 a.m. and ends at 3 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided. Please bring your own lunch. Please make your booking by email to GPstudydaeys@gmail.com

Money

23rd September 2018 Offertory

£1058.90

There will be a second collection next weekend for CAFOD Harvest Fast Day.

Mary Rand RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Rand (mother of Liam Rand) who died on 6th September. Her Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 2nd October at 11.00am.

Frank Maguire RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Frank Maguire (former Director of the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society) who died on 5th September. His funeral will take place at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Leigh-on-Sea on Wednesday 10th October at 10 a.m.

Sick Parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and friends, especially; Valerie Armitage, Charmaine Arnold, Christina Arnold, Marie Biner, Guilda Brett, Barbara Briggs, William Bryan, Eric Carpenter, Alfossina Carson, Richard Campbell-Carr, Patricia and Richard Dixon, Pamela Dobson, Helen Escott, Harleigh-Jo Farrar, Roy Fitchew, Paul Gunn, Peter Hopkins, Bartley Igoe Jr, Maria Kintu, Peter Last, Margaret Lee, Bernard Lovell, Jacqueline Lovett, Joy May, Peter May, Sheila Norris, Sister Marika Rebicsek, Anita Rogers, Maria Scinto, Geraldine Stephens and Jenny Warren.

Rest in Peace

Please remember and pray for those who have died, especially those whose anniversaries fall about this time: Ethelreda Faircloth, Betty English, Queenie Lloyd, Enid Chapman, Henry Dixon, Teresa Olszowska, Fr Bernard Wakeling, Brian Dwyer, Harry Diston, William Witt, Edward Rice, Bessie Brown, John Sheridan, Moses Haroutyan, Audrey Girvan, Mary Bragg, James Hayes, George Ford, Canon William O'Neill, John Lynch, Patrick Lynch, Edward Lynch, Royston Clemesha, Catherine Mitchell, Fr Michael Hopkins, Nancy Pilbeam, John Shanahan and Kathleen Persighetti.

Mass Text for 30th September 2018 –Twenty Sixth Sunday – B

(Divine Office Week 2)

Entrance Antiphon All that you have done to us, O Lord, you have done with true judgement, for we have sinned against you and not obeyed your commandments. But give glory to your name and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

First Reading Numbers 11:25-29

Psalms 18:9, 10, 12-14 response v 9

The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

- 1 The laws of the Lord is perfect, it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted, it gives wisdom to the simple.
- 2 The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.
- 3 So, in them your servant finds instruction; great reward is in their keeping.
But who can detect all his errors? From hidden faults acquit me.
- 4 From presumption restrain your servant and let it not rule me.
Then shall I be blameless, clean from the grave.

Second Reading James 5:1-6

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, alleluia. Your word is truth, O lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

Gospel Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Communion Antiphon: Remember your word to your servant, O Lord, by which you have given me hope. This is my comfort when I am brought low.

Next Sunday – Genesis 2:18-24, Psalm 127 response v5, Hebrews 2:9-11, Mark 10:2-16.

Masses and Services		Sacred Heart	St John Fisher
Saturday 29th September	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>People of the Parish</i>	
Sunday 30th September	Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Chris Sammon RIP</i> 12.30pm Baptism <i>Lorenzo Lodge</i>	9.00am <i>Franco Giudici RIP</i>
Monday 1 st October	St Theresa of the Child Jesus	9.00am <i>Jerry O'Driscoll RIP</i>	
Tuesday 2 nd October	The Holy Guardian Angels	11.00am Requiem Mass <i>Mary Rand RIP</i>	
Wednesday 3 rd October	Feria	10.00am Stella Dawson Child Friendly Prayer Group (<i>in the hall</i>)	10.00am <i>James and Louisa Mary Twort RIP</i>
Thursday 4 th October	St Francis of Assisi	6.30pm <i>Eileen McHugo RIP</i> 7.30pm – The Alpha Course in the Hall	
Friday 5 th October	Feria	12 noon <i>Intentions of Yvonne Amadi</i>	
Saturday 6 th October	St Bruno	10.00am to 10.45am Confessions	9.00am <i>Sister Josephine Mary (Miller) on the occasion of her Diamond Jubilee</i>
Saturday 6th October	First Mass of Sunday	5.30pm <i>Intentions of Patrick Amadi</i>	
Sunday 7th October	Twenty Seventh Sunday of the Year	9.00am <i>Polish Mass</i> 11.00am <i>Don and Florence Fell RIP</i> 12.30pm Baptism <i>Sophie Campbell</i>	9.00am <i>People of the Parish</i>