

WEEKDAY / SUNDAY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

SUNDAY	8.00am	MASS - Eileen Warren RIP
15 th May	9.30am	MASS - Ints Sisters of Mercy (Institute)
	11.30am	MASS - Paul Quinn RIP
	6.30pm	MASS - Quinn family (deceased) (Browne O'Connor)

FERIA

MONDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Adoration
16 th May	9.00am	MASS - Rosemary Rafferty RIP

FERIA

TUESDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Adoration
17 th May	9.00am	MASS - Rose Millward RIP

FERIA

WEDNESDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Adoration
18 th May	9.00am	MASS - Private Ints (M)

FERIA

THURSDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Adoration
19 th May	9.00am	MASS - Yolanna Salvatore Duranti RIP

FERIA

FRIDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Adoration
20 th May	9.00am	MASS - Ints Kathy Brooks and family

FERIA

SATURDAY	8.30am	Morning Prayer and Adoration
21 st May	9.00am	MASS - Madge Woolnough RIP
	6.30pm	MASS - Madge and William Fowler RIP

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

SUNDAY	8.00am	MASS - People of Parish
22 nd May	9.30am	MASS - Ints Erin Hindley
	11.30am	MASS - Mr & Mrs C Gomez & Mr & Mrs E de Silva RIP
	6.30pm	MASS - Carmel Benson RIP

OUR LADY OF LOURDES
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
Sunday 15TH May 2022



"I give you a new commandment: love one another."

PARISH TELEPHONE NUMBER – 020 8989 2074

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Website: www.ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com

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Pastoral Team - Reverend Patrick J. Sammon, Adrian Lowe
Pastoral Assistants - Carmel Docherty, Frank Adesegha.
Eileen Crotty - Parish Secretary
Chair of Parish Council - Fiona Christison
OLOL Site Manager - Bernie Dando
Pastoral Centre Caretaker - Camille Mouquet
Catechetical Co-ordinator - Michaela Mouquet
Headteacher OLOL School - Ruth Boon

Father Adrian Writes

Dear friends,

How did Jesus really look? It is a question that comes up from time to time. Apart from him wearing a cloak with tassels in Matthew 14:36 and Luke 8:43 - 44 there is no information in the gospels about Christ's looks and really, descriptions of biblical figures are very scarce - we do not know what Abraham looked like, apart from being somewhat advanced in age - 100 years old when his first son was born and 175 when he died!

When we read a novel, the author usually gives us a description of the characters, it helps us form an image in our minds and imagine the story that is being told. This does not seem to have been the concern of writers of scripture apart from a few exceptions. In Genesis, we are only told that Rebekah was 'very beautiful' and described as nimble of movement (Gen. 24:15-21). We know only that Jezebel, Ahab's pagan queen "painted her eyes and arranged her hair" (2 Kings 9:30). Absalom was handsome in appearance with a large mop of hair (2 Sam. 14:25,26). And we're told that Saul who became King of Israel was a head taller than his fellow Israelites (1 Sam. 9:2). In the New Testament, we learn of Zachaeus only that he was short in stature (Lk. 19:3); Bartimaeus was blind (Mark 10:46); and we infer that the apostle, John, was likely slight of build because he was a good runner (John 20: 3,4). Saint Paul is often depicted in art looking very wise and somewhat majestic with a sword, showing the means of his martyrdom, but there is a description of him outside of scripture in a work called *The Acts of Paul*, 'A man of middling size, and his hair was scanty, and his legs were a little crooked, and his knees were far apart; he had large eyes, and his eyebrows met, and his nose was somewhat long.' We learn a few more things about Paul from his writings, he seems to have had difficulty with his eyesight as his writing was large, 'See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand' (Galatians 6:11). We also learn that although Paul he was a brilliant letter writer, his preaching may not have been that good: in the second letter to the Corinthians, he writes that people consider his speaking to be of little account!

The reason that physical descriptions in the bible are so few is because for the writers of scripture it is not a person's appearance that is important but their hearts and motivations. In fact, it is the heart that is the core of the physical, the moral and spiritual life, 'Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God' says Jesus in Matthew 5:8.

In our world which is obsessed with appearances, where people's looks and standards of dress are constantly analysed and criticised, perhaps it is a relief to go to the bible where it is the heart of the person who counts and is loved and cared for by God.

God bless

Father Adrian

PARISH FINANCES - PAYMENT METHOD

Contributions to the parish can be made online via the Diocesan website at:

www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=wanstead or by

scanning the QR code shown here with your smartphone and

selecting "General Offertory". You can, if you prefer, make a

payment directly into the parish bank account using online

banking. You will need to set up the OLOL Wanstead Parish as a

payee on your online banking app or internet page. The Parish Bank

details are as follows - Bank: HSBC - Account Name: Catholic Church Wanstead Our Lady

of Lourdes - Account number: 71018973 Sort Code: 40-13-22. You can also use contactless

giving using your phone's QR reader and the QR codes shown on posters in the Parish

Centre and also on the OLOL website which provides further detail.

<http://www.ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com/offertory-donations>



WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK / DATES FOR THE DIARY	
Monday 16 th May	1.30pm-3.30pm NHS Retirement Group (Hall)
Tuesday 17 th May	11.00am-12noon Meditation Group (Hall)
	4.00pm-6.30pm Tutor Groups
Wednesday 18 th May	Teas after 9.00am Mass
	7.00pm-9.00pm Pilates (Hall)
Thursday 19 th May	3.00pm-7.00pm Perform (Hall)
	4.00pm-6.00pm Tutor Groups
Friday 20 th May	3.00pm-6.00pm Perform (Hall)
	7.30pm SVP Meeting (Booker Room)

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The Baptism Preparation Course comprises of two sessions held in the Pastoral Centre Hall at 7.45pm on Thursday evenings every second month as detailed below:

July 7th and 21st
September 8th and 15th November 3rd and 17th

LATE VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD A vocation discernment weekend for men between the ages of 30 and 55 will take place at St Beuno's in North Wales from Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th September 2022. The direct link for further details and booking: Discernment Weekend <https://www.pathwaystogod.org/courses-events-retreats/discernment-weekend-older-men-2>

DIOCESAN NEWS/VACANCIES

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR YOUNG WOMEN: 27-29TH MAY 2022 IN LIVERPOOL

If you are wondering if God is calling you to religious life and would like to find out more why not come along? You are welcome to stay for the weekend or just come along on Saturday for the day. There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and to meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them.

For more information contact sr lynne fcj at lynnefcj@hotmail.com or visit our website www.fcjsisters.org

PREVENTION OF COVID 19 - The virus is still being transmitted in community.

- Everyone attending Mass or services in Church is urged to wear a mask covering nose and mouth at all times.
- Use the hand sanitisers on entry to the Church.
- Anybody with any Covid, flu-like or cold-like symptoms, cough, sneezing, runny nose, sore throat, temperature, lack of smell etc., should **not** attend Church.

Thank you for continuing to wear masks in congregated settings to help protect those of us who are vulnerable due to age, illness or compromised immune systems.

THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Bishop Alan will lead the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 24 – 29th July; a time to pray at the Grotto of Our Lady and enjoy the opportunities of this experience. You can book now on-line at: www.tangney-tours.com/brentwood. For further information, please phone Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: 01206 735623.

“BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL AND THE FIVE CLASSICAL ORDERS” - a lecture to be given by the architect of Brentwood Cathedral, Quinlan Terry, on **Thursday 19th May** at 8.15 p.m. in the Cathedral. This will be a unique opportunity to find out more about the classical inspiration that informed the distinctive style of Brentwood Cathedral. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY TEAS - Come and join us for tea and biscuits every Wednesday after the 9am Mass. We look forward to seeing you there.



THE SHEILA LOVELL SOCIAL CLUB – The club will be reopening on Wednesday 8th June at 1.30-3pm. We would love to see you for a cup of tea and a chat.

RETURNING TO SUNDAY MASS

The Bishops of England and Wales have issued a letter of invitation to Catholics to return to Sunday Mass after Covid – **“This is the bread come down from Heaven” (John 6:58)** “Virtual Viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may be a source of spiritual comfort for those who cannot attend mass in person, e.g sick. “Looking forward to the forthcoming Feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.” May I encourage all to return to Sunday Mass as we worship together as a community. **(Copies of the Bishops’ letter in Foyer)**

8AM SUNDAY MASS

Please note when the Church reopened after the pandemic, we scheduled an extra Sunday Mass at 8am to facilitate numbers and comply with government regulations on distance. The present situation is that numbers at this Mass have dramatically declined. After consultation, I have decided that we will no longer continue this Mass and the last one will be celebrated on **Pentecost Sunday 5th June**. This leaves us with four Sunday masses, i.e. Saturday 6.30pm, Sunday 9.30am, 11.30am and 6.30pm.

WANTED

Now that we are beginning to emerge from Covid and the restrictions it imposed, we are looking to build up our parish community once again. We need readers, Ministers of Communion, Catechists, Altar Servers, Church Cleaners, Youth Club Helpers, SVP Helpers. If you can help out in any way, speak to one of the priests. The Church has always depended on the goodwill and help of who give up their time and talents. Anything done for your parish and Church is certainly the work of the Gospel. So if you can help and give some time to the Church, do get in touch.

CONGRATULATIONS to Abigail Pillai who received her First Holy Communion in our parish last weekend. We continue to pray for all our young people who received the sacrament for the first time this year.

“If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion” - St Maximilian Kolbe

CONGRATULATIONS to Nicholas Wong and Fiona Cheung who were married here last weekend.



***WELCOME** - We welcome into the family of God, through Baptism, Joseph Fitzgibbon, who was baptised in the Church last weekend.*



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – FRIDAYS

From Friday 20th May, we will resume Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It will take place after morning Mass until 1pm and from 7-9pm. Please come and spend some time in Prayer during the Adoration.

PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Robert Britt-Hazard, Steve Britt-Hazard, Justina Paul, Ann Silcock, Olive Flynn, Bridie Connolly, Glafira D'Souza, Bridie Halligan, Mikey McDonagh, Sandra Samler, Jane O'Halloran, Betty Ramsey, Caroline Sarpong, Thelma, Mr. Lanre Falano, Vivian Bazuaye, Gemma Fishman, Rosemary O'Connor, Julia Shearman, Grace Harding, Charlie O'Donnell, Edward Burns, Gerald Clarke, Len Spiller, Nenad Ivanovic (known as Len) Sister Marian, Camille Mouquet, Patricia (Pat) Hallahan {If you wish to include the name of someone for prayers, please contact the parish office}.

GIFT AID When you donate to the Church through Gift Aid, we can reclaim 25p in every £1 donated so for all collections, donations, masses etc please Gift Aid your donation. If you have any queries or have not received your 22-23 set or you would like an annual statement for 21 - 22, please contact Bob on wansteadchurch@gmail.com



CAFOD'S NEW CAMPAIGN: FIX THE FOOD SYSTEM

Over 800 million people go hungry each day. Yet the world produces over 4 billion tonnes of food and we only need 3.7 billion tonnes to feed everyone, a third is wasted. Clearly the current global food system is not working, but as Pope Francis said, "Each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet." Let's respond to his call!

A few giant corporations put profits before people, and millions of small farmers who grow our food are kept in poverty. This system is bad for the climate too. Clearly the current global food system is not working for both people and the planet, together we can play our part in re-thinking it, and challenging the imbalance of power so that it works for everyone. Alternatives already exist and communities who work with CAFOD are leading the way, growing food in ways that are good for people and the planet.

Will you email Liz Truss today? The UK government must implement its COP26 commitments and support agricultural systems that tackle the climate crisis and put local communities first. Use the ready made online form at <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Fix-the-food-system> to send your email.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL- CHINGFORD - JOB VACANCIES

- Early Years Practitioner (EYP) Immediate start. Level 2/3 for Reception Class – Application deadline 3/6/22
- Special Needs Assistant (SNA) – x2 - Immediate start. App deadline 3/6/22
- Adhoc Cleaner and Adhoc Midday Assistant urgently needed

For further information & application forms visit <http://www.stmaryschingford.com> or please contact Miss Watson, School Office on 0208 529 4723

DIOCESAN COLLECTION FOR VOCATIONS

We should have taken a collection last Sunday for vocations. It will be taken up next Sunday instead. Please be generous as we support our students to the priesthood who are in training. We have one Ordination this year.



Where: Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Centre
When: Saturday 18th June 2022
Time: Doors open 7.45 pm, for a prompt start at 8pm
Cost: £8 per person (bring your own drink and food)

Booking: Drop money into the Parish Office by **Thursday 9th June** in an envelope clearly marked: **FAO Social Committee**. Include the following details:

*** Your Name, Phone Number, Email Address, Number of people ***

Don't feel you have to book a whole table as we have a number of tables reserved to seat smaller groups/individuals so that you can share the fun and pool your knowledge. If you are booking a table, the ideal size is 6 people (min of 4 and a **max of 8**). Early booking is recommended as this is always a popular night, so to avoid disappointment, ensure you buy your tickets early. Any questions please contact us at events@ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com

Please feel free to bring drinks, nibbles and glasses with you - We will be serving tea/coffee and cakes in the interval, plus a chance to participate in the raffle (cash required!). All proceeds going towards the upkeep of the Parish Centre