

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SATURDAY	6.00 pm	John Leggity RIP (Byrne)
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)		
30th March 2025	9.00 am	David Thomas RIP
	11.00 am	The People of our Parish
MONDAY	9.15 am	Patrick Callaghan RIP
TUESDAY	10.15 am	Eddie Palmer RIP
WEDNESDAY	9.15 am	Kathleen Byrne RIP
THURSDAY	No Parish Mass Today	
FRIDAY	9.15 am	Anne Lewis RIP (Johnson)
SATURDAY	6.00 pm	John S Dunne RIP (Anniv)
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)		
6th April 2025	9.00 am	George & Philomena Robertson RIP
	11.00 am	David Clarke RIP
MONDAY	9.15 am	Bert Suffield RIP
TUESDAY	10.15 am	Intentions of Mick Parish (Waters)
WEDNESDAY	12.00 pm	Freda Barter RIP Requiem Mass
THURSDAY	No Parish Mass Today	
FRIDAY	9.15 am	John Leggitt RIP (Keane)
SATURDAY	6.00 pm	Mary Bowditch RIP (Anniv)
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (YEAR C)		
13th April 2025	9.00 am	Arthur Sparke RIP (Anniv)
	11.00 am	The People of our Parish

Weekday Masses are at 9.15am on Monday, Wednesday & Friday and at 10.15am on Tuesday. The following week (week beginning Monday, 7th April) Masses take place at 9.15am on Monday and Friday and at 10.15am on Tuesday. Please note that there is no 9.15am Parish Mass on Wednesday, 9th April.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Sunday (30th March)

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place at 5pm this Sunday in the church. It is also available to watch via the parish livestream by following this link: <https://youtube.com/live/AbcA2UnL0kY?feature=share>

Please note that after the 30th March, the next time we have Exposition will be on Sunday, 4th May.

Diocesan Safeguarding Representative Simon Moules 01277 265234

FOURTH/FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C)

30th March 2025



21, Laindon Road, Billericay, CM12 9LL

Parish Priest: Father Daniel Mason

Telephone: 01277 624891

Email: billericay@brcdt.org

www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk

*As a parish community we are committed to **Growing Together in Faith & Love.***

A message from Pauline McEvoy-Williams for Fourth Sunday of Lent:

As we reach the mid-point of Lent, with its theme of repentance & penance, it can seem strange for us to be called to “rejoice”. It is however a special day, known also as Laetare Sunday, Rose & Mothering Sunday. It gives us respite from the austerity of our Lenten practices, providing us with encouragement to keep going as “Pilgrims of Hope”, as we progress towards the climax of this penitential season, looking towards Holy Week and beyond.

Today’s Gospel of the Prodigal Son is set against a background of ‘lost and found’ and is Jesus’ response to complaints from the Pharisees and Scribes that He “welcomes sinners and eats with them”.

For me, that’s a huge reason to rejoice because Jesus knows that I’m a sinner in need of forgiveness yet is prepared to welcome me and to allow me to eat with Him in His Eucharistic meal. This parable gives us all many more reasons to rejoice but for me, the key ones are:

-Like the Prodigal Son’s Father, our heavenly Father lets us go off and make our mistakes, all the while looking out for our return. When we “come to our senses” and repent, He runs to embrace and kiss us, rejoicing that we who were ‘lost’ are now ‘found’ as we return home.

-As a ‘Prodigal’, when we return home to our Father, He doesn’t condemn us. Instead, His generosity surpasses all our expectations as He shows us His love and mercy, clothing us with forgiveness and grace in our time, in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

-When, like the ‘Elder Brother’, we feel neglected or taken for granted by those we love, have an attitude of entitlement and succumb to resentment, our heavenly Father comes to us, inviting us in to celebrate what and who has been found, yet leaves us free to choose our response.

As our Lenten journey continues, let’s rejoice on this Mothering Sunday, knowing that our heavenly Father is ready to meet us and restore us, touching our hearts with His love, mercy and compassion.

God wants us to return home and to help others come back to Him too, so I pray, that through the power of the Holy Spirit we let go of the heart of the ‘Elder Brother’ and are transformed into the image of Christ and the heart of God our loving, merciful Father.

A message from Karen Lawrence for Fifth Sunday of Lent:

Have you ever had a brush with death? Maybe you were involved in an accident or had a life-threatening illness. Perhaps you have been deeply affected by the loss of a loved-one.

Many people are profoundly changed by a close encounter with death. That was certainly true for me. Thirty years ago, I was involved in a high-speed car accident. For a few terrifying seconds I was convinced I was about to die. Thank God, my family and I escaped unharmed, but the experience changed me forever.

A few days after the crash I attended a Catholic church for the first time. I'd been interested in exploring the Catholic faith for years, but the time had never seemed right. The brush with death taught me that life is uncertain. I couldn't delay any longer. A year or so later, I was received into the Church, and the blessings (and challenges) ever since have been immense.

The woman in this Sunday's Gospel had a very close brush with death. I've pondered what she went through as she stood there, accused and guilty, waiting for the first stone to land. How did she feel when no stones came, and Jesus told her she was forgiven? 'Go and sin no more,' he said. He gave her a chance to begin all over again.

This reminds me of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Going to confession can sometimes feel a bit like a near-death experience! I don't know about you, but I never look forward to waiting in the queue and then having to tell the priest all the things I'm ashamed of. But afterwards I feel amazing! I've been given a whole new start, a chance to begin life again. Like the woman in the Gospel, I'm forgiven.

This Lent, I encourage you to take up Jesus's offer of a fresh start. Embrace – with gritted teeth if need be! – the Church's generous gift of Reconciliation. It might change you in surprising ways.

Our Parish Vision Prayer

Loving Father, we ask you to bring this vision to life within us. Embolden us with a desire to grow and mature as missionary disciples of Jesus. Give us the courage and grace to reach out to others within and beyond our parish with compassion and perseverance, so that they too may encounter Jesus and become His disciples. Lead our parish forward in the power of Your Spirit, help us to respond to Your call to evangelise by using our gifts and talents and proclaim Jesus in faith and love to all people. Amen.

Prayer for Pope Francis:

Almighty and Eternal God, you are the everlasting health of those who believe in you. Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy, through Christ our Lord. Amen.
Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.

YouTube links to the weekend Masses:

6pm on Saturday, 29th March (Fourth Sunday of Lent Year C)

<https://youtube.com/live/Fa-KPaFkHd8?feature=share>

9am on Sunday, 30th March (Fourth Sunday of Lent Year C)

<https://youtube.com/live/vf6HTDpF7rA?feature=share>

6pm on Saturday, 5th April (Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C)

<https://youtube.com/live/uWZOZQmzGwY?feature=share>

9am on Sunday, 6th April (Fifth Sunday of Lent Year C)

https://youtube.com/live/_ufqE6V5m9k?feature=share

PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR SICK AT HOME, IN HOSPITAL AND THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AT THIS TIME.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES & PARISHIONERS:

Freda Barter RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Freda Barter. Freda's Requiem Mass is going to take place in the church on Wednesday, 9th April at 12pm. May she rest in peace. Please note that this Mass replaces the normal 9.15am Parish Mass on that day.

ANNIVERSARIES: Christopher Roche, Eileen Brand, John Carr, Ellen Dowden, Jean Fernando, Pauline Johns, Marcelle Thurlow, Patricia O'Rourke, Angela Scott, Maud Price, Sheila Groves, Honey Hansen, Joyce Gamble, Henry Gully, Anne Lewis, Charles Rutter, George Robertson, Anne Iron, Arthur Awcock, Ellen Aiken, Mary Bowditch, Johanna Babb, Lily Warner.

Clergy: Bishop Christopher Budd, Fr Ronald Roberts, Canon Charles Loughran, Fr George Towler, Deacon Geoffrey Piper, Fr Thomas Adkins, Fr Anthony Lawson, Fr Patrick Donohoe.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

PARISH REGISTRATION:

If you are new to our parish, or you are an existing parishioner, please could you take a few moments to complete the electronic registration form which is on our parish website:

<https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/register2.php> **Adults who are living in the same household will need to complete separate registration forms in order for the database to recognise you as separate individuals.**

You can scan the QR code below and it will take you straight to the link!



KIDS' CORNER

4th Sunday of Lent Year C

A	L	T	W	G	C	X	X	E	J	N	M
S	A	C	O	L	L	E	C	T	O	R	S
X	Q	W	S	P	O	D	T	I	A	P	E
F	X	U	E	E	E	S	T	F	F	H	M
Z	A	T	A	D	B	A	T	A	J	A	O
G	A	M	I	N	R	I	T	K	E	R	C
L	V	V	I	B	D	T	R	T	S	I	L
K	I	N	E	N	E	E	S	C	U	S	E
D	O	L	J	N	E	O	R	N	S	E	W
M	E	R	E	J	O	I	C	E	O	E	R
C	H	D	N	U	O	F	F	N	D	S	A
S	R	E	N	N	I	S	I	P	I	G	S

CELEBRATION	COLLECTORS	DIVIDED
FAMINE	FARM	FATTENED
FOUND	JESUS	LOST
PHARISEES	PIGS	REJOICE
SCRIBES	SINNERS	SONS
SQUANDERED	TAX	WELCOME

Mass Bags for Children. We have Mass bags available at all of the weekend parish Masses for children aged 1-3 and children aged 3 and older. The bags contain colouring books, pencils and soft toys. Please speak to the Welcomers before Mass if you would like to have one of the bags, specifying which bag you would like, and please make sure that at the end of Mass they are returned to the church porch so that other families are able to use them.

Parish Family Life Co-ordinator - Kristin De Freitas: Email address: kristindefreitas@brcdt.org Mobile number is: 07492 910138

Easter Offerings: As is the custom your Easter offerings are your gift to the priest. There will be an offertory collection at the Masses on Easter Sunday or you can use the contactless donation machine in the church porch and select "Easter."

If you prefer you can also put an envelope through the door at the Priest's House marked "Easter" with Gift Aid number if appropriate. Cheques are payable to Catholic Church Billericay and will be dealt with by the office staff. Alternatively a bank transfer can be made – please contact the Parish Office for our Bank details and quote "Easter" as the reference. Please note that due to finance regulations any Standing Order contributions cannot be part of this collection unless specifically stated "Easter". *Many thanks, the Parish Finance Committee.*

Easter Crafts Activity for Families on Wednesday, 16th April from 11am to 1pm, Kristin, our Family Coordinator, will be holding an Easter crafts session for families in the Large Hall of the Pastoral Centre. Families will be invited to create Easter baskets filled with crafts & goodies including decorative eggs, easter biscuits, chocolate nests and rosary keyrings. These baskets will then be blessed by Fr Dan at 2pm on Holy Saturday (19th April) If you would like to take part in this please make sure that you email Kristin at kristindefreitas@brcdt.org There will be a charge of £5 per family to cover the cost of the craft items.

A Lenten Reflection The Most Holy Redeemer Musicians warmly invite you to a short presentation of words and music on **Sunday 6th April at 5.30 pm**, in the Church. There will be music from Palestrina to Rizza, readings and organ pieces appropriate to the Season of Lent. Please join us as we prepare for Holy Week.

Holy Week Services:

During Holy Week the Services are at the following times:

Maundy Thursday, 17th April: Mass is at 7.30pm followed by a vigil in front of the Blessed Sacrament at the altar of repose until Midnight.

Good Friday, 18th April: Children's Stations of the Cross will take place at 10.15am in the church.

If you would like your child to read one of the Stations please email Kristin De Freitas at kristindefreitas@brcdt.org

The Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord and the Veneration of the Cross will take place at 3pm.

Stations of the Cross will take place at 7pm.

Holy Saturday, 19th April: Confessions from 11am to 12pm in the Church
Blessing of Easter Food: 2pm in the Church. This is a tradition in many Eastern European countries where families bring to the church the food that they will eat on Easter Sunday.

Easter Vigil, Saturday 19th April: The most important service in the Church's year will take place at 8pm.

Easter Sunday, 20th April: Masses will be at 9am and 11am.

Mothering Sunday: A very happy Mothering Sunday to all mums, grannies and great grannies.

Lent 2025

Lent Leaflets:

You can find all of the information about the events and activities that are taking place in our parish during the season of Lent by following this link:

<https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/media/events/Lent-Leaflet-2025.pdf>

Stations of the Cross take place every Friday at 7pm in the church.

Confessions take place every Saturday in the church from 11am to 12pm All Catholics are encouraged to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent.

Lent Lectures at Brentwood Cathedral on the power and significance of the Holy Eucharist in our lives of faith, **Each talk starts at 7.30pm**

Fr Stephen Morrison (O Pream), will be speaking on Wednesday 2nd April.

Deanery Lenten Reconciliation Services:

The following parishes are holding Lenten Reconciliation Services:

Basildon:

St Therese of Lisieux, Laindon: Thursday 10th April 7 pm

St Basil the Great: Friday 11th April 2 pm

Holy Trinity: Tuesday 15th April 6.45 pm

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Wickford: Thursday 10th April 7 pm

Parish Office Changes: Our Parish Secretary, Eileen Nuttall, after many years of service to our parish has now retired. We have appointed Clare Dempsey as our new Parish Secretary and she will be starting work after Easter. During the handover period please be aware that it may take longer for enquiries to be responded to.

Life in the Spirit: The *Life in the Spirit Seminars* **Registration** is now **OPEN**. Register by using the link below and receive more information on this special Diocesan event taking place from Easter to Pentecost in Brentwood Cathedral Large Hall. The Seminars are being held over 6 Tuesday evenings from **29th April - 3rd June** inclusive and are open to all. You are warmly invited to come along to hear inspiring speakers, be filled with the Holy Spirit and travel through your own 'Holy Door' as we celebrate this Jubilee Year as "*Pilgrims of Hope*". **Register here:** [Life in the Spirit Registration](#)

The St Vincent De Paul Society and CAFOD are working together to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales, from 22nd – 27th June in London. Candidates must have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. Applications close on the 20th April. Please contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Workshop: Tuesday 6th May 7.30pm All parish volunteers and new volunteers are invited to attend a parish safeguarding workshop led by Simon Moules, our Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator which will take place in the Pastoral Centre. This will also be an opportunity to hear from Angela Sparke, our new Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator and to renew your DBS certificate if it is more than 3 years old.

Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

The Liturgy of The Word In the second talk in the series 'Proclaim the Word', entitled 'A richer table of God's word', Fr Adrian Graffy explains how after the Second Vatican Council readings from all parts of the Bible were arranged so that more abundant provision of Sacred Scripture is available to all at Mass. The talk will be at 7 pm (tea and coffee from 6.30 pm) on Wednesday 2nd April at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. The talk is also available via live stream on www.whatgoodnews.org. No need to book

Beginning Experience Weekend is a special residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people, which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. The weekend is led by trained volunteers, who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again. This next programme will be held on 4-6 April at the Sion Community, Essex; details from: Mary: 07730 884315, or email BeginningExperience.SoE@gmail.com.

Billericay Catenian Golf. The Billericay Catenian 'Spring Cup' Golf Day is being held on Friday 25th April at Stock Brook Manor Golf Club. These golf days are great fun and open to Catenians and non-Catenians alike. We would love to welcome you back or to welcome new friends for a full day of golf and dinner in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Please contact Rob Hayes rob.bdcs@gmail.com or 01277630393 to book your place or for further information.

Brentwood Ursuline - 125th Anniversary To mark out 125th anniversary, we invite past and present staff and students to attend an anniversary Mass at Brentwood Cathedral at 11.15am on Saturday 26th April 2025, followed by a community celebration at Brentwood Ursuline, from 1pm-5pm. For further details and to book a place at the event, please refer to the school's website: www.brentwoodursuline.co.uk

Hall Bookings The booking officer is Anna Sloper who can be contacted by e-mail canonrochehallbookings@gmail.com