

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

SATURDAY **6.00 pm** Canon Patrick Sammon RIP (Anniv.)

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (YEAR C)

14th September 2025 **9.00 am** Keith Warren RIP (Anniv.)
 11.00 am People of the Parish

MONDAY ***Our Lady of Sorrows***
 9.15 am Margaret Mary
 & Wilfred Elis Stevens RIP

TUESDAY ***Ss Cornelius, Priest & Cyprian, Bishop & Martyr***
 10.15am Jill Field RIP (*Johnson*)

WEDNESDAY **9.15am** Mary Bowditch RIP

THURSDAY *No Parish Mass*

FRIDAY **9.15am** Dilys & Lionel Potts RIP (*Stebbing*)

SATURDAY **6.00 pm** Elizabeth & Joseph Savonna RIP

TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C)

21st September 2025 **9.00 am** Oliver Ryan RIP (*Keilthy*)
 11.00 am People of the Parish

WEEKDAY MASSES will be at 9.15am on Monday and Wednesday and Friday and 10.15am on Tuesday.

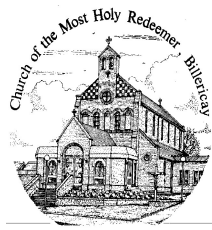
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place this Sunday (14th September) at 5pm in the church. It is also available to watch via the parish YouTube channel. The link to the livestream is below:
<https://youtube.com/live/vjvSBhu1kXg?feature=share>

Confessions take place in the church as usual from 11am to 12pm on Saturdays.

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

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

THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS (C) 14th September 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 Fr Adrian Graffy:

The Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross takes precedence over the ordinary Sunday Mass because it is a feast of the Lord.

Bringing together the cross and 'exaltation' suggests immediately that the focus is on the paschal mystery of the death and resurrection of the Lord. It is true that this is the focus of every Mass. This feast originated in Jerusalem with the discovery of the true cross and the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

The writings of the New Testament help us to consider the true meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus. The gospel for this feast is taken from the words of Jesus to Nicodemus in the third chapter of the Gospel of John. Jesus has been speaking about being 'born from above', the new birth through water and the Holy Spirit which Christians receive in baptism. This new birth, this new life, comes from the saving work of Jesus.

Jesus alludes to the lifting up of the serpent in the desert, which is narrated in the first reading from the Book of Numbers, in reference to His own being raised up on the cross. The final statements in the gospel passage are of extraordinary significance. The coming of the Son reveals the Father's love. The Son comes not to condemn but to offer life to the world.

The cross, the traditional instrument of torture and death in the Roman empire, is transformed into the symbol of new life, the life shared by Jesus with all those who believe. It is therefore logical that the cross becomes a symbol of triumph and exaltation. How strange it would be otherwise for Christians to 'cross themselves'!

St Paul recalls in the Letter to the Philippians the example of humility given by Christ for all to follow. His self-emptying in becoming man and in accepting death on the cross leads to the new life of the resurrection.

*How can a symbol of torture and death become a sign of life?
What do I need to be able to carry the cross I have been asked to bear?
Let us thank God for the love shown in the death and resurrection of Jesus.
Let us pray for a true understanding of the paschal mystery in our own lives*

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.

WEEKEND MASSES will take place at 6pm on Saturday and at 9am and 11am on Sunday.

The YouTube Links for this weekend's Masses are here:

6pm Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross Year C:

<https://youtube.com/live/CsIBQtiOy1U?feature=share>

9am Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross Year C:

<https://youtube.com/live/p-i-HkimFtE?feature=share>

Baptisms at the Most Holy Redeemer: If you are enquiring about having your child baptised at the Most Holy Redeemer then please contact the Parish Office so that we can put you in touch with a member of the Baptism Welcome Team.

MHR Flower arrangers If you would like to know more about this friendly group, please contact Esther Wilkins on 07702 139120.

Laminated Mass Cards with prayers of the Mass are available at the entrance to the church as an alternative to the Mass Books. They are also very helpful for visitors and for those who have just started coming to Mass.

Parish Grotto Opening: The Parish Grotto is now open every day from 8am until mid-afternoon.

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

Please Pray for Fred Daly who is currently unwell and in hospital. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES & PARISHIONERS:

Catherine Crerar RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Catherine Crerar. Catherine's Funeral Service will take place at 12.30pm on Wednesday 1st October. May she rest in peace.

Margaret Fuller RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Fuller (wife of Ian Fuller and mother of Mark, Nicola & Pauline). Margaret's Requiem Mass will take place at 11am on Tuesday 30th September. May she rest in peace

Roger Noble RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Roger Noble, a former parishioner. Details of his funeral in Norfolk will follow. May he rest in peace.

ANNIVERSARIES Vi Howell, Sarah Gwinnell, George Perry, Keith Warren, Georgina McBride, John Kirwan, Frederick Christie, Michael Heffron, Ronald Holben, Derek Michell, Thérèse Casha, Vera Kelley, Edward Walsh and Helen Wiseman.

Clergy: Fr Louis Heston, Fr John Bergin, Canon Patrick Sammon, Fr Anthony Maystone and Canon Frederick Gahagan.

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

PARISH OFFERTORY

Contactless Machine in the church porch: We now have a contactless machine in the church porch. If you normally gift aid your donations you will need to submit your details the first time you use the machine and then it will remember your information every time you use it subsequently provided that you use the same debit or credit card.

Gift Aid: A big thank you to all of you who are members of the Gift Aid scheme. If you are a taxpayer and you would like to join the scheme you can do so by picking up a form from the church or following this link on the parish website:

<https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/giftaid.php>

KIDS' CORNER

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Sinners	Tax	Jesus
Pharisees	Hear	Eat
Parable	Hundred	Sheep
Wilderness	Shoulders	Joyfully
Rejoice	Heaven	Lost
Light	Sweep	Angels
Sons	Repent	House

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.

Toddler's and Children's Liturgy Toddler's and Children's Liturgy will be resuming at both the 9am and 11am Masses on Sunday, 14th September. A big thank you to all of our parishioners who give up their time to enable us to offer this service to families. If you would be interested in helping with Toddler's or Children's Liturgy please speak to Father Dan or email the Parish Office. Please note that because this involves working with children you will be required to apply for a DBS certificate issued by the diocese.

No Weekday Masses Tuesday, 23rd-Thursday, 25th September Please note that there will be no weekday Masses from Tuesday, 23rd to Thursday, 25th September. This is because Father Dan will be attending a Clergy Conference with the other priests from our diocese.

Youth Meeting about Summer Lourdes: 7pm this Sunday If your child is in Year 10 or above in September and they are interested in going to Lourdes with the BCYS next summer they are warmly invited to come to a gathering in the Pastoral Centre from 7pm – 8pm this Sunday (14th September). Over pizza and drinks we will talk about fundraising events and how we can help each other to be able to make the pilgrimage to Lourdes next summer. For more information please contact Kristin, our Family Co-ordinator, at kristindefreitas@brcdt.org

Presentation of Parish Finances and Gift Aid this weekend This weekend at all of the Parish Masses we will be having a presentation of the parish finances from the last financial year (2024-2025). A big thank you to all of you who are members of the Gift Aid scheme. By Gift Aiding your donations we were able to claim an extra £26,236 from the Inland Revenue. If you are a taxpayer and would like to join the scheme you can do so by picking up a form in the church or by following this link on the parish website: <https://www.mostholyredeemer.org.uk/giftaid.php>

Church Cleaning this week will take place on Thursday from 9am to 9:30am, any help you can give would be greatly appreciated.

Applications for Catholic Secondary Schools If you are applying for a place at a Catholic Secondary School and you require a Certificate of Catholic Practice please speak to Father Dan after one of the parish Masses to arrange an appointment to see him. **Appointments for Primary School Applications** will be announced at the end of September.

Liam & Phil Young celebrate their 60th Wedding Anniversary this week, on Thursday 18th September. We all wish them a very joyful and blessed day!

Fun Fundraiser Thank you to everyone who donated and came along to my Fun Fundraiser. We raised £370 for the British Heart Foundation. From Matthew.

ABC Course for adults who are interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith If you are an adult who isn't a Catholic or if you are an adult Catholic who has not made their First Holy Communion or Confirmation, you are warmly invited to consider joining our ABC (About Becoming Catholic) course which will be beginning on Monday, 6th October at 8pm in the upstairs part of the Canon Roche Pastoral Centre (the building behind the church) For more information please email the Parish Office or speak to Fr Dan.

Archbishop Saint Óscar Romero Archbishop John Wilson (Archbishop of Southwark), will be giving a Talk and Presentation on Saint Óscar Romero, in the Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall on Wednesday 8th October at 7.30pm. Titled: 'Preacher of Hope, The Life and Witness of St Óscar Romero.' Archbishop John has written a spiritual book on Saint Óscar entitled the 'Romero Rosary.' Copies will be available for purchase, and Archbishop John will sign them.

Ladies Group We are a friendly, chatty group of ladies who meet once a month on a Wednesday on the 3rd week of the month (except August). We have a retreat day at Walsingham House in May, on occasions we have a garden party and we have a Christmas meal in December. Our meetings are held in the Lounge of the Pastoral Centre from 9.45am to 12.00 and you can pop in any time during this time. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 17th September and we would love to see any ladies who are interested. God Bless, Linda

The Most Holy Redeemer Macmillan World's Largest Coffee Morning will take place on Friday 26th September from 9.30am-12pm in the Canon Roche Pastoral Centre (lounge) behind the church. Please come and show your support towards a very worthy cause. There will be a large selection of cakes, a raffle and most importantly tea and coffee. We would be grateful for any donations to the raffle and most importantly HOMEMADE (or shop bought) CAKES. (Please bring to the hall in the morning). For those unable to attend, donations can also be sent via <https://cm25.macmillan.org.uk/fundraising/CM25047821>

St Peter's Catholic Primary School Billericay, warmly invites parents who are applying for a Reception place for September 2026 intake, to an Open Morning on the following dates: Friday 3rd October, Tuesday 11th November, Tuesday 18th November and Thursday 8th January at 9.15am. Please contact the school office to book your place 01277 653770.

Spiritual Reading: Bible Alive (£6) for September & October is in the Church Porch – please put the money in the wall box. Bible Alive will be published every two months going forward.

The next session of Maranatha will be held at the Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX on Thursday, 18th September. This will be our last session of Maranatha at the Sion Community, however we are looking at ways to continue in the New Year 2026. In the meantime we look forward to welcoming you on Thursday 18th for prayer, praise, Mass and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. May God bless you all.

Silent Weekend Retreat "Be Holy, for I am holy" at Sion Catholic Community, Brentwood. Dates: Friday 10th - Sunday 12th October 2025. Our theme focuses on the universal call to holiness. We are ALL called to be saints whatever rank or status. We may assume that this is a vocation reserved to the chosen few without understanding that each and every one of us is called to be holy and live a life of holiness. But what does living a life of holiness mean? How can we embrace this call and learn to live it as a reality? Our guest speaker for the weekend is Fr Emmanuel Mansford, CFR (Franciscan Friars of the Renewal). This silent weekend retreat offers us the opportunity to spend time with the Lord in quiet prayer and reflection. 40-HOURS of CONTINUOUS Adoration, guidance & ministry included. For more information or to book, visit <https://sioncommunity.org.uk/adults/#SilentRetreat> or email admin@sioncommunity.org.uk

Sacred Heart of Mary Girls School is holding its Year 6 Open Evening (for entry to Year 7 in September 2026) on Wednesday 1st October 2025 at 6pm-8pm. Headteacher Welcome Talk is at 7.30pm. Please come along and see what this wonderful school - rated Outstanding by Ofsted in all 5 areas in October 2024 - has to offer your daughter. Further details about the school see www.sacredheartofmary.net

The Most Holy Redeemer Safeguarding Officer is Angela Sparke. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Angela at: safeguarding-billericay@brcdt.org

Parish Parent and Baby Group Babies and toddlers up to age two with their parents or carers are very welcome at our Parish Parent and Baby Group. We meet every Thursday morning during term time in the Small Hall. Drop in any time between 9.30 and 11.30am for a cuppa, a chat, and playtime for your little ones. Free of charge. We would love to see you!

DBS Update Service has changed its renewal process. Individuals must now log into their DBS Update Service account and actively renew their subscription *annually*, thereby ensuring subscribers actively confirm their continued participation a service. Subscribers will receive an email reminder 30 days before their renewal date, prompting them to renew their subscription. *If a subscription is not renewed before the expiry date, it will lapse, and the individual will need to apply for a new DBS.* Please could anyone on the update service look out for the reminder email around your renewal, to avoid having to replicate the entire DBS application. safeguarding-billericay@brcdt.org

Connect Groups Connect Groups are small faith sharing groups made up of parishioners who meet together regularly to pray and to support each other. If you would like to find out more about joining a Connect Group please email the Parish Office at billericay@brcdt.org or look at the Connect Groups noticeboard in the church porch.

Celebrating Vatican II As the sixtieth anniversary of the conclusion of Vatican II approaches Fr Adrian Graffy will lead a study day entitled 'Vatican II and its Popes'. The event will take place at the Catholic parish of Christ the Eternal High Priest in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) on Saturday 20th September from 10.30. Entrance is free, and a recording of the talk will be available subsequently on www.whatgoodnews.org

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service – Youth Gather, 25th – 26th October
Youth Gather is a weekend of faith, fun and friendship – with speakers, workshops, prayer and outdoor activities, meeting friends old and new, and all while sharing in and celebrating our Catholic faith. There will be coaches offering transport from around the Diocese included in the cost, as well as all meals, cabin accommodation and activities. This event is for year 9 and above. Apply now at www.bcys.net/events

Cathedral Young Adults Group. Are you aged between 18 – 35 and interested in meeting like minded individuals in a relaxed and social environment? The Group meets on the first Sunday of each month after the 6.30 Sunday Mass at Brentwood Cathedral. We walk to a nearby Pub after Mass for some food or drink and to meet and support each other spiritually and socially, wherever you are on your Faith journey. Details email cathedral@brcdt.org

Foundation Governor Vacancy at Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School: Upminster Have you ever thought about becoming a Foundation Governor in a Catholic School? It is very rewarding and a great way to live out your faith and serve your local community. You do not need to be an education expert, we welcome applications from practicing Catholics with a variety of skills and

backgrounds. The commitment to the role, includes attending 6 full Governing body meetings a year, normally held in the evening, plus serving on at least 1 committee that meets termly. In addition you will be expected to commit to training & termly visits to the school. We currently have a vacancy on our Governing Body. We would welcome in particular Governors with a background in Finance/Legal. If you are interested and would like more information on this role, please contact Mrs Tracey Knight, Chair of Governors on: tknight@mary.haverling.sch.uk

Foreign Currency for 'Mary's Meals': Please donate any unwanted currency or any UK notes and coins that are no longer legal tender to the Parish Office. 'Mary's Meals', is a charity which helps to provide nutritious school meals to children living in some of the world's poorest countries. www.marysmeals.org.uk

Billericay Foodbank Appeal for Help The trustees, volunteers and the families and individuals who receive our help each week, are hugely grateful for the support that the churches in Billericay have given to us over the years. This support has been given with time from those who volunteer and with food and finance from regular donations. However, we are currently facing new challenges, in recent months we have seen a decrease in donations from all sources and an increase in demand. If you can help with a donation of either money or foodstuffs, it would be much appreciated.

How to Donate: We are grateful to receive donations of tinned and packet foods, basic toiletries, and household items. These can be placed in the donations box in the church porch.

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

Change of email address: Please note that our email address is changing to billericay@brcdt.org This is to bring us in line with other parishes across the diocese. While this change is taking place the old office email address is still active.

Diocesan Safeguarding Representative Simon Moules 01277 265234

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament this Sunday: Exposition takes place in the church at 5pm this Sunday (13th July). It's also available to watch via our parish YouTube channel by following this link:

https://youtube.com/live/sbii_W1GjWE?feature=share:

Please note that this is the last period of Exposition until the start of September.

The Most Holy Redeemer Safeguarding Officer is Angela Sparke. If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact Angela at:

safeguarding-billericay@brcdt.org

Last Chance to Apply: Altar Servers Training for new altar servers will take place on the following Saturdays: 13th, 20th & 27th September, 4th, 11th & 18th October. If anyone in Year 4 and above, who has made their First Holy Communion, is interested in becoming a server, please contact Sarah Dean at *s.c.dean@hotmail.com* as soon as possible to secure a place.

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!



Change of email address: Please note that our email address is changing to billericay@brcdt.org This is to bring us in line with other parishes across the diocese. While this change is taking place the old office email address is still active.