



2020 is the 10th anniversary of Verbum Domini – Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord' and the 1,600th anniversary of the death of St Jerome, one of the Church's greatest scripture scholars. These dates have inspired the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to dedicate a year to focus especially on the Bible and 'The God Who Speaks' - The Year of the Word.

WEEKLY EVENTS

COFFEE AFTER MASS

Sundays in the Church Porch after the 9.00 am Mass

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sundays in term-time during the 11.30 am Mass

SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Tuesdays : 7.00 pm in the Church Sacristy

CHURCH CLEANING TEAM

Wednesdays at 9.30 am inside the church

CHURCH GARDENING TEAM

Meets Wednesdays at 9.30 am outside the church

4TH COLLIER ROW SCOUT GROUP

Beaver Scouts

Wednesdays 5 - 6.15 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

Cub Scouts

Wednesdays 6.30 - 8.00 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

Scouts

Wednesdays 8.00 - 9.30 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

THURSDAY CLUB

(for the over 60s – open to all)

1.15 - 3.15 pm

in the Parish Centre Hall

OUR LADY'S

PRAYER GROUP

Thursdays : 7.30 – 9.00 pm at 10 Norman Close

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

The 2020 edition is now available; you will find copies on the newspaper table – priced at £2.80.

PARISH DIARIES

The company that produced our diaries has ceased trading; in the meantime, we are exploring other options for next year.

GARDEN BENCH

The proceeds (£390) from the Christmas mini bazaar and some kind parishioners' donations have been put towards buying a bench with an inscription and dedication to our former Parish Priest, Fr. Sean Sheils, 1977-2011.

TEA DANCES AT ELM PARK

Our next Tea Dance will be on Wednesday the 15 January 2020 in Saint Alban's Parish Centre (Langdale Gardens Elm Park, Rm125LA). Music by Finbar Black, dancing from 13.30 till 16.30. admission £5.00 includes tea coffee and cakes. Come along and enjoy a lovely afternoon of fun and help us to create a good Parish community spirit. Any information please contact: John O'Connor on 07903-366992.

YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Fr Adrian Graffy will lead an exploration of the Gospel of Matthew, the lectionary gospel for Sundays in 2020, from 7 pm until 8.30 pm on Wednesday 15th (changed from 22nd) January, and Wednesday 29th January at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park. Admission is free, but please book your place by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com Copies of the recently published 'Revised New Jerusalem Bible' will be on sale for £30 (reduced from the normal price of £39.99). Full details and video of earlier talks available on www.whatgoodnews.org

SPIRITUALITY MORNING

Saturday 18 January : 10.30am-12.00noon at Cathedral House, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT. Topic: The Spirituality of St John Henry Newman. Speaker: Mgr David Manson. For further information: email: jude@dioceseofbrentwood.org or tel: 01277-265285.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Children and families from Essex and East London have direct therapeutic support to our highly experienced counselling team. We provide support directly to children, adolescents on a 1:1 basis or the whole family. We help children with various reasons including anxiety, emotional health, bereavement, behaviour, bullying, family separation and illness. Sessions take place during the day or after school at our counselling suites at our offices in Rayleigh. There is a sessional charge but support may be given if required. If you feel your child may benefit from our services or you would like more information, please contact Sarah D'Lima - sdlima@bccs.or.uk or 01268-947061.

VIDEOS OF RECENT STUDY DAYS

Videos of the first two study days in the series marking the Year of the God Who Speaks are now available. Both Fr Adrian's day

'Beginning with Genesis', which opened the series, and the day given more recently by Fr Nicholas King SJ on 'The Scriptures in Advent' are free to view on www.whatgoodnews.org - just go to the home page and click on 'Watch latest event'.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

1st to the 6th June. Staying in central Rome. The cost includes transport in this country (airport transfer from/to Chingford) and Italy, return flights, B and B accommodation with some other meals included, a fully escorted itinerary including Mass each day and tickets for an audience with the Holy Father, and all Mass offerings and tips. £795 in shared accommodation; £895 for single rooms. For more information please call Siobhan on 07932-634589 or e-mail siobhan@parker-travel.com.

ANNUAL LOURDES MASS

The Annual Lourdes Mass will be celebrated at Brentwood Cathedral on Sunday 16 February at 3 pm. This is an opportunity to give thanks for graces received in Lourdes and to seek prayers for the sick. During the Mass, the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated.

ANNUAL CHARITY BALL – Brentwood Catholic Children's Society

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is holding its Annual Charity Ball at The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge on Saturday 7 March from 7pm. Tickets are on sale now, costing £55 per person, which will include a drinks reception and three course dinner along with a full evening of entertainment. Guests will be seated on tables of 12, making it the perfect opportunity to get together with friends, family or colleagues, have a fantastic night out whilst at the same time raising vital funds for bccs. As tickets for this event sell out quickly, please contact Julie asap to avoid disappointment: 01268 784544 / 07912277413 / jabbott@bccs.org.uk

FATHER DOMINIC HOWARTH REACHES FIFTY

Fr Dominic is turning 50 in September, and to mark the moment he is solo cycling 5000km between now and then – all without leaving Walsingham House at Abbotswick! He is raising money for the BCCS, Help Refugees, HCPT and Walsingham House and all the details are at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/frdominic5000at50> where you can donate online. Or send cheques payable to "Fr D Howarth" to FrDominic5000at50, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Navestock Side, Essex CM14 5SH.

COLLIER ROW FOODBANK

There is a basket in the porch for donations to the local Foodbank; at the moment they could do with the following items:

*Tinned fish • Jars pasta sauce • Long life milk • Tinned spaghetti • Tinned custard • Tinned fruit • Biscuits
Long life fruit juice • Instant Coffee • Tomato ketchup • Sponge puddings • Jam • Crisps/chocolate*

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE COLLIER ROW CATHOLIC CLUB

Saturday 25 January

RAT PACK/SWING EVENING with the Gerry Kelly Quartet

Tickets: £7

Friday 20 March

AN EVENING with Phil Parkes/Alan Devonshire and Tony Gale

Tickets: £20

Saturday 9 May

VE CELEBRATION EVENING featuring a 6-piece Swing Band

Tickets: £10 (over 14s only)

VACANCIES AT THE URSULINE ACADEMY ILFORD

The following vacancies are available: Data and Admissions Officer – term time plus 10 days. Finance Assistant – full time. Closing Date: noon, Monday 27 January 2020. For further information please visit: uai.org.uk/about/vacancies

VACANCY AT THE CAMPION SCHOOL

The Campion School is seeking to appoint a lunchtime supervisor to join the current team monitoring pupils during the lunch breaks. The team covers the halls, playground and all other areas where pupils spend their recreation time. The hours would be from 12.20 to 1.50 pm, one or two days per week, term time only. To apply, please complete the application form on the school website (www.thecampionschool.org.uk) or contact the Headmaster's PA, Mrs Noddings for an application form (cnoddings@thecampionschool.org)