



Thursday is the Memorial of St Francis de Sales

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 at 4.45 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

Cub Scouts

Wednesdays at 6.00 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

Scouts

Wednesdays at 7.45 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

THURSDAY CLUB

1.15 - 3.15 pm

in the Parish Centre Hall

(for senior members of the community)

OUR LADY'S

PRAYER GROUP

Thursdays : 7.30 – 9.00 pm at 10 Norman Close

BABY & TODDLER GROUP

(for parents and toddlers)

Fridays : 1.00 – 2.30 pm in the Parish Centre Hall

WORLD YOUTH DAY (WYD), PANAMA

This week a group of 35 young people, led by Bishop Alan, are travelling to WYD – where Pope Francis meets young people from across the world – taking place in Panama City from 24th-27th January. The group will also spend time on environmental work in Costa Rica and receiving catechesis in Panama. WYD will be covered on Catholic TV channels EWTN and Salt & Light TV. Follow the young people from our Diocese on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter @BrentwoodCYS. Please keep them all in your prayers.

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

On Wednesdays 23rd and 30th January at 7 pm Fr Adrian Graffy will lead an exploration of the Gospel of Luke, the gospel being read on Sundays in 2019. These 'Gidea Park Faith Evenings' will take place in the hall at Gidea Park Catholic Church (410 Brentwood Road, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH). Please book by email to GPstudydays@gmail.com

ANNUAL LOURDES MASS

The Annual Lourdes Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan at 3 pm on Sunday 10 February at Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh-on-Sea. During this Mass there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It will be lovely to see all those of you who have a particular devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes.



Please let Father Philip know if ... you are new to the parish, you are moving within the parish or you are leaving the parish.

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.

VISION DOCUMENT – Shaping Our Future

This important document has been published recently and outlines the way forward for our diocese in the coming months and years. We have very few printed copies left, however, it is available on the diocesan website and can also be accessed via a link from our own parish website (click on Parish Partnership and go to the link). The document has two main parts: Renewal and Restructuring.

The **Renewal** section contains themes which should be at the heart of Catholic Life anyway and have been identified by contributors throughout the diocese as being of essential importance to us all.

The **Restructuring** section outlines parish partnerships; in our case, the five parishes of Collier Row, Gidea Park, Harold Hill St Dominic, Harold Hill Most Holy Redeemer and Romford. Nothing is set in stone; we are being asked to explore ways in which we could collaborate and share together. This process will be led by

the Stewards of the Gospel and the priests of the parishes. It is likely that each Partnership will develop differently from others; we are asked to decide what would work best for us. Our long-term plan needs to be finalised during the coming year, with Easter 2020 being the absolute deadline for these plans to be submitted to the Bishop.

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR THIS WEEK . . .

The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity – concludes on Friday 25 January.

Monday is the **Memorial of St Agnes, virgin & martyr** – another popular saint from the early Church. She was martyred whilst in her teens, about the year 304.

Tuesday is the **Memorial of St Vincent, deacon & martyr** – he was severely tortured and then put to death at Valencia in Spain in 304.

Thursday is the **Memorial of St Francis de Sales, bishop & doctor of the church** – this gentle pastor gave much practical advice about personal holiness for everyone. Admired by Calvinists of his own time, his feast falls suitably within the Unity Octave. He is patron saint of writers and journalists and died in 1622.

Friday is the **Feast of the Conversion of St Paul, apostle** – the story of his famous conversion on the road to Damascus is re-told in the first reading of today's Mass: Saul the persecutor becomes Paul the apostle.

Saturday is the **Memorial of SS Timothy and Titus, bishops** - both were converts, disciples, and helpers of St Paul. His two letters to Timothy (the first Bishop of Ephesus in modern-day Turkey) are included in the New Testament; likewise his letter to Titus, a bishop on the island of Crete.

CATHOLIC HISTORY WALKS

A Royal Walk: Sunday 27 January, 3pm. A walk exploring the history of the Royal Family and Catholicism, through St James' Park and on to Buckingham Palace. Meet on the steps of Westminster Cathedral. Nearest Tube: Victoria.

YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE SUMMER 2019 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

If you are in school year 10 or above, come and join the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service on our hugely popular Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage. We travel alongside the diocese to assist the elderly and infirm on their annual pilgrimage, particularly those in wheelchairs. Alongside this we also run a retreat, daily Masses and excursions for the young people, as well as experiencing the Lourdes Torchlight Procession and Blessed Sacrament Procession. Applications remain open until 31st January 2019. These can be made at www.bcys.net/events where you will also find more information about the trip. Likely travel dates will be 20th - 27th July 2019.

ANNIVERSARY CHARITY BALL

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is holding an Anniversary Charity Ball to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of its founding. The Charity Ball is their largest and most glamorous event of the year and takes place at The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge on Saturday 9 March. 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 / 07912-277413 / jabbott@bccs.org.uk

VACANCY AT WALSHINGHAM HOUSE AT ABBOTSWICK – ASSISTANT MANAGER

Start Mid-August 2019. This exciting role - leading faith-filled and engaging retreats for thousands of young people every year - would be ideal for someone with Youth Ministry or Lay Chaplaincy experience. Living at Walsingham House, you would be part of a vibrant staff and volunteer community, with the chance to develop the retreat programmes and facilities in our new home. Full details <https://bcys.net/assistant-manager/>

JOB OPPORTUNITY : RESEARCH ASSISTANT

An opportunity has arisen for a Research Assistant to work with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales supporting the work of the Social Justice team. It is a role which would suit an individual seeking to develop their already proven research skills and increase their understanding of the social justice contribution of the Catholic Church. This is a varied role within a committed and professional team, working in the office of the Catholic Bishops' Conference, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX, a short walk from Victoria Station in Central London. Details on the noticeboard.