



## Parish Newsletter **Third Sunday in OT Year C 2025**

### **Sunday of the Word of God**

Mass Intentions 25<sup>th</sup> January – 2<sup>nd</sup> February

**Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)**

**St Thomas More (STM)**

Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	People of the Parish Stanisława Pilek (Birthday Mass, SI)		
Sunday <b>Polish</b>	10.30am <b>12.15pm</b>	Deceased family of John Brickley Romualda Ratajczyk (Recently dead)	8.30am	Sally Thorne (RIP, Ann.)
Monday	9.00am	People of the Parish Sharon Palmer (SI)		
Tuesday	9.00am	Jan Jarmuszkiewicz (RIP)		
Wednesday	7-8pm	Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament	10.00am	James Keenan (Recently dead)
Thursday	9.00am	Demeter Family (SI)		
Friday			10.00am	Rick Dunne (Recently Dead)
Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	People of the Parish Barbara & Alen Upton (RIP)		
Sunday <b>Polish</b>	10.30am <b>12.15pm</b>	K. J. Joseph (RIP) Jerry Szczepankiewicz (RIP) and Henryk Bakalarczyk (RIP)	8.30am	Jim Shaw (RIP)



Today I use the word in its broadest sense of 'making known'. There are many ways in which a person can make Christ known - we can communicate by deed or word, written or spoken. One of the great gifts which the great majority of people have is the gift of speech. In its use we quickly demonstrate our Christian personality; and our reflection to-day is on how we use this gift so that people may easily discern our Christian commitment "to make known", particularly in our ordinary conversations.

**Nehemiah 8:1-10** - concerns itself with making known God's message. The priest Ezra had the task of guarding the Scriptures and instructing the people in them, maintaining a constant tradition from Moses through succeeding generations. It would seem that peoples'

attention span was greater than today - from early morning to noon he instructed them!

**1 Cor. 12:12-30** - The epistle continues St. Paul's discussion with the Corinthians about the different roles people have within the Christian community, but all with the same obligation of making known the Lord.

**Gospel Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21** commences with the author explaining his reasons for writing an account of Christ's life and teaching so that, down the track, there should be no ambiguity about who and what Christ is. He is the Anointed One to be made known to all - to the poor, the captive, the intellectually blind.

#### **Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette:**

**Fr Boguslaw Kot MS: Parish Priest, Fr Leszek Gamracy MS: Assistant Priest**

**The Presbytery, Howard Way, Harlow, Essex CM20 2NS • Tel/ 01279 426017**

**Email: [harlowolf@brcdt.org](mailto:harlowolf@brcdt.org)**

**Our Lady of Fatima Hall:** [olfharlow@gmail.com](mailto:olfharlow@gmail.com)  
**St. Thomas More Hall:** [cruzblessen@gmail.com](mailto:cruzblessen@gmail.com)

07425633193  
07399846607

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION - STM:** Wednesday, Friday 9.30am-10am **OLF:** Saturday 5pm - 5.50pm

**Feasts of the Week:**

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January, The Conversion of St Paul, Ap - Feast

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January, St Thomas Aquinas, Pr. D - Memorial

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January, St John Bosco, Pr. - Memorial

This Weekend 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> January there is a **second collection** for **The Crib**

**CHURCH CLEANING:** OLF Church: Friday 31st January – **Team B**, Polish Team

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP**

OLF Hall (behind the stage meeting room) Twice a month on the First & Third Friday, 6.00pm

**FIRST COMMUNION** the next meeting for the children 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**RCIA:** The group will continue to meet in the Presbytery on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January.

**SVP**

**Appeal** for unwanted gifts. Please leave in the boxes, in the church porch at OLF & STM. Thank you

**The next meeting is** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 at 7.00pm in OLF Hall (upstairs room)

**Launch Event:** You are invited to celebrate the launch of SVP Harlow's conference at a fundraising event hosted at OLF on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 2.00pm. Join us for music and refreshments from our Harlow Parishes.

**OLF & STM Social and Fund-raising team:**

If you have any unwanted gifts that you would like to donate to future raffles/ fete/ bazaar it will be gratefully received. Please leave any donation(s) in the box provided in the foyer from Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup> of January, once again thank you for your support, it's very much appreciated.

**Caritas Networking Day**

Parishioners across the Diocese, particularly those involved in projects supporting Catholic Social Action or interested in doing so, are warmly invited to the 2025 Caritas Networking Day. Active parish SVP, CAFOD, Justice and Peace groups or those supporting refugees and migrants, running or assisting with foodbanks, involved in environmental projects, or working with the homeless will come together on Sunday, 9 February, from 2–6 pm at St. Edward the Confessor Church Hall, Romford.

**Pray for the sick:** J.C. Nkosa, Oswald Donkor, Teresa Lambe, Noreen Wright, Romualda Ratajczyk, Grace Fisher, Fr Bernard Grogan, Angela Walsh, Jeremy Collins, Peter Kelly, Pam Matthews, Andrew Dodge, Władysław Borecki, Ewa Samborska, Peter, Tom Ryan, Adele Ryan, Nial Briody, Maria Lunnon, Fabian Andrade, Eileen Rowan, John Brickley, Helen Doherty, Philip Ketedzi, Caroline Berry, Anna Sweeney, Stanislaw Kostecki, Carmel Delaney, Donnah Dris, Conrado Shea, Ryan Tomlin, May Quinlan, Krystyna, Josie Cronin, Mary Quinlan, Anna Borsuk, Ruby Antony, Eileen Jolly, Anna Słota, Monica, John O'Donnell and their children, Neil, Anna Gawlik, Eileen, Kathleen Kidney, Andrew Sinclair, Pauline, Alice and Rodney Bill, Valda, sick parishioners from Ashlyn, Alexandra and Abbot Care Home.

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of:** Romualda Ratajczyk, James Keenan, Giona Nkunim Botchway-Adjei, Christopher Keenan, Denis Grogan, Kathleen Thompson, Fr Andrzej Kuder MS, Fr Z. Pałys MS, Fr P Sofij MS, Gerald O'Brien, Mario Pascale, Robert King, Sheila Maher, Mary Doran, Des Rowan, Hayley Wright, Mary Sage, Patrica Carter, Radosław Iwańczyk, Piotr Chudy, Billy Lomasney, Kenneth Samuels, John Stenson, Terry Farrington, Kevin McGrath, Julie Bush, Janina Zdrojewska, Zbigniew Piątek, Józef Chapski, Peter Mwangi Gekonyo, Eileen Hynes, Irene Heaphy, Joby Joy, PJ Thomas, Eveline Falzon, Dolores Lawless, Zbigniew Sienkiewicz, John Cywinski, Maria Cristina Galagala, Conway Love, Giuseppe Lobue, Thomas Nelson, Paul Gaize, Bridget Minihane, Barbara Vernem, Romie Quinn, and all those whose anniversaries occur this month.



‘Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world.’

*Pope Francis, Aperuit illis*

[www.olfstm.weebly.com](http://www.olfstm.weebly.com)

[stmandolphparish.co.uk](http://stmandolphparish.co.uk)



### **What is a Jubilee Year?**

In the Catholic Church, a Jubilee or Holy Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

### **How often is a Jubilee Year?**

A Jubilee Year is celebrated by the Church every 25 years. This has

been the case since 1470, when Pope Paul II changed it from every 50 years. A Pope can also proclaim an Extraordinary Jubilee, like the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis inaugurated in 2015.

### **What is the theme of the Jubilee Year in 2025?**

The theme is Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis has invited Catholics to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone". We are also invited to rediscover a spirituality of God's creation in which we understand ourselves as "pilgrims on the earth" rather than masters of the world.

### **When does the Jubilee Year start and finish?**

The 2025 Jubilee Year begins on Christmas Eve 2024 and concludes on 6 January 2026.

### **What is a Holy Door?**

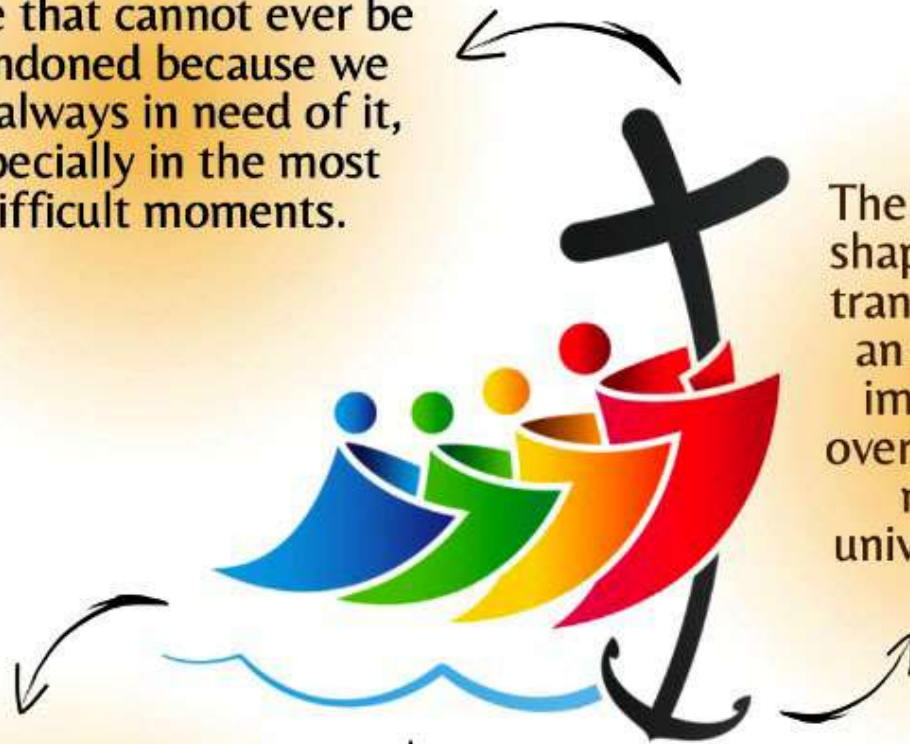
A Holy Door is one of the usually sealed entrances that lead into the major basilicas of Rome. The beginning of the Jubilee Year is marked by the opening of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. It is only during a Jubilee Year that these doors are opened.

In the Diocese of Brentwood Holy Doors will be opened in:

- The Cathedral of St Mary & St Helen, Brentwood,
- The National Shrine of Our Lady of Light, Spouse of the Holy Spirit, Clacton,
- Saint Antony of Padua, Forest Gate.

‘Almighty God... in this year of grace...bound to Christ the rock of our salvation, may we happily attain the goal of blessed hope’. [cf Collect from the Mass of Holy Year].

The cross of Christ is the hope that cannot ever be abandoned because we are always in need of it, especially in the most difficult moments.



The Cross, in the shape of a sail, is transformed into an anchor that imposes itself over the waves in motion. A universal symbol of Hope.

The figures represent humanity from the four corners of the World. They are embracing each other to illustrate the solidarity between the peoples, as the first holds onto the cross.

The rough sea is a reminder of the difficulties of the pilgrimage of life. Often, personal events as well as those of the world, press on us more intensely, demanding a greater hope.

