



Parish Newsletter **Seventh Sunday Year C 2025**

Mass Intentions 22nd February – 2nd March

Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)

St Thomas More (STM)

Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Hayley Wright (RIP) Souls E. S. Daniel		
Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Piotr (SI) Grażyna & Sylwia Czop (Birthday Mass)	8.30am	People of the Parish
Monday	9.00am	Joanna (for healing)		
Tuesday	9.00am	Leon Kartey (Birthday, SI)		
Wednesday	7-8pm	Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament	10.00am	Joanna (for healing)
Thursday	9.00am	Henry Wootton (RIP)		
Friday			10.00am	Edith Fox (Ann., RIP)
Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Stanisław Sitarz (Gregorian Mass 1) Józefa, Jadwiga and Krystyna Pilek (RIP)		
Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Patricia Adley (RIP) Ludwik and Jolanta Stochmal and Jacek and Kazimierz Ambroziewicz (RIP)	8.30am	(Gregorian Mass 2)



Compassion

Human standards demand retaliation and revenge, disregarding the fact that in this way we perpetuate hatred and even death. By contrast, God tells us that by responding with compassion it may be possible to achieve reconciliation and peace. Our readings today speak to us of this unusual approach.

1 Samuel 26: 2-13: Here we have the young David refusing to take advantage of Saul in spite of all that he has suffered at Saul's hands. The fact that Saul was the anointed king influenced David not to act against him. In so doing he honoured God.

1 Cor 15:45-49: Our human nature is material and mortal; life in Christ transforms it allowing us to control our natural reactions to difficult situations. Aware of the jealousies that divided the Corinthian community, Paul explains that we are subject to two influences in life - one, human, deriving from Adam, the second, divine, deriving from Christ. We must allow the second to dominate.

Luke 6: 27-38: Some of Christ's basic teachings are recorded here to give us a clearer view of what He means by the new and difficult command to love. What we hear is beyond all the boundaries of human comprehension and inclination and involves becoming "fools for Christ's sake". However the key words, I believe, are to be found in Christ's request "to be compassionate as your Father is compassionate".

Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette:

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

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

Feasts of the Week: Saturday 1st March, St. David Bp – National Feast

CHURCH CLEANING: OLF Church: 28th February Friday 6.00pm – **Team B**, Polish Group

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 on Wednesday **26th February at 5.30pm**

Parents meetings: 24th February (English) - 3rd March (Polish) at 7pm in the OLF Chapel.

RCIA: The group will continue to meet in the Presbytery on Tuesday 25th February at 7.00pm.

SVP Harlow -The next meeting is on Tuesday **11th March at 7.00pm** at The Assumption of Our Lady Church Hall, Mulberry Green, Old Harlow, CM17 0HA. **Thank you** for all your donations.

Social & Fund-Raising Event – We would like to invite you to a Quiz at STM Hall on **Saturday 8th March**. Please arrive at 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. You can bring your own nibbles/refreshments. It is £3.00 per person with 6-8 in a team, but children 12 and under are free – individuals are welcome, as you can join an allocated table. There will be a raffle on the night. To book your team, please call Bernadette on 01279 443392.

Easter Raffle

We are holding an Easter raffle in our parish and tickets are now on sale from 1st March.

SERIES OF LENTEN TALKS – HOLY YEAR 2025 - BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL

“Those who believe, don’t leave.”

Wednesday 12th March: Brendan Thompson who is the U.K. Programme Director for Word on Fire Ministries. Brendan is a Lay Theologian speaking to thousands of people each year. Theme: This is my Body – Eucharistic revival.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Will be held in Brentwood Cathedral, the large hall, over 6 Tuesday evenings (20 April – 3 June). 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. More details to follow shortly.

GRIEVING FRIENDS SUPPORT NETWORK

Bereaving and grieving process workshop. Join us to explore the mixed-up emotions of the grieving process.

Date: Saturday, **8th March**, Time **10.30 -1.00pm**, Venue: **Harlow Study Centre**, Netteswellbury Farm, Harlow CM18 6BW to register Click the link/scan the QR code/email from the poster in the porch (back) of the church.

Pray for the sick: Pam Barnard, Ivan Pirnak, 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: Patrick Travers, Brian Mooney, Romualda Ratajczyk, James Keenan, Giona Nkunim Botchway-Adjei, Christopher Keenan, Denis Grogan, Kathleen Thompson, Fr Andrzej Kuder MS, Fr Z. Pałys MS, Fr Piotr 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.

Prayer for Pope Francis (As the Holy Father remains in hospital, we keep him close in prayer.)

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.



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?

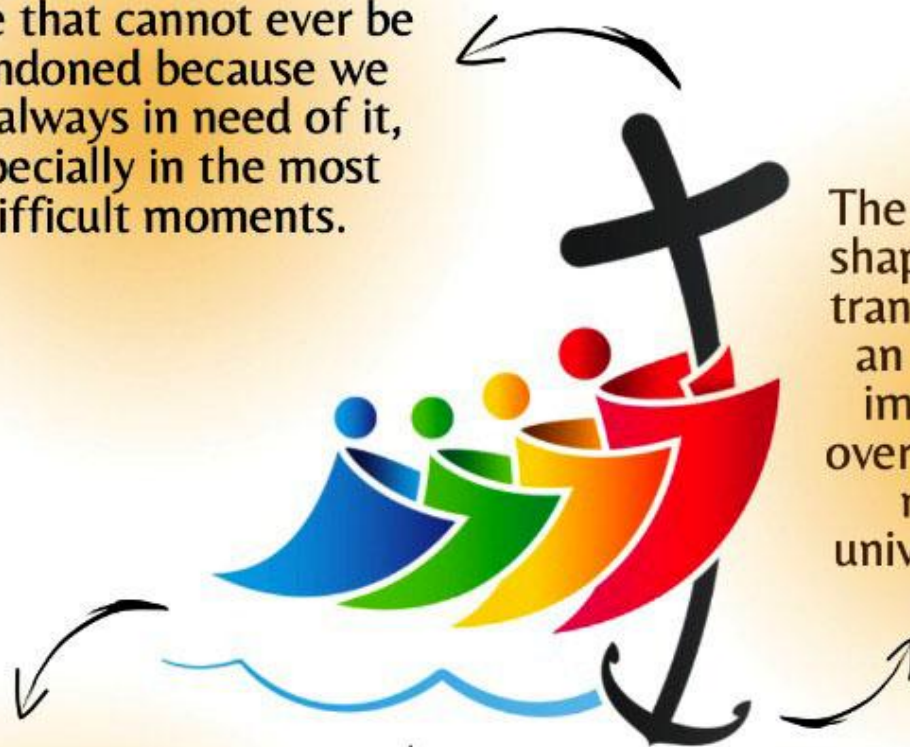
A Holy Door is one of the usually sealed entrances that lead into the major basilicas of Rome. The beginning of the Jubilee Year is marked by the opening of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. It is only during a Jubilee Year that these doors are opened.

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.

