



## Parish Newsletter **The Presentation of the Lord** Year C 2025

Mass Intentions 1<sup>st</sup> February - 9<sup>th</sup> February

Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)

St Thomas More (STM)

|                         |                           |  |         |  |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|--|---------|--|
| Saturday                | 9.00am<br>6.00pm          | People of the Parish<br>Barbara & Alen Upton (RIP)                                       |         |  |
| Sunday<br><b>Polish</b> | 10.30am<br><b>12.15pm</b> | K. J. Joseph (RIP)<br>Jerzy Szczepankiewicz (RIP)<br>and Henryk Bakalarczyk (RIP)        | 8.30am  | Jim Shaw (RIP)   |
| Monday                  | 9.00am                    | Robin Kartley (SI, Birthday)<br>Rose Dyson ((RIP)  |         |  |
| Tuesday                 | 9.00am                    | Joe Doyle (RIP, Ann.)<br>Wiesław Krawczyk (RIP)  |         |  |
| Wednesday               | 7-8pm                     | Adoration of the Most Blessed<br>Sacrament   | 10.00am | Kateri McIntosh (SI)<br>Evelyn Falzon & Holy Souls in Purgatory  |
| Thursday                | 9.00am                    | Barbara Upton and Allen Upton (RIP)  |         |  |
| Friday                  |                           |  | 10.00am | Edith Fox (RIP, Ann.)<br>Travis Leslie and Shana-Kay Watson (SI) |
| Saturday                | 9.00am<br>6.00pm          | People of the Parish<br>Carol Mason (Ann. RIP)   |         |  |
| Sunday<br><b>Polish</b> | 10.30am<br><b>12.15pm</b> | Sharlene Lopez & Family, (Thanksgiving)<br>& Eduardo Joson (RIP)<br>Stanisław Kipa (RIP) | 8.30am  | Dusze w czyśćcu cierpiące (Holy Souls)                           |



**Mal 3:1-4** The prophecy of Malachi is fulfilled when Mary and Joseph present the child Jesus in the Temple, for Malachi speaks of a day when 'the Lord . . . will suddenly come to his Temple'

**Heb 2:14-18** This reading underlines the reality of Jesus's humanity. Jesus had to be made like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

**Lk 2:22-40** Simeon and Anna, like the members of the Holy Family are models of patient, enduring faith. Perhaps I will pray for the desire to experience a deeper, child-like trust and hope in God, the Father of all creation.

Questions for reflection:

- What are my spiritual sacrifices that I offer to the Lord?
- Do I give myself to God or do I still give just "something"?
- Does my offering express my faithfulness to God in my daily life?

**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:** [cruzbllessen@gmail.com](mailto:cruzbllessen@gmail.com)

07425633193  
07399846607

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

**Feasts of the Week:**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, **St. Anne Line**, M, Diocesan Memorial

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February, **St. Agatha**, V, M, Memorial

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February, **SS Paul Miki and Companions**, M, Memorial

**Second collections**

This Weekend 2/3 February for **The Crib**

Next Weekend 8/9 February for **Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund**

**CHURCH CLEANING:** OLF Church: Friday 7th February – **Team C**, FHC Parents English 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 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**RCIA:** The group will continue to meet in the Presbytery on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 7.00pm.

**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)

**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. 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.

**INTER FAITH DIALOGUE**

This year marks sixty years since *Nostra Aetate*, the document on relations with other Faiths of the Second Vatican Council. Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald worked for decades in this area, particularly in the Vatican's Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue. Cardinal Michael will be speaking on 'Inter Faith Dialogue' at 11 am on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. You are invited to attend free of charge. Refreshments will be available from 10.30. Please bring a packed lunch. The event is also available live stream free of charge at [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**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 Kosteci, 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. Patys 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.



### **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?**

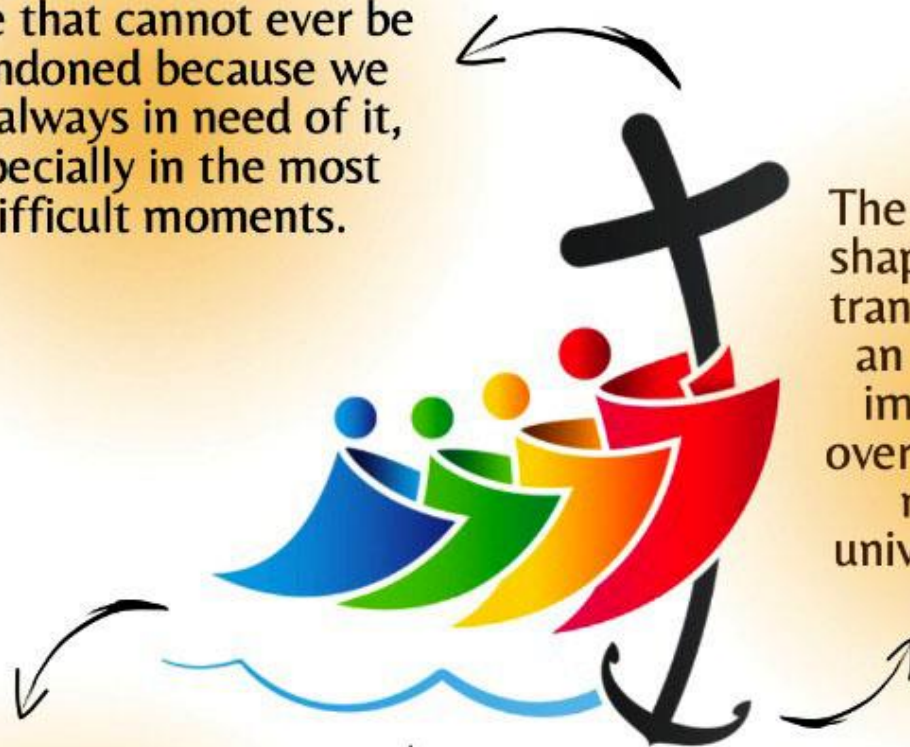
A Holy Door is one of the usually sealed entrances that lead into the major basilicas of Rome. The beginning of the Jubilee Year is marked by the opening of the Holy Door of St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. It is only during a Jubilee Year that these doors are opened.

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.

