

OUR LADY OF FATIMA & ST THOMAS MORE

Parish Newsletter **The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph Year A**

Mass Intentions 27th December 2025– 4th January 2026

Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)

St Thomas More (STM)

Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (17) Paul McDonald (RIP)		
Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Philip & Charlotte Donkor & Family (Ann., SI) Kasia & Krzysztof Łapińscy (SI)	8.30am	Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (18)
Monday	9.00am	Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (19) Caroline Berry (SI)		
Tuesday	9.00am	People of the Parish Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (20)		
Wednesday	7.00pm	Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (21)	10.00am	Tess Minihane (RIP, Ann.)
Mary Mother of God	9.00am 11.00am Polish	Donkor Family (Thanksgiving, SI) Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (22)		
Friday			10.00am	Nikita & Shoji (3rd Wedding Ann.) Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (23)
Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (24) Howard Lieu (RIP, Ann.)		
Sunday Polish	10.30am 12.15pm	Bridie Dunlea (RIP, Ann.) Franciszek Górzynski (1st Ann., RIP)	8.30am	Genowefa Gaweł Gregorian Mass (25)

"Happy are they who dwell in Your house, O Lord" focuses our thoughts on what the Judaic-Christian tradition considers to be an essential of happy family life.



Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6; 12-14 Here we see described family values as known and recognised by Christ - the dignity and responsibility of parenthood, respect and gratitude by children towards their parents particularly in their advanced years.

Colossians 3: 12-21 Awareness of their special character as disciples of Christ, Christians attach particular importance to the role of the family as an educational force, particularly by parents respecting each other as collaborators with the Almighty in the work of life.

Matthew 2: 13-15;19-23 Joseph finds himself confronted with an entirely unusual set of circumstances to which he and Mary had to adjust so that their special mission could be fulfilled.

2026
Happy New Year

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: harlowwolf@brcdt.org

HALLS BOOKING

Our Lady of Fatima Hall olffharlow@gmail.com 07425633193

St Thomas More Hall cruzblissen@gmail.com 07399846607

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

THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who helped with the preparation for Christmas, the Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, Altar Servers, those who cleaned and decorated the churches and for all the additional support we received throughout the year 2025. Thank you also for your Christmas offering and for Christmas cards and gifts received.

Fr Bogdan and Fr Leszek

CHURCH CLEANING: OLF Church – Friday 2nd January – Team B Polish

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

First Holy Communion meetings will continue for children on **Wednesday 7th January 2026 at 5.30pm in the church.**

RCIA: The Catholic Church's process for adults to be introduced to the Catholic faith, learn its teachings, and become full members by receiving sacraments like Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. The next meeting is on Tuesday **13th January at 6pm** in the Presbytery.

SOCIAL EVENT: STM are hosting a breakfast after mass on **Sunday 28th December**. Please bring and share items or just bring what you would like to eat. Everyone is welcome.

COUNSELLING Service for OLF & STM

The service is free to parishioners. Clients are requested to donate £15 for each session towards the church. Further details and business cards are available in the porch or from Fr Bogdan or Dr Ray Aldridge-Morris on 07946 854632.

Pray for the sick: Stephen Galagala, Keith Harris, Pam Barnard, Ivan Pirnak, J.C. Nkosa, Teresa Lamb, Noreen Wright, Grace Fisher, Kathleen Evans, Fr Bernard Grogan, Angela Walsh, Jeremy Collins, Peter Kelly, Mary Kelly, Pam Matthews, Władysław Borecki, Ewa Samborska, Peter 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, Mat Quinlan, Krystyna, Josie Cronin, Mary Quinlan, Anna Borsuk, Ruby Antony, Eileen Jolly, Anna Slota, Monica, John O'Donnell and their children, Neil, Anna Gawlik, Eileen, Kathleen Kidney, Andrew Sinclair, Pauline, Alica and Rodney Bill, Valda, sick parishioners from Ashlyn, Alexandra and Abbot Care Home.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of: Mgr David Manson, Patricia Delahunt, Mary Patterson, Thomas Mulligan, Fr Władysław Wichniarz MS, May Aitken, Romualda Ratajczyk, Bp Thomas McMahon, Frank Taliana, Maria Cooper, Alice (Dow) Insch, Nick Cronin, Tony Poole, Mathew Joseph, Helen Noyo Owie, Br Wojciech Durlak MS, Fr Augustyn Hamielec MS, Giona Nkunim Botchway-Adjei, Christopher Keenan, Denis Grogan, Kathleen Thompson, Fr Andrzej Kuder MS, Fr Z. Pałys MS, Hayley Wright, Mary Sage, Patricia Carter, Radosław Iwańczyk, Billy Lomasney, Kenneth Samuels, Terry Farrington, Kevin McGrath, Julie Bush, Janina Zdrojewska, Zbigniew Piątek, Józef Chapski, Peter Mwangi Gekonyo, Joby Joy, PJ Thomas, Eveline Falzon, Dolores Lawless, John Cywinski, Maria Cristina Galagala, Thomas Nelson, Paul Gaize, Bridget Minihane, Barbara Vernem, Romie Quinn, and all those whose anniversaries occur this month.

Condolences Our deepest sympathy to the family of Mary Patterson who recently died.

The funeral will be held on 7th January at 11am in Our Lady of Fatima Church.

*"The LORD BLESS you and KEEP you;
the LORD make his face SHINE on you
and be GRACIOUS to you;
the LORD turn his face toward you
and give you PEACE."*
NUMBERS 6:24-26



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].