

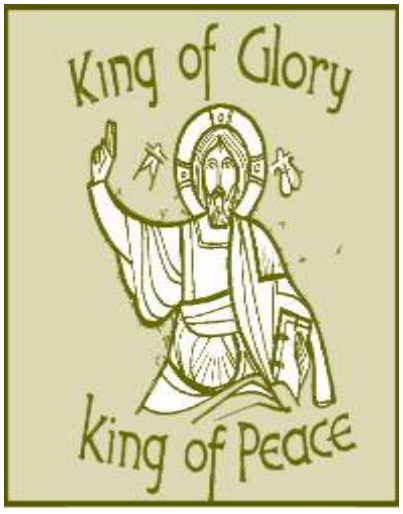
Parish Newsletter

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe A

Youth Sunday

Mass Intention 21st November 2026 – 29th November 2026

	Our Lady of Fatima (OLF)		**St Thomas More (STM)**	
Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Paul Samuels (Birthday, SI) Jan & Stanisława Stachoń (For Health, SI)		
Sunday **Polish**	10.30am **12.15pm**	V. D. Dunne (RIP, Ann.) Zbigniew Kozłowski (RIP - 2 rocznica)	8.30am	K.P. Jacob (RIP)
Monday	9.00am	K J Joseph (2nd Ann. RIP) Oleksandra Matagowska (sick)		
Tuesday	9.00am	Souls from November Dead List Shobha James (53rd Birthday SI)		
Wednesday	7-8.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	10.00am	Mary Johnson (Birthday) The Deceased Legionaries
Thursday	9.00am	Beatrice (Birthday, 29th) Tavonga & Farirai (SI)		
Friday			10.00am	Souls from November Dead List
Saturday	9.00am 6.00pm	Fr Bogdan (Birthday) Fr Boguslaw Kot (Birthday Mass, SI)		
Sunday **Polish**	10.30am **12.15pm**	Souls from November Dead List Mateusz Dekiel (Birthday Remembrance)	8.30am	For those who have Devotion to Our Lady of the Rosary



Allowing for republican sentiments in today's world, the title King is probably a little anachronistic. However, when one examines the original use of the word - "Rex" one who rules - the aptness of the title for Christ becomes apparent. The more so if we acknowledge that the ideal ruler is one who leads by example. For me, Christ the Leader has more appeal.

Ezechiel 34:11-12,15-17: Here we see God being portrayed as going forth to bring back the lost, to heal the sick, to bind up the injured.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26: St. Paul repeats exactly the same theme - Jesus is the founder of a new order, one in which genuine concern for others must be manifest. The over-all goal of this concern is the spiritual well-being, but this cannot be achieved if the physical needs are neglected.

Matthew 25: 31-46: The Gospel spells this message out loud and clear - Christian leadership means service of others in their spiritual and physical needs.

Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette
Fr Bogusław 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**

HALLS BOOKING
Our Lady of Fatima Hall olfharlow@gmail.com 07399846607
St Thomas More Hall cruzblessen@gmail.com 07399846607

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

CHURCH CLEANING – OLF **Friday 27th November** at 2.0pm pm **Team A**.

SECOND COLLECTION this week is for Youth Sunday. The theme for this year is: **"Take courage! I have overcome the world" (*Jn* 16:33) — and let it accompany you throughout your journey.**

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME
Next session on **Wednesday 2nd December at 6.30pm.** Attendance at sessions, regular participation at Sunday Mass and full engagement throughout the programme are expected. Candidates treat Confirmation programme as an ongoing journey of faith formation rather than a one-off graduation event—is essential for helping you build lasting spiritual habits and remain connected to the Church.

Youth Prayer: **Taize** prayer for young people aged 14 and over. Come to spend some time in meditative prayer and singing. Friday **27th November 7.0pm – 8.0pm** upstairs in OLF Parish Hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Next session on **Wednesday 25th November 2026.** The sessions start at **5:30 pm** and finish at **6:30 pm** and will take place in Our Lady of Fatima Church. **Parents meeting** on Monday **30th November** in **OLF Chapel at 7pm**.

RCIA
The RCIA course for those interested in joining the Catholic Church, or those wishing to know more about our faith. For further details contact Fr. Bogdan. The next meeting on Tuesday **24th November at 7.00pm** in the Presbytery.

SOCIAL & FUNDRISING EVENT:
Christmas Bazaar, Saturday 5th December at 12.00pm to 4.30pm in OLF Hall. Raffle tickets are on sale, and contactless payments can be made to purchase tickets. If you have any bottles of alcohol (including mulled wine) or non-alcoholic drinks, soft drinks (cans and bottles) for the Adult Tombola, please leave them in the collection box in the porch or hand to Clara/Kay. International Food Group; if you would like to cook some food or cakes/biscuits please see Janice, (please ensure a list of ingredients are provided). Don't forget the children's Fancy Dress Competition. Unwanted gifts are welcome. Thank you very much for your help.

INVITATION TO A MASS OF THANKSGIVING
All parishioners from across the diocese are warmly invited to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving to be Celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes following his appointment as Bishop of the Diocese of Brentwood. Join us as we gather in prayer and thanksgiving to welcome our new Bishop and seek God's blessing upon his ministry. All are welcome.
***Masses will be celebrated in three locations*:**
Tuesday 8th Dec: 11:00 a.m. – Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT
Tuesday 8th Dec: 7:30 p.m. – St Antony of Padua Church, St Antony's Road, Forest Gate, London E7 9QB
Wed 9th Dec: 7:00 p.m. - St James the Less and St Helen Church, Priory Street, Colchester CO1 2QB

NOVEMBER a month of prayer for our dead. *"We must empty Purgatory with our prayers." – Saint Padre Pio*

Pray for the sick: Oleksandra Małagowska, Lisa Vose, Kevin Sainsbury, Xi, Brian Gomes, Ryan Gomes, Josie Cronin, 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, 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 souls: Maria Que Tran, Maria Lunnon, K.P. Jacob, Felomena Huertas, Anne Dearle**,** Jessica Nelson, Margaret Brian, Maria De'lncarnacion, Aroujo Herbert, David Creak, Elsie Ovenden, Carl O'Connor, Bridget Egan, Anna Gould, Shoni George, Haward John, Victors Keviss, Sharon Brown, Eileen Dempster, Eladia Castro Dumayag, Maria Kunicka, Margaret Sackett, Frederick Pipkin, Gwendoline Middlecoat, Joseph Dawood Thomas, Patricia Delahunt, Mary Patterson, May Aitken, Thomas Mulligan, Romualda Ratajczyk, Frank Taliana, Maria Cooper, Alice (Dow) Insch, Nick Cronin, Tony Poole, Mathew Joseph, Helen Noyo Owie, Christopher Keenan, Denis Grogan, Kathleen Thompson, Mary Sage, Hayley Wright, Patricia Carter, Radosław Iwańczyk, Billy Lomasney, Kenneth Samuels, Terry Farrington, Kevin McGrath and all those whose anniversaries occur this month.

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER LEO XIV FOR THE 41ST WORLD YOUTH DAY

"Take courage! I have overcome the world." (Jn 16:33)



Dear young people,

As we prepare for the 41st World Youth Day on November 22 and look ahead to our international gathering in Seoul in August 2027, I invite you to reflect on these words of Jesus.

Where does courage come from?
Many of you carry heavy anxieties—pressure to appear perfect on social media, fear of not being good enough, or deep loneliness. Like the disciples caught in a storm at night, you may feel overwhelmed. Yet Jesus walks across the troubled waters toward you, saying, "Do not be afraid" (Jn 6:20). Christian courage does not come from your own strength; it comes from his presence and friendship. He will never abandon you.

The victory over the world
Christ does not say, "You will overcome the world," but "I have overcome the world." Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus has already conquered the darkness of sin and fear. Therefore, your courage is not about fighting against others, but standing for life, truth, and justice. In a wounded world, Christ calls you to a gentle courage: choosing love over harshness, peace over confrontation, and hope over cynicism.

The victory of self-giving love
True victory is not about proving your worth or prevailing over others. Jesus humbled himself out of freely given love. Because you are created and loved by God, you do not need to hide your weaknesses or chase a manufactured image. True freedom comes from giving yourself to others and working for their happiness.

The courage of humility
A certain way of thinking tells us that we must do everything on our own, constantly working to improve ourselves and to develop a stronger personality and character. Yet this can ultimately lead us to believe that we are our own saviours. The Gospel shows us another path to growth: not saving ourselves but allowing ourselves to be saved by Jesus Christ. This requires the courage to accept help from others, acknowledge our limitations, pause, listen and entrust our lives to God.

Dear young people, opening your hearts to Christ will not cause you to lose yourselves. On the contrary, you will discover more deeply who you are in God's eyes and come to know yourselves as he sees you.
The Resurrection was a gift from the Father, showing us the courage of humility - the courage to receive. You do not have to be your own saviour. Allow yourself to be saved by Christ, accept help from others, and let the Holy Spirit transform your daily life, your friendships, and how you act in the digital world.

The risen Christ brings peace
Even when the disciples hid behind locked doors in fear and guilt, the risen Jesus came into their midst saying, "Peace be with you" (Jn 20:19). Whatever doors in your heart remain closed by wounds or resentment, Christ enters to offer forgiveness and peace so that fear no longer has the final word.

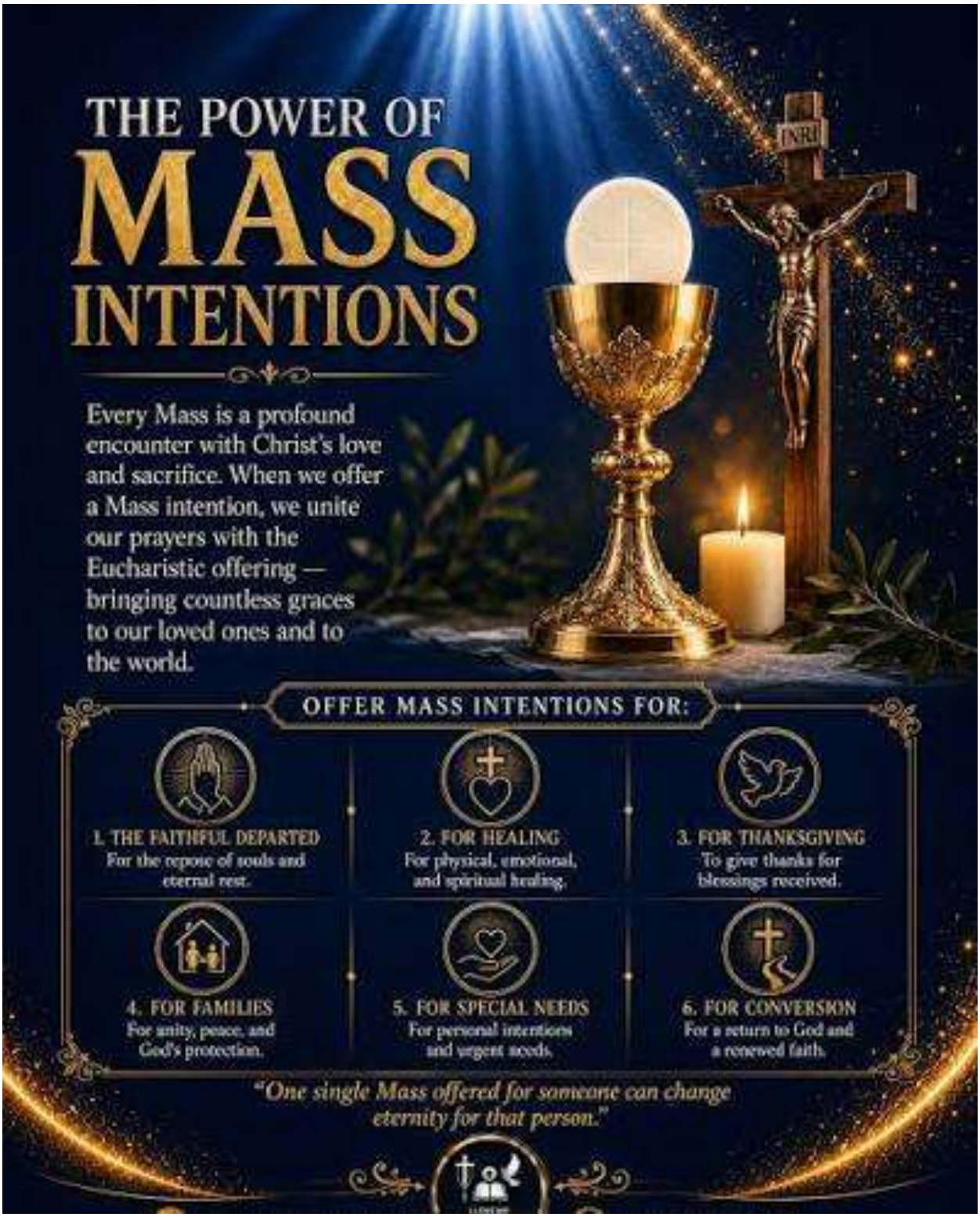
Open your hearts to Christ
As we journey toward Seoul—where young people from every nation will unite—do not just make travel plans; prepare your hearts. Bring your wounds, your hopes, and the cries of the poor and the earth to Jesus. As Saint John Paul II said, "Do not be afraid! Open wide the doors for Christ!" He meets you just as you are. I look forward to seeing you in Seoul. I entrust you to the Blessed Virgin Mary, so she may teach you to welcome Christ's peace with joy.

From the Vatican, 22 October 2026

"We must empty Purgatory with our prayers." – *Saint Padre Pio*

"Praying for the souls in purgatory is the highest act of supernatural charity" -Saint John Paul II

"As we enter Heaven, we will see them, so many of them, coming towards us and thanking us. We will ask who they are, and they will say, 'a poor soul you prayed for in Purgatory.'" - Venerable Fulton Sheen



"If during life, we have been kind to the suffering souls in Purgatory, God will see that help be not denied us after death." - Saint Paul of the Cross