



Family Catholic Church

Parish Priest

Fr. Jean-Laurent Marie

The Presbytery, Oxlow Lane, Dagenham, Essex, RM9 5XJ

Tel: (020) 8592 1634 Charity Number: 234092

Email: dagenhamhf@brcdt.org

St. Joseph's Primary School, Connor Road. Tel: (020) 8270 6480

All Saints Comprehensive School, Terling Road. Tel: (020) 8270 4242

Reconciliation: Sat. 4:45-5:45pm - Baptisms and Weddings by appointment

Livestream available via the parish website on

<https://www.holyfamilychurchdagenham.org/mass-stream.php>

22nd December, Fourth Sunday of Advent - C

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

This passage describes Mary's visit to Elizabeth after the Annunciation. Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, recognizes Mary as the mother of the Lord.

Key Themes:

- **Joyful Expectation:** Elizabeth and Mary rejoice in God's promises being fulfilled.
- **Faith and Obedience:** Mary's faith and "yes" to God's plan allow salvation to enter the world.
- **Recognition of Christ:** Elizabeth, inspired by the Holy Spirit, acknowledges Jesus even before His birth.

Insights:

- We should rejoice in the fulfilment of God's promises in our lives.
- We should also trust in God's plan, even when it is mysterious or challenging.
- We should recognise and celebrate Christ's presence in others.

29th December, the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph - C

Ecclesiasticus 3: 2-6

Colossians 3: 12-21

Luke 2: 41-52

Luke encourages us to see the incarnation as the mystery of the Son of God within the human family. We are encouraged by the faith of Mary who pondered these things in her heart.

5th January, The Epiphany of the Lord - C

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12

This passage tells the story of the Magi, who follow the star to find and worship the newborn King, offering Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Key Themes:

- **Universal Salvation:** The Magi represent the nations of the world coming to worship Christ.
- **Guidance of God:** The star and God's intervention lead the Magi to Jesus.
- **Worship and Offering:** The Magi recognise Jesus' kingship and present Him with symbolic gifts.

Insights:

- We should seek Christ with such perseverance, trusting God to guide us.
- We should offer our best to God in worship and service.
- We also must recognise Jesus as the Saviour for all people and share His light with the world.

12th January, The Baptism of the Lord - C

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11

Titus 2:11-14;3:4-7

Luke 3:15-16,21-22

There was a feeling of expectancy around at the time of John the Baptist but it was directed at the wrong person. It was not the one crying in the wilderness but Jesus who was to be the saviour of all the people. It was he who took on human nature so that he could save human nature. Paul tells us to respond to this by living the life the Lord would wish.

We pray for the members of our parish community who are ill or unable to come to Mass especially:

Mary Ware	Danny O'Sullivan	Yvonne Falvey	Thomas Walsh	Paul Buckley
Maureen Bushell	Ibiron Ayool	Myla Lebersidge	Karen Lloyd	Mark Paton
Olive Edgar	Andy Gallagher	Tony Leahy	Mary Wallace	Dennis O'Flaherty
Amanda Shpati	Daniel Mahoney	Catherine Watkins		

May they experience the healing touch of Jesus

CHURCH PROGRAMMES

First Holy Communion 24/25 Your next session will be on Saturday 18th January at 10:00am for Candidates. Your Mass will be on *Sunday 19th January at 11:00am*. Please be punctual and attend all sessions, *remember to check the course programme for times of sessions and Masses*.

CALIYP 24/25 There will be **no session on the Thursday** but your Mass will be on *Sunday 19th January at 11:00am*. Please be punctual and attend all sessions, *remember to check the course programme for times of sessions and Masses*.

RCIA: Will take place at 7:30pm in the presbytery. If you wish to find out more about the Catholic faith or wish to become a baptised/confirmed member of the Church do feel free to join the RCIA programme. **Term time only.**

Confirmation Programme 24/25 Your next session will be on Saturday 18th January at 2:30pm for Candidates. Your Mass will be on *Sunday 19th January at 9:00am*. Please be punctual and attend all sessions, *remember to check the course programme for times of sessions and Masses*.

Baptism Course The next course will take place 22nd & 29th January 2025. Please email the office no later than 15th January if you wish to enrol. Both sessions must be attended. *Please note that Baptisms will not take place during Lent.*

Bible Study Group Meet every Wednesday at 7:30pm in the presbytery meeting room. **Term time only.**



READERS FOR MASS

Sat 21 st Dec	6:00pm	Morgan & Daniel Hughes
Sun 22 nd Dec	9:00am	Robert Dean & Pamela Anike
	11:00am	Cynthia Nnadi & Ify Durojaiye
Sat 28 th Dec	6:00pm	Anne Carroll & Peter Roberts
Sun 29 th Dec	9:00am	Chidozie Nnanyere & Annette Godden
	11:00am	Nkem Okoli & Grace Muiru
Sat 4 th Jan	6:00pm	Chidozie Nnanyere & Morgan
Sun 5 th Jan	9:00am	Alfonso Gabriel & Pamela Anike
	11:00am	Immaculata Nnadi & Valentine Okolo
Sat 11 th Jan	6:00pm	Peter Roberts & Daniel Hughes
Sun 12 th Jan	9:00am	Chidozie Nnanyere & Philipa Adamuyiwa
	11:00am	Veronica Obi & Cynthia Nnadi

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR MASS

Sat 21 st Dec	6:00pm	Denis Ahorituwere
Sun 22 nd Dec	9:00am	Teresa Onyemah
	11:00am	Augusta Egualeon
Sat 28 th Dec	6:00pm	Karen Drillon
Sun 29 th Dec	9:00am	Matthew Onyemah
	11:00am	Christine Maxey
Sat 4 th Jan	6:00pm	Anne Carroll
Sun 5 th Jan	9:00am	Rosaline Koroma
	11:00am	Berni McKeag
Sat 11 th Jan	6:00pm	Denis Ahorituwere
Sun 12 th Jan	9:00am	<i>Amanda Shpati</i>
	11:00am	Nkem Okoli

ALTAR SERVERS MEETING

There will be a meeting for all Altar Servers re the Christmas services which will include the Christmas rehearsals on Sunday 22nd December here at 3:00pm to 5:00pm. If you wish to take part in these celebrations, please make sure you are punctual.

ST STEPHEN'S DAY MASS

This Mass will be at 11:00am and will include renewal of Altar Servers commitment and presentations.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

All collections at Christmas Masses are your personal gift to the Parish Priest.

CONSIDERATE CAR PARKING

Please consider our neighbours when parking your car at Mass. Can parishioners please ensure that they do not park across the neighbours' driveways in Oxlow Lane and Halbutt Street.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Thank you to everyone who supported the parish raffle. We managed to raise over £800 for the Church upkeep. All prizes have been claimed.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD

Please remember to take a copy of the Parish Christmas Card which contains all the times of the services over the Christmas and New Year period.

Please check Mass times while Father Jean is away 6th – 11th January.

BCYS YOUTH MASS

BCYS Youth Mass, will take place first Thursday of each month up to and including Thursday 3rd July 2025, 6:00pm - 9:00pm at Brentwood Cathedral. Everyone is welcome.

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

Have you considered leaving a donation to the parish in your Will? A legacy gift to the parish is a valuable and lasting way for you to continue to support the Church's ministry and mission within your community and help meet the needs of future generations.

DONATE TO THE PARISH WITHOUT GIFTAID-IT

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

DONATE TO THE PARISH WITH GIFTAID-IT

Donate £3.00	Donate £5.00	Donate £10.00	Donate £20.00
			

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

From the staff and trustees of Brentwood Catholic Children's Society: We would like to wish everyone across Brentwood Diocese a very happy and blessed Christmas. As we come to the end of our 40th anniversary year, we would like to thank everyone who has supported our work by making a donation at one of the parish crib scenes across the Diocese over the years. This steadfast support has allowed us to give hope to thousands of children, young people and families by offering them the specialist care they need. Thank you all.

CHRISTMAS CRIB

All money collected throughout the Christmas season until 2nd February will be donated to Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS).

This is to provide specialist help for vulnerable children in difficult circumstances.

WALSINGHAM HOUSE TEAM 25/26

Applications are now open for the volunteer retreat team at Walsingham House. If you are in Yr13 or finishing university and enjoy working with young people, then a year on the retreat team could be the perfect next step. Live and work as part of a young Catholic Christian community, sharing your faith and helping to run retreats for the young people of Brentwood diocese. For more information then please see the website: www.bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/ or email clairebailey@brcdt.org

ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDRENS CAMP

Can you volunteer at the St John Bosco Children's Camp next summer? Applications are now open for anyone aged 17+ to volunteer for a week at the end of July 2025. From helping in the kitchen to running sports and other activities, your skills will mean that 100 children have a wonderful holiday. For most of the children, it is their only summer holiday. The Camp is a special work of Caritas Brentwood. More information - including training date and DBS requirements, along with volunteering FAQs - can all be found at www.boscocamp.co.uk Applications for children to come to Camp will open in the spring.

eNEWSLETTER - UPDATE

To help reduce our carbon footprint, copies of the newsletter are now available on our parish website, www.holyfamilychurchdagenham.org.

If anyone, over the age of 18, is interested in receiving the newsletter or providing feedback via their mobile phones please text your name and phone number to 07578252029. You will then be sent contact details to add to your address book and confirm. Again, this is only available for 18+. There will be someone at the back of the church at 11:00am Mass this week 22nd December; 9:00am next week 29th December and 6:00pm 4th January if anyone has questions.

THE YEAR OF JUBILEE

The year of Jubilee starts 25th December 2024 and ends December 2025. 'Pilgrims of Hope' is almost upon us, it is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to return to a right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. It is a great opportunity to bring together and foster a sense of unity among the diverse cultures and communities that make up our vibrant Church family in England and Wales.

Is there something you might like to do toward building up and evangelising in the parish for the Jubilee Year?

REGISTRATION FORMS

If you are new to the parish or have not yet registered, please fill in a parish registration form and hand it in to the presbytery office.

MISSIO BOXES

Please collect your red boxes from the back of the Church. If anyone is interested in taking up a red box, please speak to Fr Jean.

HEALTH & SAFETY - 1

Young children must be accompanied by an adult when using the parish toilet. Please report any hazards to Fr Jean or one of the welcomers. Thank you.

HEALTH & SAFETY - 2

Please **DO NOT** light any votive candles near the Christmas Crib as this can cause a fire hazard.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Holy Family,

We are all conscious of the turmoil and suffering that is taking place in the Holy Land since October 7th 2023. Too many are in pain, homeless, displaced and lost by the ravages of war and conflict. It is hard to conceive that such a tragedy is still playing out in the land of our Saviour's birth, while we prepare to join our family and friends for Christmas day dinners and get together in the safety and warmth of our homes.

Christmas should be a family moment of celebration and thanksgiving because Emmanuel is with us as He promised He will be. When we come to Church and celebrate the Christmas Day Mass as a family, we enter the deep mystery and beauty of what it means to be 'Family' as we unite ourselves to Jesus, Mary and Joseph - The Holy Family.

May the infant Jesus light up once more our Holy Family with peace, joy and goodness this Christmas.

Wishing you all a blessed and joyful Christmas
Fr Jean-Laurent Marie

Mass Intentions

Fourth Sunday of Advent - C

Saturday 21st Dec	6:00pm	Matthew Onyemah (Thanksgiving)	Family
Sunday 22nd Dec	9:00am	People of the Parish	
	11:00am	Yvonne Falvey (80 th Birthday)	Mr & Mrs Maxey

Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Mon 23rd Dec	9:00am	Paul Agwanihu (RIP)	
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Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Tue 24th Dec	9:00am	Amanda Shpati (Spec Ints)	J & A Carroll
	6:00pm	Catherine Ahorituwere (RIP)	

Christmas Vigil Mass

Tue 24th Dec	9:00pm	People of the Parish	
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The Nativity of the Lord

Wed 25th Dec	9:00am	Teresa Onoh (RIP)	
	11:00am	Deceased members of the Marie Family	Family

St Stephen's Day

Thu 26th Dec	11:00am	Josephine Omatsuli (RIP)	O B Omatsuli
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Friday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Fri 27th Dec	9:30am	Philip Lionel (Get Well) Followed by Holy Hour	J Xavier-Small
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Saturday of the Fourth Week of Advent

Saturday 28th Dec	9:00am	Pierre Sylvain Cheong (RIP)	Family
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Feast of the Holy Family - C

Saturday 28th Dec	6:00pm	Kay Murray	D & M O'Sullivan
Sunday 29th Dec	9:00am	Sebastiao Freitas (RIP)	M Aideloje
	11:00am	People of the Parish	

Feria of Christmastide

Mon 30th Dec	9:00am	Pauline Egbunike (RIP)	
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Feria of Christmastide

Tue 31st Dec	9:00am	Eddie Fitzgerald (RIP)	M Fitzgerald
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Mary, Mother of God

Wed 1st Jan	11:00am	Antoine Allet (RIP)	A & J Carroll
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Feria of Christmas Time

Thu 2nd Jan	9:00am	Kevil Jacob (RIP)	Family
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Feria of Christmas Time

Fri 3rd Jan	9:00am	Pierre Sylvain Cheong (RIP) Followed by Holy Hour	Family
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Feria of Christmas Time

Saturday 4th Jan	9:00am	Paul Agwanihu (RIP)	
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The Epiphany of the Lord - C

Saturday 4th Jan	4:45pm	Holy Hour with Benediction	
	6:00pm	People of the Parish	
Sunday 5th Jan	9:00am	Pauline Egbunike (RIP)	
	11:00am	Healing	Calista Aligwu

Mass Intentions (cont'd)

Feria of Christmas Time			
Mon 6 th Jan	9:00am	NO MASS	
Feria of Christmas Time			
Tue 7 th Jan	6:30pm	Pauline Egbunike (RIP)	
Feria of Christmas Time			
Wed 8 th Jan	9:00am	NO MASS	
Feria of Christmas Time			
Thu 9 th Jan	9:00am	Special Intention	
Feria of Christmas Time			
Fri 10 th Jan	9:00am	NO MASS	
Feria of Christmas Time			
Saturday 11 th Jan	9:00am	NO MASS	
The Baptism of the Lord - C			
Saturday 11 th Jan	6:00pm	Betty Haywood (Get Well)	Haywood Family
Sunday 12 th Jan	9:00am	Taiwo Olaitan (Thanksgiving)	
	11:00am	People of the Parish	

Mass attendance: 1st Dec: 359 Late: 106

8th Dec: 310 Late: 84

15th Dec: 401 Late: 128

Collections: 1st Dec: £1,112.85

8th Dec: £956.99

15th Dec: £1,080.81

2nd Collection:

8th Dec: £120.27

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection after all weekend Masses 11th/12th January for Holy Family Youth Service (HYFS)

WEEKDAY MASS TIMES IN THE DEANERY

There will be no **weekday** Masses for the week beginning 6th January 2025. However, there will be Masses on Tuesday 7th at 6:30pm and Thursday 9th at 9:00am. You may wish to attend a weekday Mass, Monday to Friday, at the following local Catholic Churches: St Peter's RC, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham - 9:00am daily; St Vincent de Paul RC, Waldegrave Road, Becontree - 9:00am (NO MASS on Mondays); St Thomas More RC, Longbridge Road, Barking - 9:00am daily.

PARISH HALL UPDATE

Thank you to the parishioners who volunteered to be on the parish hall project committee. We will now start moving the parish hall site project forward and inform parishioners of future meetings.

PIGEON HOLES

Can parishioners please check the pigeonholes at the back of the Church for any messages or correspondence as they are now getting quite full. Thank you.