



Family Catholic Church

Parish Priest

Fr. Jean-Laurent Marie

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

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St. Joseph's Primary School, Connor Road.

Tel: (020) 8270 6480

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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>

6th April, Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gospel: John 8:1-11

In this passage, Jesus is presented with a woman caught in adultery. The Pharisees attempt to trap Him by asking whether she should be stoned, as the Law of Moses commands. Jesus responds with mercy and wisdom, calling for self-examination among her accusers.

- We are reminded of God's boundless mercy, even in moments of failure.
- Judgment belongs to God alone; we must avoid self-righteousness.
- True repentance leads to a transformed life, and so we must make a change in behaviour

13th April, Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord - C

Gospel: Luke 22:14-23:56

This Gospel recounts the Last Supper, Jesus' betrayal, arrest, trial, crucifixion, and burial. It captures the depth of Christ's suffering and His obedience to God's will, fulfilling His mission of redemption.

- The Eucharist is the heart of our faith, the real body, blood, soul and divinity of Christ, and a reminder of Christ's love and sacrifice.
- Even in betrayal and denial, Jesus offers forgiveness and hope for repentance.
- Jesus' passion calls us to reflect on His humility and unwavering trust in the Father's plan.
- The cross, once a symbol of shame, becomes the ultimate sign of God's love for humanity.

20th April, Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of The Lord

Gospel: John 20:1-9

This passage describes Mary Magdalene discovering the empty tomb and informing Peter and John. They investigate and see the burial cloths, but do not yet understand the full significance of the Resurrection.

- Faith often begins in mystery and grows through reflection and trust.
- The empty tomb invites us to seek and encounter the risen Christ in our lives.
- The Resurrection reveals that God's love is stronger than death.

27th April, Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) - C

Gospel: John 20:19-31

Jesus appears to the disciples after His Resurrection, offering them peace and breathing the Holy Spirit upon them. He later appears to Thomas, who overcomes his doubt and proclaims Jesus as Lord.

- Jesus' gift of peace and forgiveness calls us to extend mercy to others.
- Doubt can lead to deeper faith when we seek Christ with an open heart.
- "Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed" reminds us to trust in God's promises.

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

Mary Ware	Danny O'Sullivan	Yvonne Falvey	Thomas Walsh	Paul Buckley
Don Ellett	Tony Leahy	Maureen Bushell	Ibiron Ayool	Myla Lebersidge
Karen Lloyd	Catherine Watkins	Olive Edgar	Mary Wallace	Anne Jones
Denis O'Flaherty	Mark Paton	Ellen Murphy	Catherine Nee	Barbara Quarrell

May they experience the healing touch of Jesus

PASTORAL LETTER ON THE END OF LIFE BILL

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

I wish to speak with you today about the process in which our Parliament is currently considering legalising assisted suicide through the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill. As I have made clear earlier in this debate, as Catholics we have maintained a principled objection to this change in law recognising that every human life is sacred, coming as a gift of God and bearing a God-given dignity. We are, therefore, clearly opposed to this Bill in principle, elevating, as it does, the autonomy of the individual above all other considerations.

The passage of the Bill through Parliament will lead to a vote in late April on whether it progresses further. This will be a crucial moment and I, together with all the Bishops of England and Wales, am writing to ask your support in urging your MP to vote against this Bill at that time.

There are serious reasons for doing so. At this point we wish not simply to restate our objections in principle, but to emphasise the deeply flawed process undergone in Parliament thus far. We wish to remind you that it is a fundamental duty of every MP to ensure that legislation is not imposed on our society which has not been properly scrutinised, and which will bring about damaging consequences.

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill will fundamentally change many of the key relationships in our way of life: within the family, between doctor and patient, within the health service. Yet there has been no Royal Commission or independent inquiry ahead of its presentation. It is a Private Member's Bill. The Bill itself is long and complex and was published just days before MPs voted on it, giving them inadequate time to consult or reflect upon it. The time for debate was minimal. The Committee examining the Bill took only three days of evidence: not all voices were heard, and it comprises an undue number of supporters of the Bill. In short, this is no way to legislate on such an important and morally complex issue.

One consequence of this flawed process is that many vital questions remain unanswered. Can MPs guarantee that the scope of the Bill will not be extended? In almost every country where assisted suicide has been introduced the current scope is wider than was originally intended. What role, if any, will the judiciary have in the process? We were told that judicial oversight was a necessary and vital part of the process; now we are told it isn't needed at all. What will protect the vulnerable from coercion, or from feeling a burden on family? Can the National Health Service cope with assisted suicide or will it, as the Health Secretary has warned, cause cuts elsewhere in the NHS? Can MPs guarantee that no medical practitioner or care worker would be compelled to take part in assisted suicide? Would this mean the establishment of a 'national death service'?

In contrast to the provisions of this Bill, what is needed is first-class, compassionate palliative care at the end of our lives. This is already provided to many in our society but, tragically, is in short supply and underfunded. No-one should be dispatched as a burden to others. Instead, a

good society would prioritise care for the elderly, the vulnerable, and the weak. The lives of our families are richer for cherishing their presence.

It is sad reflection on Parliament's priorities that the House of Commons spent far more time debating the ban on fox hunting than it is spending debating bringing in assisted suicide.

I am sure that you will share these concerns. It is now clear that this measure is being rushed without proper scrutiny and without fundamental questions surrounding safeguards being answered. This is a deeply flawed Bill with untold unintended consequences.

Every MP, and Government, has a solemn duty to prevent such legislation reaching the statute book. This, tragically, is what may happen. So, I appeal to you: even if you have written before, please make contact now with your MP and ask them to vote against this Bill not only on grounds of principle but because of the failure of Parliament to approach this issue in an adequate and responsible manner.

In his Letter to the Philippians, from which we heard in the Second Reading, St Paul reflects on the difficulties and responsibilities of life. He speaks of 'pressing on' and 'striving' for the fulness of life promised in Christ Jesus. Yet he is totally confident in his struggles because, as he says, 'Christ Jesus has made me his own'.

We too have many struggles. We too know that Christ Jesus has made us his own. So we too press on with this struggle, so important in our times.

May God bless you all.

JUBILEE YEAR 'PILGRIMS OF HOPE'

HOLY YEAR 2025 Bishop Alan has designated the Cathedral; Our Lady of Light Church in Clacton and St Anthony of Padua, Forest Gate as the three Churches to gain the Indulgence of the Holy Year. The Cathedral Holy Year Door is the original door of the 1860 Brentwood Church (located behind the choir stalls). If you are unable to make a Pilgrimage to Rome, you can be a Pilgrim to the Cathedral and enter through the Holy Door. The Jubilee Indulgence is a gift of grace granted by the Church. It involves the remission of all temporal punishment due to sin for those who are: Truly repentant and free from attachment to sin. Purified through the Sacrament of Penance.

HEALTH & SAFETY

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.

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.

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
			

LARGE 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.

For example, we have been able to relocate the Tabernacle with the generous support of parishioners' donations and are now looking for donations towards the cleaning of the marble on the sanctuary.

eNEWSLETTER

Copies of the newsletter are now available on our parish website.

If anyone, over the age of 18, is interested in receiving the newsletter via their mobile phones please text your name and phone number to **07578252029**. You will then be sent contact details **which you need to add to your address book** and confirm. Again, this is only available for 18+. If anyone is having problems with this, please contact the Parish office.

BCYS – SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE

19th – 26th July 2025. Open to anyone in school year 10 and above. Join the BCYS for our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, supporting the adult pilgrimage in a week of prayer, service and fun! All details can be found at www.bcys.net/events. Funding and bursary opportunities are available.

REPOSITORY

Please check out our new stock in the repository, open after all weekend Masses.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

There will be a second collection on Good Friday 18th April for Holy Places.

MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE

Fr John Egan for St Thomas More Church, Barking, is organising a pilgrimage to Medjugorje from Monday 21st to 28th April 2025. For further information or contact details, please see the poster on the notice board.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2025

Join Bishop Alan in Lourdes from Friday 18th to Friday 25th July. We can support those with medical needs. For further information, please 'phone Tangney Tours on 01732 886 666 or book online: Brentwood Lourdes Pilgrimage - Tangney Tours

READERS FOR MASS

Sat 5 th Apr	6:00pm	Anne Carroll & Marian Fitzgerald
Sun 6 th Apr	9:00am	Chidozie Nnanyere & Nathalie Duncan
	11:00am	Nana Osei-Minkah & Clare Nwachukwu
Sat 12 th Apr	6:00pm	Peter Roberts & Morgan
Sun 13 th Apr	9:00am	Alfonse Gabriel & Frankie Iheukor
	11:00am	Angela Milton & Cynthia Nnadi
Sat 19 th Apr	8:00pm	Readers as scheduled for Easter Vigil
Sun 20 th Apr	9:00am	Robert Dean & Pamela Anike
	11:00am	Pamela Egualeon & Jennifer Muiru
Sat 26 th Apr	6:00pm	Morgan & Peter Roberts
Sun 27 th Apr	9:00am	Confirmation Candidates
	11:00am	1 st Holy Communion & Caliyi Candidates

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR MASS

Sat 5 th Apr	6:00pm	Denis Ahorituwere
Sun 6 th Apr	9:00am	Teresa Onyemah
	11:00am	Veronica Obi
Sat 12 th Apr	6:00pm	Karen Drillon
Sun 13 th Apr	9:00am	Innocent Ileke
	11:00am	Berni McKeag
Sat 19 th Apr	6:00pm	Marian Fitzgerald
Sun 20 th Apr	9:00am	Rosaline Koroma
	11:00am	Nkem Okoli
Sat 26 th Apr	6:00pm	Anne Carroll
Sun 27 th Apr	9:00am	Matthew Onyemah
	11:00am	Augusta Egualeon

EASTER COLLECTIONS

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

NEW MEMBERS TO OUR PARISH

Four adults will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Please pray for them and their sponsors.

MOTHERS DAY THANKSGIVING MASS

Thank you to the Holy Family Ladies Thanksgiving group, and to all those that organised the Mothering Sunday thanksgiving Mass and refreshments that followed. It was lovely to see the Parish family and friends enjoying a wonderful Mass and get together afterwards.

We raised a substantial amount of money which will be put towards the repairs to the doors of the Lady Chapel emergency exit doors.

We hope this will be an annual event in the Parish calendar and look forward to a bigger and better turn out.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM

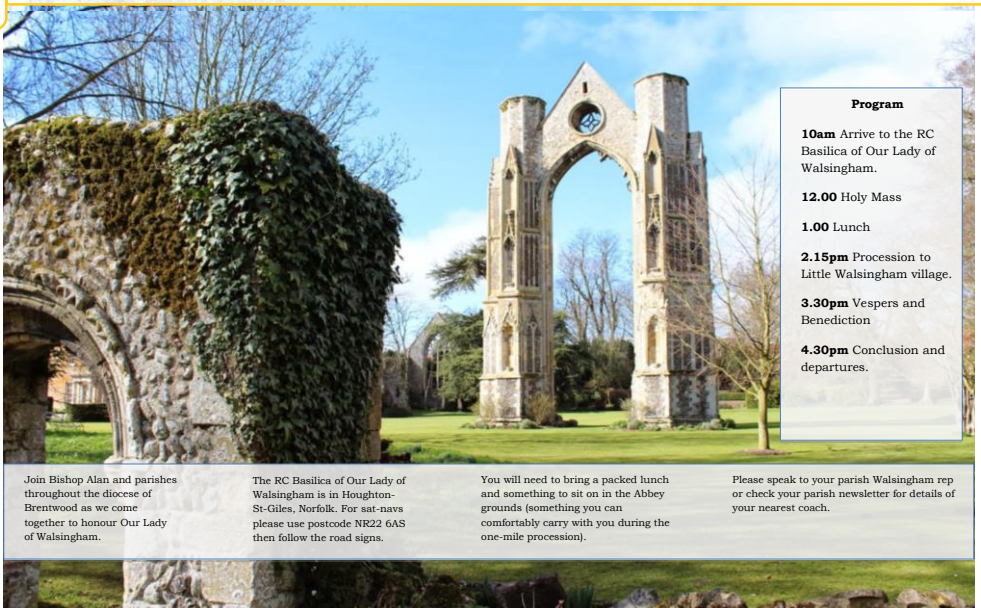
24th May 2025: Join Bishop Alan and other parishes around the Diocese of Brentwood in Walsingham to celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope. We will celebrate Mass at the Basilica before walking the Holy Mile to the grounds of Walsingham Abbey to celebrate Vespers and Benediction on the site of the Holy House.

There are still eight parishioners who still have to pay their deposit by the end of this week (13th April) to the parish office in order to secure their seats.



Brentwood Pilgrimage to Walsingham

Saturday 24th May 2025



Program

10am Arrive to the RC Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham.

12.00 Holy Mass

1.00 Lunch

2.15pm Procession to Little Walsingham village.

3.30pm Vespers and Benediction

4.30pm Conclusion and departures.

Join Bishop Alan and parishes throughout the diocese of Brentwood as we come together to honour Our Lady of Walsingham.

The RC Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham is in Houghton-St-Giles, Norfolk. For sat-navs please use postcode NR22 6AS then follow the road signs.

You will need to bring a packed lunch and something to sit on in the Abbey grounds (something you can comfortably carry with you during the one-mile procession).

Please speak to your parish Walsingham rep or check your parish newsletter for details of your nearest coach.

Mass Intentions

Fifth Sunday of Lent - C

Sat 5th Apr	6:00pm	David Harrison	J Harrison
Sun 6th Apr	9:00am	Selwyn & Janet Hodges (60 th Wedding Anniv)	
	11:00am	People of the Parish	

Monday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Mon 7th Apr	9:00am	Antoine Allet (RIP)	
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Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Tue 8th Apr	6:30pm	Francis Theophile (RIP)	M Heyman
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Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Wed 9th Apr	9:00am	Teresa Onoh (RIP)	
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Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Thu 10th Apr	11:00am	Nathaniel (Thanksgiving)	
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St Stanislaus B M

Fri 11th Apr	9:00am	Pauline Egbunike (RIP)	
		Followed by Holy Hour	

Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Saturday 12th Apr	9:00am	Sr Helen O'Connell O.L.A (RIP)	Philipa
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Palm Sunday of The Passion of The Lord - C

Saturday 12th Apr	6:00pm	Steve Sweeney (RIP)	
Sunday 13th Apr	9:00am	Mavis Alam & Family (Spec Ints)	
	11:00am	People of the Parish	

Monday of Holy Week

Mon 14th Apr	9:00am	Edward Intsiful (Spec Ints)	
		<i>Followed by Stations of The Cross</i>	

Tuesday of Holy Week

Tue 15th Apr	9:00am	Intentions of Alfred Ohuaregbe	A Ohuaregbe
		<i>Followed by Stations of The Cross</i>	

Wednesday of Holy Week

Wed 16th Apr	8:30am	Pauline Egbunike (RIP)	
		<i>Followed by Stations of The Cross</i>	

Maundy Thursday – Mass of the Lord's Supper

Thu 17th Apr	8:30am-9:14am	<i>Silent Adoration</i>	
	8:00pm	Amanda Shpati (RIP)	T Onyemah

Friday of the Passion of the Lord

Fri 18th Apr	3:00pm	with Veneration of the Cross	
	6:30pm	Stations of The Cross	

Holy Saturday

Saturday 19th Apr	8:00pm	People of the Parish	
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Easter Sunday of The Resurrection of The Lord

Sunday 20th Apr	9:00am	Teresa Onoh (RIP)	
	11:00am	Amanda Shpati (RIP)	F Berthanza

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Please check the laminated timetable at the back of the Church for devotions during the rest of Lent and Holy Week. You will also find this information on the website or in the Easter Cards.

Mass Intentions (cont'd)

Easter Monday

Mon 21 st Apr	10:00am	Paulline Egbunike (RIP)
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Easter Tuesday

Tue 22 nd Apr	11:00am	Requiem Mass for Mary Hurley (RIP)
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Easter Wednesday

Wed 23 rd Apr	9:00am	Fairbanks Family
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Easter Thursday

Thu 24 th Apr	9:00am	Get Well Thanksgiving for Gerald	Anteyi Family
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Easter Friday

Fri 25 th Apr	9:00am	Catherine Ahorituwere (RIP)	Onyemah Family
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Easter Saturday

Saturday 26 th Apr	9:00am	Pauline Egbunike (RIP)
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Second Sunday of Easter - C

Saturday 26 th Apr	6:00pm	Steve Sweeney (RIP)	
Sunday 27 th Apr	9:00am	Sunday Chibogu (RIP)	T Onyemah
	11:00am	People of the Parish	

Mass attendance:	22 nd /23 rd Mar: 387 Late: 114	29 th /30 th Mar: 472 Late: 204
Collections:	22 nd /23 rd Mar: £1,108.44	29 th /30 th Mar: £1,312.16
2nd Collection:	22 nd /23 rd Mar: £244.47	

CHURCH PROGRAMMES

First Holy Communion 24/25 (Last Supper) Your next session will be on Saturday 26th April at 10:00am for Candidates. Your Mass will be on Sunday 27th April 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 (The Sacraments) Your next session will be on Thursday 24th April at 6:00pm for Candidates. Your Mass will be on Sunday 27th April 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 26th April at 2:30pm for Candidates. Your Mass will be on Sunday 27th April 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 Baptism course will be on 7th and 14th May at 7:00pm. If you wish to attend, please email the presbytery by 28th April.

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