

**PARISH OF ST MARY IMMACULATE & THE HOLY ARCHANGELS
KELVEDON, ST. BERNARD COGGESHALL, ST JOHN HOUGHTON TIPTREE,
(Twinned with St Joseph's Mission, Besters, KwaZulu-Natal)**

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

3rd April 2016

LOW SUNDAY

FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

Eight days later, Jesus came.

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| First Reading: | Acts 5:12-16 |
| Responsorial Psalm | Ps 117:2-4. 22-27 |
| Second Reading: | Apo 1:9-13. 17-19 |
| Gospel: | Jn 20:19-31 |



LOW SUNDAY - FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY: Today goes under various names. From the first words of the Entrance antiphon it is known as '*Quasimodo*': "Like new born infants, you must long for the pure spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia" 1 Peter 2:2. These words address the newly baptised, who are on a 'learning curve' as disciples and must be given milk at first rather than meat. In ancient times it was the custom to give them the symbolic food of milk and honey. The term 'Low Sunday', or in Latin '*Dominica in Albis*' likewise refers to the completion of the Easter octave and the laying aside of the white robes of baptism. More recently it has become known as the Feast of Divine Mercy in response to Our Lord's request made to St Faustina Kowalska. This focuses on the theme of forgiveness contained in the Gospel where Jesus appears a second time in the upper room and grants to the Apostles the power to forgive sins. The mercy of God is a constant theme in the words of Pope Francis and we are now in the middle of the special Holy Year – 'Year of Mercy'. With the Jubilee of Mercy, Pope Francis focuses attention upon the merciful God who invites all men and women to return to Him. The encounter with God inspires in one the virtue of mercy. This is expressed symbolically in the 'Holy Door', whether in Rome or other locally designated churches such as our own cathedral Brentwood. It is also an invitation to those whom we do not normally see – or indeed those who do not fully share our faith – to come through the doors of our own churches to (re-)discover the welcoming embrace of the Father.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially *Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Angelina Barber, June Jezierski, Mrs Van Stolk (senior), Denis Wood, Kay Smith, Hayley Hetzel, Julie Trueman, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Hani Kyan, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Hopwood* and any unknown to us.

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember *May Collins, Harry Roberts, Sr Mary Pascal OP, Ray Nixon, Tessa Binder, Richard Clarke, Edward Gregory, Alfred Boyton* and *Maureen Gibbs* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

VACANCY: Person required for a paid position as Executive Assistant to support the Episcopal Vicar for Evangelisation and the work of the Diocesan Strategic Planning Group (DSPG) in the roll out of the Stewards of the Gospel programme throughout the Diocese. The role will be based at Cathedral House, but there will be extensive travel to parishes and deaneries. There will also be some evening and weekend work. The role is for 28 hours p.w. If you – or any of your family/friends – are interested, please first contact Fr Tom Saunders for a job description and person specification ([TomSaunders@dioceseofbrentwood.orgmailto:TomSaunders@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:TomSaunders@dioceseofbrentwood.org)) You should then send in your CV, with a covering letter demonstrating how your experience and skills match the essential requirements and attributes of the role. Closing date for CVs/applications is midday on 4th May.

YEAR OF MERCY PARISH INITIATIVE: The symbolic opening of the door on this Year of Mercy is an open invitation for all of us to review our relationship with God and his Church. As a parish, we believe we are called to respond to this call together and 'open the door' wide with our own Year of Mercy initiative: 'Come to me, the door is open.' All parishioners will receive a letter explaining in details what this project entails, but basically, there are three simple ways in which you can take part and support it:

1. Attending one or both of the special Masses on May 15th and 22nd
2. Inviting someone you know who might be 'hesitant' or thinking about returning to parish life to come to the Mass or to contact Fr Gordon for a 'chat'.
3. Praying: Prayer is the most valuable gift we can give to one another, particularly the Divine Mercy Chaplet, The Fiat Rosary and the Little Chaplet of the Divine Will, all available on request from Fr Gordon or your welcome minister. Also, you can fill the prayer slip attached to the letter and place it in one the 'prayer boxes' which will be placed in each of the churches.

MASS FOR MIGRANTS: All are welcome to join in the annual Mass for Migrants, a lively celebration of the rich diversity of London's Catholic communities, which will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 2nd May 2016 at 10.30 a.m. in Westminster Cathedral. The event begins with a banner procession at 10.00 a.m. and testimonies from recent migrants and refugees at 10.15 a.m. Cardinal Vincent Nichols will preside at the Mass.

YEAR OF MERCY MASS: Brentwood Cathedral Year of Mercy Mass on Sunday 10th April at 6.30 p.m. Are you a doctor, nurse or involved in the care of those with physical or mental health issues? Are you a carer for someone with ill health? Are you a minister of God's mercy to those who are sick? You and all people are warmly invited to join the community at Brentwood Cathedral and come into the presence of the living, merciful God. Preacher: Fr Stephen Wang, Chaplain at the University of London.

WORLD YOUTH DAY: With Pope Francis, Krakow, 22nd July - 2nd August 2016. If you are in school year 12 through to your early twenties, and want a "once-in-a-lifetime" opportunity then join Pope Francis and 3 million young people from across the world in Krakow this summer. The Brentwood Catholic Youth Service (BCYS) trip includes the full WYD programme plus visits to the salt mines at Wieliscka, a day in the mountains at Zakopane, and time visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau, as a sombre reminder of recent history. There are 90 young adults travelling and we have just 7 places remaining. Cost of £890 includes all travel, hotel accommodation and virtually all meals, as well as all excursions, and will be reduced to £640 by bursary funding if needed. For more information email Clare Sullivan on info@bcys.net before 14th April.

THE URSULINE ACADEMY ILFORD: September 2016 Vacancies: Subject Leader – Religious Education - Up to UPS3 (Outer London) + TLR1. Teacher of English - Main Pay Scale (Outer London). Teacher of Maths - **Main Pay Scale (Outer London)**. Closing dates vary. For further information please visit: www.uai.org.uk or email bbarnes@uai.org.uk

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:
Morning & Evening Prayer: Week 2**

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| SUNDAY 3rd April <i>Low Sunday</i> <i>Feast of Divine Mercy</i> | Coggeshall Kelvedon Kelvedon Tiptree | 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 3.00 p.m. 6.00 p.m. | All Parishioners Dec'd members Moran, Kilbane, Bradley Tierney & Mullen Families <i>Tridentine: Private Intention</i> Intention Bridie & Ken Stanton |
| MONDAY 4th April <i>Annunciation</i> <i>(transferred)</i> | Kelvedon | 9.00 a.m. | Private Intention |
| TUESDAY 5th April | Kelvedon Tiptree Kelvedon | 8.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 7.30-8.30 p.m. | Sabu Mathew RIP <i>Rosary & Eucharistic Adoration</i> <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i> |
| WEDNESDAY 6th April | Kelvedon | 7.30 p.m. | Private Intention |
| THURSDAY 7th April | Kelvedon | 10.00 a.m. | Private Intention |
| FRIDAY 8th April | Kelvedon | 9.00 a.m. | William Sheldrake RIP |
| SATURDAY 9th April | Kelvedon | 10.00 a.m. | Fr Terry McManamon RIP |
| SUNDAY 10th April <i>Third of Easter</i> | Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree | 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m. | All Parishioners Intention Mgr George Stokes (40th anniversary ordination) Intention Susan Williams |

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: This Saturday 10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction.*

| Liturgical Rotas 10th April | Eucharistic Ministers | Lectors | Ministers of Welcome |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| COGGESHALL | Sean O'Leary Derek Hand | Gabrielle Ruiz | Ann Ross |
| KELVEDON | Pat Richardson Valerie Bartlett | Tom McNally | Marie Sullivan |
| TIPTREE | Celia Butt | Eileen Roberts | Mary Branney |