

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

28th May 2017

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

*All authority in heaven and on earth
has been given to me.*

First Reading	Ac 1:1-11
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 46:2-3.6-7.8-9
Second Reading	Ep 1:17-23
Gospel	Mt 28:16-20



ASCENSION OF THE LORD: St Matthew's Gospel concludes with the words, "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations". The Ascension marks the conclusion of Our Lord's visible presence among us. From his place at the Father's right hand he will send down the Holy Spirit so that we can carry out this mission. Today is 'World Communication Day' and in his message Pope Francis writes in words that have a special significance following the suicide bombing in Manchester on Monday:

"I am convinced that we have to break the vicious circle of anxiety and stem the spiral of fear resulting from a constant focus on "bad news" (wars, terrorism, scandals and all sorts of human failure). This has nothing to do with spreading misinformation that would ignore the tragedy of human suffering, nor is it about a naive optimism blind to the scandal of evil. Rather, I propose that all of us work at overcoming that feeling of growing discontent and resignation that can at times generate apathy, fear or the idea that evil has no limits. Moreover, in a communications industry which thinks that good news does not sell, and where the tragedy of human suffering and the mystery of evil easily turn into entertainment, there is always the temptation that our consciences can be dulled or slip into pessimism.

Life is not simply a bare succession of events, but a history, a story waiting to be told through the choice of an interpretative lens that can select and gather the most relevant data. In and of itself, reality has no one clear meaning. Everything depends on the way we look at things, on the lens we use to view them. If we change that lens, reality itself appears different. So how can we begin to "read" reality through the right lens?

For us Christians, that lens can only be the good news, beginning with the Good News par excellence: "the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Son of God" (Mk 1:1). With these words, Saint Mark opens his Gospel not by relating "good news" about Jesus, but rather the good news that is Jesus himself. Indeed, reading the pages of his Gospel, we learn that its title corresponds to its content and, above all else, this content is the very person of Jesus.

This good news – Jesus himself – is not good because it has nothing to do with suffering, but rather because suffering itself becomes part of a bigger picture. It is seen as an integral part of Jesus' love for the Father and for all mankind. In Christ, God has shown his solidarity with every human situation. He has told us that we are not alone, for we have a Father who is constantly mindful of his children. "Fear not, for I am with you" (Is 43:5): these are the comforting words of a God who is immersed in the history of his people. In his beloved Son, this divine promise – "I am with you" – embraces all our weakness, even to dying our death. In Christ, even darkness and death become a point of encounter with Light and Life. Hope is born, a hope accessible to everyone, at the very crossroads where life meets the bitterness of failure. That hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts (cf. Rom 5:5) and makes new life blossom, like a shoot that springs up from the fallen seed. Seen in this light, every new tragedy that occurs in the world's history can also become a setting for good news, inasmuch as love can find a way to draw near and to raise up sympathetic hearts, resolute faces and hands ready to build anew."

ANNIVERSARIES: Please remember *Hilda Pinder, Jean Ward, John Sawyer, Joyce Parkin, Richard Farrell, Margaret Bryan, Fr Donald Clover, John Cattini, Leonard Carter, Thomas Rush* and *Eileen Opper* whose anniversaries occur at this time.

PRAYER NEEDS: Please continue to pray for those parishioners who are sick especially *Michelle Bryant, Samantha Upton, Margaret Britain, Paul Britain, Vanessa Dann, Angelina Barber, Mrs Van Stolk Senior, Denis Wood, Hayley Hetzel, Julie Truman, Deborah Lee, Bill Sullivan, Pam Loath, Karen Kelly, Sheila Faulkner, Mike Gibson, Donovan Bushing, Rebecca Dillon, Brian Harper, Anne Entwistle, Audrey Hopwood & any unknown to us.*

WE REGRET: To announce the death of two parishioners this week. **Mr Terrance Rohan** of Brockwell Lane died on Saturday 20th. His funeral will take place on Thursday 8th June at St Mary Immaculate, Kelvedon, 10.30 a.m. (subject to confirmation) followed by burial at Wrabness 2.30 p.m. His body will be brought into church on Wednesday evening at 5.00 p.m. **Mr John Connor** of 4 Beaumont House, Paycock Way, Coggeshall, died on Monday 22nd. Funeral arrangements have not yet been finalised.

MONTHLY TRIDENTINE MASS: This Saturday 12.15 p.m. The Mass will be offered for one our regular attenders who celebrates her 100th birthday a few days later.

GENERAL ELECTION: Included this week is a short letter from the Bishops of England and Wales setting some points for us to reflect on. There will also be a time of ecumenical prayer Tiptree on the eve of the Election, Wednesday 7th June 7.30-8.30 p.m.

FR ARTHUR—DIAMOND JUBILEE: **Fr Arthur Barrow** will be celebrating his Diamond Jubilee of Ordination with Mass at St Teresa's, Lexden, 11.00 a.m. on Sunday 18th June. Parishioners are welcome to join him for this occasion. The priests of the Deanery will be joining him for lunch at their next meeting on 31st May.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR FAMILY LIFE: Bishop Alan will be celebrating a special Mass at the Cathedral on Saturday 15th July at 3.00 p.m. followed by a reception in the Cathedral Hall. We have been sent five invitations for any couples who would like to attend – especially newly-weds or those celebrating special anniversaries. If you would like one please let me know.

CATHOLIC? GOING TO UNIVERSITY THIS YEAR? Make sure you look out for your Catholic Chaplaincy...

Most of our Universities and Higher Education Institutions have a dedicated Catholic Chaplain based in the university or the local parish. The Catholic Chaplaincy is a place for you to explore your faith as a young adult, to meet other young people with similar interests from a great range of backgrounds, and to get involved in activities and social outreach. If you already have a strong faith, this is a chance to deepen it. If you are full of questions and doubts, this is a chance to share them and search for some honest answers about life and faith. Everyone is welcome.

To find your local Chaplaincy, and for contact details of all the University Chaplains and Catholic Student Societies, visit the Catholics At University website at: www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL PRAYER INITIATIVE: The Stewards Hosts Informal Prayer Support – **SHIPS** for short – a new travelling prayer initiative aims to provide prayer support to each and all parishes in the diocese as well as an opportunity for parishioners and stewards to have an informal opportunity to socialise. **SHIPS** will bring together some of the Stewards of the Gospel in a neighbouring parish once a month to pray for each other and specially for the host parish, its parishioners and priest. Our parish will be the first one to host **SHIPS** on **June 20**. Please, put this date in your diary and come along to meet other Stewards and to pray with them. They will be praying for you!

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – IMPORTANT INFORMATION: We can now confirm that our parish will be travelling to Walsingham with Witham. The coordinator for Witham, Mary Watson, is kindly requesting a £10 deposit per person. This is to be handed on in an envelope with the pilgrim's name on the front at the pilgrim's meeting she has organised for both parishes. The meeting will be held on 6th June at 7:15 at their parish Hall which is located above the church in Witham. It would be very helpful if as many of our pilgrims could attend the meeting. A car share can be organised for those able to attend. Otherwise, please give your deposit as requested to Pat Ezra, Fr Gordon or Angie Hart by Sunday 4th June. For more information please contact Angie Hart 07719-577923 or email, mahart66@outlook.com. Thank you.

DIOCESAN CENTENARY LECTURES, CATHEDRAL HALL, INGRAVE ROAD, BRENTWOOD, CM15 8AT: WEDNESDAYS AT 7.30pm

- 7 June: Father Stewart Foster, Diocesan Archivist:
'The Foundation & Early Years of the Diocese (1917-1951)'
- 14 June: Canon Brian O'Shea, Parish Priest of Grays:
'The Development of the Diocese (1951-1979)'
- 21 June: Father Martin Boland, Dean of the Cathedral:
'The Diocese Today – A Reflection'
- 28 June: Dr Paul Doherty, Headmaster, Trinity Catholic High School, Woodford Green:
'The Patron Saints of the Diocese of Brentwood'

ADMISSION FREE – BOOKSTALL AVAILABLE

NEW PRAYER GROUP: In response to parishioners' request in the Stewards of the Gospel Questionnaire, we are starting a day time prayer group in Kelvedon. The most popular day of the week so far is **THURSDAYS** after 10am Mass. If you would like to join this group, please help us decide what kind of prayer group you would like to have. For more information please contact **Angie Hart 07719 577923** or **mahart66@outlook.com**
Thank you.

FINANCE Offertory collection for: **Sunday 14 May - £695.33**
Sunday 21 May - £723.48

PASTORAL VISITING TEAM REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

The newly formed Parish Pastoral Visiting Team has begun visiting elderly, frail and/or house-bound people of our parish. This is a very rewarding ministry that doesn't require any special skills other than your own self. If you can offer 30 minutes of your time to visit one of our elderly and frail parishioners, make them a cup of tea, offer them a friendly smile and chat and check on their wellbeing please contact **VIV TALBOT** on **07840-492307** or **vivtalbot@aol.com**

BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL - PARISH CATECHETICAL CO-ORDINATOR

Person required for paid position of full-time Parish Catechetical Co-ordinator at Brentwood Cathedral. 35 hours p.w. The role requires flexibility, working daytime, evening and weekends. If you – or any of your family/friends – are interested, please first contact Brentwood Cathedral on 01277 265235 for a job description and person specification or download from **www.cathedral-brentwood.org/blog-2/catechetical**

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 Monday 19th June.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY—CHARITY GOLF DAY

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society Charity Golf Day is being held on Monday 19th June at The Rayleigh Golf & Country Club, Hullbridge. Tickets are £55 per person and include a Golfers' Breakfast, 18 hole Stableford competition and a two course lunch & prizegiving served in a private dining room overlooking the course. For more information and to secure your place, please contact Julie Abbott on 07912 277413 / jabbott@bccs.org.uk

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY—LADIES' ASCOT DAY LUNCHEON

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is hosting a Ladies' Ascot Day Luncheon on Friday 23rd June at the Rayleigh Golf & Country Club to coincide with Royal Ascot week. Ladies are encouraged to dust off their best hats and enter into the spirit of a 'Day at the Races'. Tickets cost £25.00 per person for a delicious two course luncheon with tea & coffee served in our own private dining room, with plenty of time to enjoy some racing from Ascot before the school-run. Please contact Libby for more information & to book tickets on 01268 784544 / lphillips@bccs.org.uk

GOD AND THE COSMOS

Brother Guy Consolmagno SJ, Director of the Vatican Observatory and 'Tablet' columnist, will lead a free study day entitled '**God and the Cosmos**', on **Saturday 10th June ;**

11 am - 3 pm (coffee from 10.30 a.m.) at the **Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH**. Tea and coffee will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch. Ample free parking is available at the church, which is three minutes' walk from Gidea Park Station. Please book your place by email to **GPstudydays@gmail.com** or by phoning **01708 449914**

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS:
Morning & Evening Prayer: Week 3**

SUNDAY 28th May <i>Ascension of the Lord</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	John Bartleet RIP Paul Cooch RIP All Parishioners
MONDAY 29th May	Kelvedon	9:00 am	Private Int.
TUESDAY 30th May	Kelvedon Tiptree Kelvedon	8:00 am 11:00 am 7:30-8:30 pm	Private Int. <i>Rosary & Eucharistic Adoration</i> <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i>
WEDNESDAY 31st May	Kelvedon	7:30 pm	Private Int.
THURSDAY 1st June	Kelvedon	10:00 am	Int. Angie Hart
FRIDAY 2nd June	Kelvedon	9:00 am	Int. Rymer Family
SATURDAY 3rd June	Kelvedon	10:00 am 12:15 pm	Private Int. <i>Tridentine: In thanksgiving</i> <i>(100th birthday Maud Sutton)</i>
SUNDAY 4th June <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	Coggeshall Kelvedon Tiptree	9:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm	In thanksgiving (30th wedding ann. Derek & Annette Hand) Baptism: Lyla May Whittick All Parishioners

*Sacrament of Reconciliation: this Saturday 10:30 am - 12:00 noon
with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction*

Liturgical Rotas 4th June	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ministers of Welcome
COGGESHALL	Jane Crone Clare Gallant	Desmond Crone	Maria O'Leary
KELVEDON	Pat Richardson Patricia Short	Ed Powell	Angie Hart
TIPTREE	Isobel Kersey	Sue Petchey	Mary Branney