

**CATHEDRAL OF ST MARY & ST HELEN  
HOLY CROSS AND ALL SAINTS**

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**Father Gary**

**Dench**

**Cathedral Dean**

**Assistant Priest**

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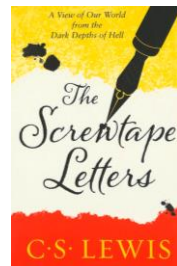
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**TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)  
Sunday 9th June 2024**

**Spiritual Reflection:**

‘The Screwtape Letters by C. S. Lewis is a masterpiece and a must-read. If you haven’t read it, you really should try and get hold of a copy. St. Thomas More said: ‘Satan proudeth spirit cannot bear to be mocked’, but this is precisely what C.S. Lewis does in his amusing yet deadly serious account of the training of a younger demon by an older, more experienced one. He also wisely counselled: ‘There are two equal and opposite errors...about the devils. One is to disbelieve in their existence. The other is to believe, and to feel an excessive and unhealthy interest in them.’



Certainly, today many will say that belief in demons or Satan belongs to the ancient world, a bygone era. In our more sophisticated age, medicine and especially psychiatry shed new light on behaviour that once might have been called demon possession, but today is understood to be mental illness of one kind or another. Indeed, psychiatry and psychology are sciences

which do explain a wide range of human behaviour. The problem believers have is that the New Testament contains accounts of deliverance from evil, the teaching of the Church since the beginning has upheld its belief in the devil and his realm, and saints through the ages have often engaged in conflict with demonic forces.



However, it is Scripture itself that is our greatest authority for the existence of evil. The author of Hebrews wrote: ‘so that by his death Jesus might destroy him who holds the power of death - that is, the devil - and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death.’

James urged us to resist the devil and he will flee, and Peter described the devil as a roaring lion on the lookout for someone to devour.

We are delivered from evil in the name of the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, but also by the blood of Christ. Faith gives us confidence by assuring us that the power of Satan cannot go beyond the limits set by God. Faith likewise assures us that even though the devil can tempt us, he cannot force our consent. Through the power of God, we can triumph over evil.

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Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

Next **Saturday 15th June**, we will celebrate the second round of First Holy Communion Masses at 11.00 a.m. & 2.00 p.m. This is truly a wonderful and momentous occasion in these young children’s lives. They have gone through their programme of instruction, and now the culmination of the preparation will be when they receive the Body & Blood of Jesus Christ in Holy Communion for the first time. As we celebrated the Feast of Corpus Christi last weekend, the Eucharist is the ‘Source and summit of the Christian Life.’ It is the Holy Eucharist that unites us in faith, and it’s Jesus Christ who gives us His Body & Blood as food for the journey. Please pray for all these



children and pray that they will always remain faithful to their Catholic Faith and receive Our Blessed Lord in Holy Communion weekly. My grateful thanks to our team of Catechists, who have helped to prepare the children over the past several months; they have worked extremely hard. All the children who have made their First Holy Communion this year will gather for their 'Going Forth Mass' on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June'.

**LOYOLA PREP SCHOOL CHOIR VISIT** Next Saturday evening **15th June** at the 6.30 p.m. Mass the choir from Loyola Prep School, Buckhurst Hill, will be visiting and singing at our Mass. The Choir Director, Carmel Thomas, will be leading the boys. Please extend them your warm hospitality.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all those parishioners who helped with the monthly 'Big Clean last Monday. We have a beautiful Cathedral, and with so many visitors it's vitally necessary to keep it looking pristine. I'm truly grateful to all those volunteers who turn up each month. Our next Monthly Clean will take place on **Monday 8th July** at 9.45 a.m., immediately after the 9.1 5.a.m Mass. If you can give half an hour this would be a great help. Thank you.

**THANK YOU** To the several parishioners who have kindly sponsored the new Lectionaries that will be used from the First Sunday of Advent this year. The new lectionaries have been over ten years in the formulation. There will be a new biblical translation: The English Standard Version - Catholic Edition of the Bible and the Abbey Psalter for the psalms. A special plate of remembrance will be placed in each of the Lectionaries in remembrance of deceased loved ones of the sponsoring families. The lectionaries are used throughout the liturgical year for the celebration of Holy Mass & the Sacraments. I am truly grateful to all those families who have sponsored these lectionaries.



**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS** Journey of Faith. Is there anyone who may be interested in the RCIA Programme possibly with the view of being received into full communion with the Roman Catholic Faith? Every year we run this



programme leading to a reception in the Church at the Easter Vigil. It is a systematic programme of every aspect of Catholicism, including Scripture, Sacramental Life, and The Dogma's of our Faith, Catholic Practice & traditions, Christology & Mariology, Study of the Church. Please see Fr John who will explain the full process to you. (01277 265235) Hopefully the New programme will begin in September 2024.

May God Bless You All,

**NEW ALTAR SERVERS FOR THE PARISH** Considering the recent First Holy Communions, if there are any children who would like to start serving at Holy Mass each weekend, could you kindly contact the parish office to give the following details as soon as possible: the child's name, contact details of parent/guardian and which mass the family regularly attend. Thomas will give instruction and training for new servers who have expressed an interest in serving on the following dates:

**Saturday 22nd June 2024 - 10 - 11.00 a.m. - Training day (1 of 3)**

**Saturday 29th June 2024 - 10 - 11.00 a.m. - Training day (2 of 3)**

**Saturday 6th July 2024 - 10 - 11.00 a.m. - Training day (3 of 3)**

To serve at the altar is one of the great honours and privileges for our children, and it is something they can do from a young age. This teaches our children about service and commitment in faith.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the repose of the soul of Julia Blencowe, Graham Stone (father of Kathryn Kelleher) and Alice O'Reilly who died recently; funeral details are as follows:

*Alice's Funeral Service will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Tuesday 11th June at 1.00 p.m.*

*Julia's Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Friday 28th June at 10.30 a.m.*

May the souls of the faithful rest in the bosom of all God's saints and one day dwell in the land of the living.

**COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS** today will be hosted by the Love in Action representatives; next week will be hosted by the Catenians. Why not pop along for a coffee and a chat?

**READERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** This Sunday the **9th June** is the last day to let Ann know your availability for the period 28th June to 29th September so that new rotas can be compiled. Please respond either way (a Yes or No is fine) so that she knows who is able to cover. Many thanks Ann. [messina21@btinternet.com](mailto:messina21@btinternet.com) or 01277 231593

**BUG HOTEL** Come along to the Love in Action coffee morning on **Sunday 9th June** and help us build a bug hotel for the Cathedral grounds. It's a great way to appreciate the beauty of our natural world and to care for it. Everything supplied, we just need willing hands, particularly little ones!

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** will meet in the Upper Room of the Cathedral on **Thursday 13th June** from 7.00 p.m. Everyone is welcome so please do feel free to join us for prayer and praise. Contact Liz Hart on 07716 424043 if you have any queries.

**PLEASE NOTE** the parish office will be closed from Friday 14th June and will reopen again on Monday 24th June.

**THE NEXT MARANATHA EVENT OF MASS** to be celebrated by Fr. Paschal Uche, followed by Prayer and Praise, will be held at Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX on **Thursday 20th June** at 7.00 p.m. All welcome.

**BATTLE OF THE ORGANS** On **Saturday 29th June** at 8.00 p.m. a one-off event will take place in Brentwood Cathedral...a Battle of the Organs. The mighty Cathedral instrument, originally built by Hunter, and rebuilt in 1990 by Daniel of

Clevedon, will go head-to-head with a new Allen GX350. Allen Organs UK are very kindly lending us the instrument not only for the Battle, but also for the following morning to allow the Cathedral Choir to sing one of the great French double organ Masses at the 11.30 a.m. Mass. In charge of these instruments on the night will be Donald MacKenzie (Organist of the Odeon, Leicester Square) and James Davy (formerly Master of Music of Chelmsford Cathedral and currently Organist at the Royal Hospital School, Holbrook). We can promise you highly entertaining evening as these two amazing organists put these organs through their paces, and 'pull out all the stops' to give us a concert to remember.

Tickets are £15 and £7.50 for under 16s, and are available from Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/83220321803>

**MISSIO RED BOXES.** Please would you return your Red Boxes to for emptying to Clergy House **by the end of June**. Please include your name on the box. New boxes will be available and if you wish Missio to increase your donations through the Gift Aid scheme please complete the forms which are in the narthex.

**YOUTH MASS** Our next Youth Mass will be on **Thursday 4th July 2024**; Bishop Alan will celebrate this Mass and commission all those travelling to Lourdes this Summer. Meet in the Parish Hall from 6.00 p.m. for pizza, refreshments and a time to reconnect and relax with friends before the Summer. Mass will be in the Cathedral at 7.30 p.m. If you wish to sing, play an instrument, read or serve then please bring along your alb or instrument, and let us know as you arrive. Absolutely everyone is very welcome!

**REFERENCES FOR WORK AND OTHER POSITIONS** Fr John receives many requests for references which he is happy to write for people that he knows. However, it is not helpful to mention to him in passing that you have given his name as a referee or for him to receive unexpected reference requests. Therefore, before you give his name as a referee, please ensure that you make an appointment to meet with Fr John first to

discuss the position you are applying for and the nature of the reference required. Thank you.

**JUST FOR INFORMATION** Clergy days off are Tuesday (Fr John) and Wednesday (Fr Gary); if you need to contact them at these times, please leave a message and they will call you back when they are able.

**CHORAL VESPERS** is celebrated in the Cathedral on Wednesdays and Fridays at 6.00 p.m. (during term time). Everyone welcome.

**THE HOLY HOUR** of prayer and adoration before the Blessed Sacrament takes place every Monday evening from 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. and will be preceded by the **ROSARY** for Ukraine and peace in our world at 6.10 p.m.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS** are Monday to Thursday from 8.30 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

**PLEASE REGISTER TODAY AS A CATHEDRAL PARISHIONER:**

It is very simple. Each adult parishioner should either go to “Parish Census” at [www.cathedralbrentwood.org](http://www.cathedralbrentwood.org) or use the QR code below:



For those of you who cannot complete the registration form online, forms are available in the narthex of the Cathedral. Once you have filled in the form, please return it to Clergy House.

**MASS TIMES** in the Cathedral:

**SATURDAY VIGIL MASS** at 6.30 p.m.

**SUNDAY:** 8.00 a.m. / 9.30 a.m. / 11.30 a.m. & 6.30 p.m.

**WEEKDAY MASSES** Monday to Friday at 9.15 a.m.

**SATURDAY:** 9.15 a.m.

**SICK AND HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS** If you know anyone who is unable to come to Mass but would still like to receive Holy Communion in their home, contact Clergy House so we can put them on our Sick Communion list.

**THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK** is available to anyone who is gravely ill or about to have an operation, so if you know someone who should receive this important sacrament then please speak to a member of the clergy or ring the parish office on 265235.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION** is available in the Cathedral on Saturdays from 10.00 - 11.00 a.m. Confessions in Italian are also offered.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK** and housebound parishioners and friends, including: Merle Anderson, Alistair Bailey, Yvonne Ball, Hermine Bayley, Madeleine Bevan, Eda Bright, Phil Carr, Roisin Cassels, Keith Chester, David Cutter, Dermot Dalton, David, Iris Davis, Jenny Dean, Patricia Decup, Charlotte Donnelly, Margaret F, Rebecca Florendo, Julian Goode, Deacon Nicholas Holmes, Baby Austin Hughes, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Brian Kelleher, Lisa Landy, Lawrence, Susan Maskall, Romek Matyszczyk, Tony Maule, John McCarthy, Carmel Micallef, Harry Newman, Barney O'Driscoll, Joe O'Herlihy, Matthew Pegg, Steven Poole, Geraldine Sheehan, Robin Shenton, David Spring, Mary Stretch, Tim, TCT, Siobhan Vaughan and all our sick.

## GENERAL NEWS

**THE GENERAL ELECTION** This week the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have launched a set of informative resources to help us think about our election choices. It covers pro-Life issues as well as the criminal justice system, education, poverty, the environment, refugees and migrants. The Bishops remind us: "We are not merely the passive recipients of politics but active citizens. An election is the best time for us as Christians to speak out, to get involved, and to lead." The resources include suggested questions for candidates, links if you want to go



deeper, and actions we can take to make a difference. You will find everything at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>

**CATHOLIC PARISH SUMMIT** The Catholic Parish Summit is taking place in Harrogate from the **12th to the 14th June** with over 1,000 parish leaders from across the country. Our diocese has booked some places for the Summit which are available to anyone who is interested in attending. These places are free but they are limited and you will need to make arrangements for accommodation while you are in Harrogate. For more information about the Summit please visit their website: <https://catholicparishsummit.com/> If you would like to find out more, please email Father Dan Mason, the Episcopal Vicar for Parish Renewal at [billericay@brcdt.org](mailto:billericay@brcdt.org)

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING IN AN ELECTION YEAR** On **Saturday 15th June** Raymond Friel OBE, CEO of Caritas Social Action Network, will lead a Study Day, reflecting on Catholic Social Teaching and what the Church says about democracy and voting. Talks will be at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH). Coffee will be available from 10.30 am and the talks begin at 11 am, and conclude by 2 pm. This is an in-person event, also available online at [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) If you intend to be present, please email [gideapark@brcdt.org](mailto:gideapark@brcdt.org) Please bring a packed lunch. No booking necessary for online participation. Simply go to the website. Talks will be available on the website after the event.

**‘REVIVE; DISCOVER; EMPOWER’** a young adults retreat: Walsingham House are hosting a young adults retreat on the weekend of **22nd - 23rd June**. The retreat is open to those who are 19+. It will be a weekend of prayer and friendship and a wonderful opportunity to take a break from work or university. The cost of the retreat is £45 and more information, including how to book, can be found at [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events)

**OPEN EVENING** The Champion School would like to warmly invite parents/carers and year 5 boys to our Open Evening on **Wednesday 26th June** from 4.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. The

Headteacher's talk will be at 5.00 p.m. and repeated at 6.30 p.m. Please visit our school website for more details [www.thecampionschool.org.uk](http://www.thecampionschool.org.uk)

**ST BONAVENTURE'S RECONNECT EVENT** at St Antony's Catholic Club - The Red House on **11th July 2024** from 6.30 p.m. The goal of this event is to bring together former students and staff, celebrate their life achievements, reconnect and share stories and memories and support the school's Alumni Fund in assisting students in need with resources that enhance their educational outcomes. For more information email [alumni@stbons.org](mailto:alumni@stbons.org)

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** is pleased to host their first Charity Tribute Night featuring ABBA Chique at the Mill Hall Arts & Events Centre in Rayleigh on **Friday 12th July** from 7.30 to 11.00 p.m. Please spread the word among friends and family, join them at this special anniversary event and get ready to dance and sing along to your favourite ABBA hits! Tickets cost £20 plus a small booking fee and can be purchased via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/abba-tribute-night-tickets-849314000037> Please keep your e-ticket to show on entry to the venue. All details can be found on the BCCS website: [www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/) If you have any questions about the event, please email Julie [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk).

**BCYS SUMMER LOURDES PILGRIMAGE, 20th - 27th July 2024**  
A couple of last-minute places have become available if anyone in school year 10+ still wishes to join this pilgrimage with the BCYS. Full details on the pilgrimage and how to apply can be found at [www.bcys.net/events/sl24](http://www.bcys.net/events/sl24) or email [gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org](mailto:gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org)

**THE ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP** is now open for bookings! Children age 9 - 12 can enjoy an amazing week, packed with fun activities, including many sports, from **27th July - 3rd August**. The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood and this year there is space for just 100 children -

book early! All details are [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk), including booking information and an FAQ section for parents.

**WALSINGHAM HOUSE ANNIVERSARY MASS** Celebrate 40 years of team at Walsingham House with us, beginning with Mass on **31st August** at Walsingham House at Abbotswick at 12pm to be celebrated by Bishop Alan followed by celebrations at our beautiful retreat house just outside Brentwood.

**VACANCY** St Peter's Primary School, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham are seeking to appoint a KS2 Class Teacher from 1 September 2024. Please call the school office for more information tel.0208 270 6524, email: [office@st-peter.bardaglea.org.uk](mailto:office@st-peter.bardaglea.org.uk). School visits welcome. Closing date 10 a.m. on **11th June 2024**.

**VACANCY** Learning Support Assistant: 8.45 a.m. - 3.15 p.m. (term-time only). St Helen's Infant School are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic and well-motivated person to join our staff in September 2024. Please contact the school office for further information and an application pack: [office@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-helens-inf.essex.sch.uk) Deadline: **Friday 14th June 2024**

**VACANCIES IN DIOCESAN SCHOOLS:**

<https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

**QR CODES and CONTACTLESS GIVING** A new online donation system has been set up so that parishioners and visitors are now able to donate by using a QR code directly to the Parish; donations can be made either with or without gift aid using the QR codes below or by scanning those displayed around the Cathedral:

*giftaid it*

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

| Donate £3.00  | Donate £5.00  | Donate £10.00   | Donate £20.00   |
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*Donate without Giftaid-it*

If you are unable to donate with Giftaid-It then please use the codes below.

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