

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

Canon John J Harvey

Father Gary

Dench

Cathedral Dean

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**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
Sunday 7th July 2024**

Spiritual Reflection:

It isn't possible to be a believer of Jesus and not believe in miracles - the Gospels are full of them. The four Evangelists were authentic witnesses: they didn't make things up; they testified to what they saw and heard with their own eyes.

In any event, we struggle with miracles - and many people do - we should know that the Church doesn't: it believes in miracles. We know, of course, that for someone to be declared Blessed (*Beatus*) a miracle needs to occur because of their intercession and for someone to be canonised, made a saint, two miraculous interventions need to occur because of their intercession. Mother Teresa and Pope John XXIII were declared saints and John Henry Newman was declared Saint because the Church was able to verify miracles had occurred through their intercession. Lourdes especially is a place of miracles, and these wonderful miracles have occurred through the intercession of Our Blessed Lady. And, to top them all, every



time we celebrate the Eucharist, through the miracle of grace, the priest is able (by a miracle of grace) to change the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ.

Not only do we believe in miracles, but we are People of Miracles. True, we don't hear reports of signs, wonders and miracles emerging from our parishes after Sunday Mass, but maybe that's because we aren't expectant of them. Maybe when a loved one is seriously sick or ill, our first thought isn't to make available to them the anointing of the sick, the healing and therefore the miraculous sacrament of the Church



If you don't believe in miracles, change the way you think. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you that miracles are the way of the Church. Saint John Henry Newman said: 'The incarnation is the most stupendous event which ever can take place on earth; and after it and henceforth, I do not see how we can

scruple at any miracle on the mere grounds that it is unlikely to happen.' Perhaps today we might make a simple proclamation for faith by saying, 'I believe in miracles.'

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

As I announced last weekend, Fr Gary has been assigned the new Parish Priest of St Joseph's Parish, Hutton. Congratulations to Fr Gary, this appointment is well deserved. Fr Gary was ordained in June 2019, and the following March we went into lockdown. As a newly ordained priest this was not a good scenario for him, in fact, for anyone. Obviously, it takes quite a while to settle into a new parish and get to know people, but with Covid, everything changed. No public masses, and total isolation. But Fr Gary coped admirably, he managed to complete his Canon Law Studies, write his thesis, and receive his Degree in Canon Law. As we slowly emerged out of Covid, life began to resume some normality. I'm sure you'll all agree that Fr. Gary

has been a wonderful priest here at the Cathedral; his competency, gifted preaching and kindness have certainly won people's hearts. He will do a wonderful job at St Joseph's, Hutton. Please keep him in your prayers over the next couple of months as he begins to pack up and transfer to his new parish.

Fr Matus Meleg, was Ordained to the Sacred Priesthood for the Diocese of Brentwood on 16th March 2024. He is originally from Slovakia and trained for the Priesthood at Allen Hall Seminary in London. He has been working in the Diocese as a Deacon for the past year. As a newly Ordained Priest, at present he is assisting at St Thomas of Canterbury Parish, Grays. We look forward to Fr Matus arriving during the first week of September to take up his new assignment; please keep him in your prayers and, also, all the priests who have been re-assigned to new parishes this year. (see full details of all the moves on the parish website).

May God Bless You All,



MONTHLY 'BIG CLEAN' OF THE CATHEDRAL will take place this **Monday 8th July** at 9.45 a.m. immediately after the morning Mass. If you can assist us in this 'Big Clean' we would be most grateful, even if you can make it for half an hour. As we have so many parishioners and visitors to the Cathedral, it can get quite dirty. Please bring along your mops and buckets, your brooms and dusters. There's plenty to do for everyone! **PLEASE COME AND HELP US!**

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS Journey of Faith. Is there anyone who may be interested in the RCIA Program with the view of being received into full communion with the Roman Catholic Faith? I know there are



many people who attend Holy Mass weekly with their families who are not baptized Roman Catholics, I would ask you to consider joining this program for the information and knowledge it imparts, but also to consider reception into the 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 instruction covering every aspect of Catholicism, including Scripture, Sacramental Life, and The Dogmas of our Faith, Catholic Practice & traditions, Christology & Mariology, Study of the Church. Please contact Fr John who will explain the full process to you. (Tel No: 01277 265235) Hopefully the New Program will begin in September 2024.



RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MONTH OF JULY

The month of July is dedicated to The Precious Blood of Jesus. The entire month falls within the liturgical season of Ordinary Time, which is represented by the liturgical colour green. This symbol of hope is the colour of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. It is used in the offices and Masses of ordinary time.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS I would like to extend an invitation to any of the boys and girls who recently made their First Holy Communion, to consider becoming an Altar Server at the Cathedral Parish. This is a truly wonderful opportunity for our young ones to get involved in the life of faith and give great service to God and the Church. I was an Altar Server right up until I was Ordained to the Priesthood. Parents, can you alert your children to this invitation. We will train the children at the altar. Our Parish MC Thomas Bridge will give instruction to the children. If you are an Altar Server, you are expected to be present at weekly mass!

PLEASE PRAY FOR FR JOHN who will be celebrating 43 years of Sacred Priesthood on Thursday 11th July, the Feast of St Benedict. Fr John gives thanks to Almighty God for the gift of Priesthood and especially for all the Parishes that he has served in throughout the Diocese of Brentwood: *"I would like to remember my dear parents, both now with*



God, who were my first teachers of the faith, and who gave me great inspiration and support in my journey to Priesthood. I thank you all here at the Cathedral Parish for your kindness and welcome over the past 11 months; I'm extremely happy here and it's been truly wonderful getting to know you all. Please keep me in your prayers. Thank you!" Fr John

HOLY HOUR Please note, there will be no Holy Hour during the month of July.

250 CLUB Congratulations go to the winner of the March draw, Lorna Green, who wins £50.

COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS today will be hosted by the Friday Lunches group; next week will be hosted by the CAFOD representatives. Why not pop along for a coffee and a chat?

THE SUMMER PARISH FOODBANK COLLECTION is today; please note that any additional donations of food or toiletries can still be dropped off during office hours in Clergy House until Thursday of this week.

THE PARISH YOUNG ADULTS MONTHLY MEET will take place today Sunday 7th July after the evening Mass. We will walk down to The Spread-Eagle pub for a drink together and a chance to chat and meet new people. All aged 18-35 are very welcome.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP will meet in the Upper Room of the Cathedral on Thursday 11th July 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.

FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP LUNCH Please note, the final lunch before the summer break will be next Friday 12th July; please do join us! We will return again in September.

THERE WILL BE A SECOND COLLECTION on Sunday 13th July for Sea Sunday; your support will make a big difference to

seafarers and fishers in need. This collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its important work, so please give generously.

VESPERS FOR UKRAINE On Friday 23rd August at 6.00 p.m., the eve of Ukraine's National Day, we will be holding a special Vespers for Ukraine in the Cathedral which will be attended by the Mayor of Brentwood. This will be an opportunity to join in prayer with the Ukrainians who have been welcomed into our town and the people of Ukraine. It will feature Ukrainian and English music and hymns with a dual language service book available.

During the afternoon there will be events in the parish hall hosted by members of the Ukrainian community. These will include examples of Ukrainian crafts and activities for children. Following the service refreshments will be served in the parish hall. Everyone is welcome to this important service. The Ukrainian community values and appreciates all the support we offer them.

PARISH PEACE GARDEN The Love in Action group is making a start on the parish Peace Garden and needs some physical help digging etc. If you are able to spare half an hour or so to help create this wonderful parish facility, please contact Heather Leathley (heatherleathley1@gmail.com). Thank you!

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 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

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS 2024

I am very grateful to the following priests for their willingness and generosity in accepting the following appointments, which will take effect on the weekend of 7/8 September:

Bishop Alan Williams, SM

PARISH PRIESTS:

Fr Tony Grant from Canning Town to Manor Park

Fr Gary Dench from Cathedral to Hutton

Fr Jerold Savio Terrance from Hornchurch, St Mary to Maldon/Burnham

Fr John Britto Michael New to Diocese to Great Dunmow

Fr Jon Ravensdale (Ord) From Greenstead to Harlow, The Assumption of Our Lady

Fr Alex Garner (Ord) New to Diocese to Greenstead

Fr Timothy Ezet (Ord) New to Diocese to Chingford, CTK

ASSISTANT PRIESTS:

Fr Paschal Uche Chelmsford to Grays

Fr Matúš Meleg from Grays to Cathedral Brentwood

Fr Frank Westcott Newly Ordained to Hornchurch, St Mary

Fr Saji Thomas RCJ Basildon to East Ham

Fr Paul Makita SCA from Barking, St Thomas More to Barking, St Mary & St Ethelburga

Fr Grzegorz Borski New to Diocese to Clacton

Fr Albert Kollemkudy RCJ New to Diocese to Basildon

Fr Shinto Verghese CRM of the Catholic Syro-Malabar Eparchy will be a priest in residence at Our Lady & St Geroge, Walthamstow.

Fr Paul Boagey, MHM currently undertakes limited pastoral work in Grays Parish, particularly with the sick and housebound and with travellers. I am grateful that Fr Paul will also minister in a similar capacity in the Chelmsford parishes [Our lady Immaculate, Holy Name, St Augustines] with effect from the beginning of September.

Fr John Victor Drabeesan will end his appointment in St Stephen's Manor Park at the beginning of September. At some point he will then return to the Latin Archdiocese of Trivandrum where new appointments commence with effect from April of next year.

RETIREMENTS:

Fr Leslie Knight: will retire as Parish Priest of Hutton & Shenfield. I am grateful to Fr Leslie for his generous ministry to the diocese over many years. Fr Leslie will be resident in Brent House, Brentwood.

Canon William Young: will retire as Parish Priest of St Mary & St Ethelburga with St Mary & St Erconwald [Barking 1]. I hope that Fr Young will find time in his retirement to enjoy his library and I am grateful to him for his wisdom as he continues to serve on the College of Consultors.

Fr John Corbyn: [Ordinariate] will retire as Parish Priest of Old Harlow but will continue to live within the diocese. I am grateful

to Fr John for agreeing to continue as Dean for a while as the Vision Process continues to take shape in the West Essex Partnerships.

PAPAL HONOUR:

Mgr Paul Canon Bruxby: has been appointed as a Chaplain to His Holiness Pope Francis. Mgr Paul was appointed an Advocate of the new National Tribunal Service in July last year. The NTS has exclusive competence for judicial penal processes in England & Wales for delicts which are not reserved to the Holy See. It can also accept cases from elsewhere when bishops and religious superiors request it. It is already receiving requests for advice and the first case has been referred to it. I am grateful to Mgr Bruxby for his generous availability and service to the Church in this often-delicate area.

Mgr Chris Brooks: will step down as Episcopal Vicar for Finance on the 1st September. I am grateful to Fr Chris for his great expertise and hard work in this area over many years. Fr Chris has generously agreed to work with and accompany Father Patrick Daly who is appointed as Episcopal Vicar for Finance from the 1st September. Fr Patrick has an extensive background in Finance and Change Management, and I am grateful to him for accepting this additional role.

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

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/ If you have any questions about the event, please email Julie jabbott@bccs.org.uk.

A DAY WITH MARY AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL Further information on 'A Day with Mary' at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 13th July** (9.45am to 5.00pm) is available at www.adaywithmary.org or <http://www.eventcatholic.com/>

JOIN BISHOP ALAN ON THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to Lourdes (**Friday 19 - Friday 26 July**). There are just five remaining places on the pilgrimage. To book, please go online as soon as possible: Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com)

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 or email gabriellaskinner@brcdt.org

THE ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP has just a few places remaining! 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. All details are www.boscocamp.co.uk, including booking information and an FAQ section for parents.

YOUTH 2000 SUMMER FESTIVAL 2024 Our annual youth 2000 summer festival will take place from **Friday 23rd August - Monday 26th August** in the beautiful surroundings of Ampleforth Abbey, North Yorkshire. This festival is an opportunity for young people (aged 16-35) from across the UK to grow in their relationship with God, form friendships and be inspired to live out their faith! The programme will include input from incredible

speakers, a wonderful variety of workshops, and loads of opportunities to be with Jesus and encounter His love. Visit www.youth2000.org/events for information and tickets (which include food and accommodation).

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 12 noon to be celebrated by Bishop Alan followed by celebrations at our beautiful retreat house just outside Brentwood.

“ADOREMUS” FESTIVAL On **Saturday 14th September** at Oscott College in Birmingham, the “Adoremus” National Eucharistic Congress and Pilgrimage is taking place with representatives from dioceses across England and Wales. Our diocese has been allocated 43 places. If you would like to attend, please contact the Diocesan Co-ordinator, Father Dan Mason at frdanmason@brcdt.org There will be a coach leaving for the Congress from Brentwood Cathedral at 8.00 a.m. on the day. There is no charge for the coach or attending the Congress but you will need to bring a packed lunch. Parishes are also encouraged to arrange a time for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament either on the 14th or 15th September. More information about this will be sent out to parishes in the coming months.

CALLED AND GIFTED TEACHING DAY On **Saturday 14th September** from 9.00 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. at the Most Holy Redeemer Church in Billericay we will be running a “Called and Gifted” teaching day. “Called and Gifted” is a discernment process developed by the Catherine of Siena Institute which enables everyone to understand the gifts and the charisms that God has given to them so that they are able to share these gifts with others. Those who have taken part in the Called and Gifted process have found that their faith has deepened and that they have been able to discover new ways of serving God in their parish and the wider community. As well as the teaching day, participants are invited to complete an online “Gifts Inventory” prior to the day, as well as having a 1-1 Zoom session with a

member of the Called and Gifted team. The total cost of the process including the Teaching Day is £120 which includes online access to the Gifts Inventory as well as a Resource book which will be given out during the Teaching Day. In order to secure your booking please register your interest before Thursday, 1st August by emailing the Billericay Parish Office at billericay@brcdt.org. If you would like more information about Called & Gifted, please visit their website: <https://www.calledandgifted.org.uk/>

OPEN HOUSE BILLERICAY On **Saturday 12th October** the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay will be hosting a day focusing on parish renewal with talks and workshops designed to help parishes transition from maintenance to mission. Bishop Alan will also be presiding at the Midday Mass. Get inspired by priests and parishioners as they share stories of transformation. Hear what they are learning and dream about the change that could be possible in your own parish. The day will last from 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and the cost is £20 per person. In order to attend you will need to register in advance by following this link: <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>

JOIN US IN SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES! The Catholic Fellowship Disability Network (CFDN) has supported individuals with disabilities and their families across Essex and East London since 1962. We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers of all ages, especially younger people, to bring new ideas and experiences to our charity.

Why Volunteer? You will not only make a difference in your community, gain valuable experience and be part of a supportive network, but share your ideas, experience and skills in helping us maintain our charitable legacy. To get involved, please visit: www.cfdn.org.uk/volunteer or contact us at info@cfdn.org.uk

VACANCY The Campion School are seeking a Higher-Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA), hours: up to 32 hours per week/ 39 weeks per year, grade: APTC 5 Points 12 - 15, actual Salary: £23,141 - £24,922 (based on 32 hours per week) p.a pro rata for a September 2024 start. Please apply online via Jobs Go Public (Higher Level Teaching Assistant / Hornchurch) or via our

website under - About Us - Work for the Campion School. Please contact hfielder@thecampionschool.org.uk if you require further information. Application forms need to be completed by **Monday 8th July at 12pm.**

VACANCY The Most Holy Redeemer Parish, Billericay are seeking a Cleaner to clean the Canon Roche Pastoral Centre. This role would suit someone who has previous experience working in a similar environment who can be flexible and sensitive to the needs of a wide range of site users. If you - or any of your family or friends - are interested in this role, please first contact Most Holy Redeemer Parish Office on 01277 624891 for a copy of the job description and person specification or email office@mostholyredeemer.org.uk. 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 as per the job description and person specification. Hours- 10 hours per week, start date 1st September 2024, £12:00 per hour. Closing date for CVs/applications is **Friday 19th July 2024.**

VACANCY The Most Holy Redeemer Parish, Billericay is looking to employ a caretaker for the Canon Roche Pastoral Centre for 10 hours per week at £13 an hour. The role requires flexibility, working daytime, evening, and weekends. If you - or any of your family or friends - are interested in this role, please first contact Most Holy Redeemer Parish Office on 01277 624891 for a copy of the job description and person specification or email office@mostholyredeemer.org.uk. 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 as per the job description and person specification. Closing date for CVs/applications is **Friday 19th July 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
			

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
			