

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

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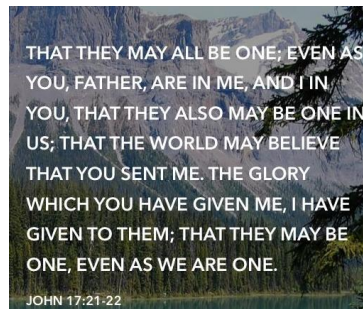
Website: www.brentwoodcathedral.org.uk

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)
JUBILEE YEAR - 'Pilgrims of Hope'**

Sunday 1st June 2025

Spiritual Reflection:

The Priestly Prayer of Jesus Christ to the Father in St John's Gospel Chapter 17, sheds light on how important it is to pray for unity: in the family, the parish, the diocese and the Church at large. Today his prayer is for unity among those who will come to believe in him through the word (the teaching, preaching and New Testament writings) that will be passed on by Jesus' disciples. But why should there be unity among Jesus' disciples? And more importantly, how is this unity to come about? What is it about believing in Jesus that brings about unity consequently?



It is all about the new creation that is established through Jesus' resurrection. Jesus is himself the first-born of God's new creation. When Jesus died, he took with him to the cross the sin and fallen nature of all of humanity. Humanity's fallen nature is

that nature in which the self-life has been allowed to rule and control us. It is a nature that, in the end, cannot have union with God, because the self-life-refuses to let God take the central place - it is my will that I do, rather than God's will. Jesus throughout his life revealed a true human life which was completed surrendered to the will of the Father. However, the cross was necessary because the power of the self-life, and of the self-will, needed to be put to death. It was brought to an end on Calvary. The resurrected Jesus is not the source of a life that is entirely one with the will of God.



For the same life to be manifested in us today, it is essential that we have union with both the death and resurrection of Jesus. The key elements of our willingness to let go of the self-life that can so dominate our lives - even, and perhaps

especially, when our self-will produces actions and thoughts that we consider good. Part of the difficulty for us is that we often fail to realise just how much and how often our actions are determined by self-will. It is the work of the Holy Spirit to reveal the extent of our self-will, and as he brings this to light, it will be his work also to bring that self-life to the cross.

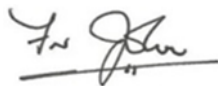
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Dear Friends in Christ,

During this final week of the Holy Easter Season, let us pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit which we will celebrate together next weekend on the Feast of Pentecost. As I have stated before, we should never underestimate the power and working of the Holy Spirit. The Apostles received the gift of the Holy Spirit and immediately went out proclaiming the Gospel of the Lord. They received the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of



the Lord. The courage of the Apostles and Disciples of Jesus in those early days after the Resurrection was truly strengthened by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Let us also ask for a deeper presence of that same Spirit in our lives this Pentecost.

May God bless you all

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Fr. John', with a horizontal line underneath.

**PLEASE NOTE** the parish Mass on Monday 2nd June will be at the later time of 10.30 a.m. as it will be the Canon's Mass; all are welcome.

**THE PARISH OFFICE** will reopen tomorrow, Monday 2nd June.

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION** will take place **next Sunday** - Pentecost Sunday. Bishop Alan will preside at the 11.30 a.m. Confirmation Mass. There will be 11 young adults receiving the Sacrament this year. Please keep them and their families in your prayers over the next week. This is truly and important time in their lives of faith. May the gifts of the Holy Spirit continue to inspire them along their Journey of Faith.

**PLEASE PRAY** for the repose of the soul of Joan Daniel who died recently; funeral details are as follows:

*Joan's Requiem Mass will be celebrated in the Cathedral on Thursday 5th June at 11.30 a.m.*

May she rest in the peace of Christ.

**COFFEE AFTER 9.30 MASS TODAY** will be hosted by the Catenians; next week will be the turn of the Altar Servers. Please do join us for a cuppa and a chat.

**BCYS YOUTH MASS** Join the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service for their monthly Youth Mass on **Thursday 5th June** for more information visit [www.bcys.net](http://www.bcys.net)

**CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** will meet in the Upper Room of the Cathedral this **Thursday 12th 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.

**NEW CATECHISTS FOR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY LITURGY:** Could I make an impassioned plea to the Parish for some new volunteers to help with the Children's Sunday Liturgy. Recently, we have lost several of the existing Catechists, and the oneness has fallen to the few. If there are any teachers who would be willing to join a Rota as leaders, the more we have the less frequently you will be asked to lead the Sunday Liturgy. If you are interested, please contact the parish office, or speak to Fr John or Jane Davenport (the Children's Sunday Liturgy co-ordinator). With grateful thanks, Fr John.

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS** As we have just completed this year's RCIA programme. I am calling the whole parish once again to see if there are any parishioners who may be interested in learning more about the Roman Catholic faith, possibly with the view of receiving the Easter Sacraments next Easter 2026. The RCIA is a programme of systematic instruction of all aspects of Catholicism. Examining the Sacred Scriptures - Old & New Testaments. Understanding the whole concept of God. The Incarnation of Jesus Christ - the Lord's Mission and Teachings. The Gift of the Holy Spirit - Pentecost. The Sacramental Life of the Church - The 7 Sacraments (with special emphasis on the Eucharist). What is the Church - Origins, and the church in 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The Laws of the Church - Canon Law. The Four Last things - Death Judgement, Hell & Heaven. Sacramentals - The Rosary, Benedictions, the Lives of the Saints, other Catholic Devotions. The Role of the Virgin Mary in God's plan of Salvation. "Lord, teach us how to pray." - Many different kinds of Prayer. The Doctrine of the Blessed Trinity. The Paschal Mystery. Journey through Holy Week.

If you know anyone who may be interested in learning about the faith, please give them this information, and ask them to contact Fr John - Tel No: 01277 265235. It's always good to sit down personally and explain to all enquirers who the

programme works. The New Programme will commence in September.

**ONLINE BOOK OF CONDOLENCE** Following the recent death of Pope Francis, the Bishops Conference has set up an online book of condolence for Pope Francis. This can be accessed using the following link: <https://popefrancistributes.com/>

**THE FRIDAY FRIENDSHIP LUNCH** Every Friday all are welcome to come along to the parish hall (12 noon - 2.00 p.m.) for a light lunch, cakes and drinks and most importantly, friendly faces and an opportunity to meet up with others. Why not come along and join us?

**PILGRIMS OF HOPE PRAYER GROUP** - for this special jubilee year why not join the parish Pilgrims of Hope prayer group? It couldn't be easier. The group pray every Monday evening at 8.00 p.m. Prayers and reflections are shared on a WhatsApp group with each person praying privately wherever they find themselves. If you'd like to join the WhatsApp group then please give your mobile number and name to the parish secretary.

**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.

**JUST FOR INFORMATION** Clergy days off are Tuesday (Fr John) and Wednesday (Fr Matúš); 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 on a 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.

**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: Sylvia Allum, Merle Anderson, Alistair Bailey, Yvonne Ball, Hermine Bayley, Eda Bright, Roisin Cassels, Esmeralda Chester, Keith Chester, Dermot Dalton, David, Deirdre Driscoll, Iris Davis, Patricia Decup, Sheila Deed, Charlotte Donnelly, Margaret F, Rebecca Florendo, Angela Gavin, Julian Goode, Deacon Nicholas Holmes, Wong Su Hwa, Jess, Lisa Landy, Suzie Law, Lawrence, Peter Madden, Romek Matyszczyk, Tony Maule, John McCarthy, Carmel Micallef, Stephanie Murray, Harry

Newman, Barney O'Driscoll, Joe O'Herlihy, Matthew Pegg, Steven Poole, Margaret Ross, Geraldine Sheehan, Robin Shenton, David Spring, Mary Stretch, Tim, TCT, Siobhan Vaughan, Kalcho Yankov and all our sick.

## GENERAL NEWS

**ST JOSEPH'S BBQ AT HUTTON HALL** Come and celebrate the summer with us as St Joseph's, Hutton, are hosting a parish BBQ in the beautiful surroundings of Hutton Hall. There will be an opportunity to explore the grounds, enjoy some food and wine together. A wonderful after for all families and all ages. 1.00 p.m. on **Sunday 22nd June** at Hutton Hall, Hutton Village, CM13 1RX. Adults £10. Children £5. We'd love to invite our friends at the Cathedral to come and share this day with us. Please email [hutton@brcdt.org](mailto:hutton@brcdt.org) for tickets. Payments for tickets can be made online.

**CONSUBSTANTIAL WITH THE FATHER - A STUDY DAY** This year we celebrate seventeen-hundred years since the Church Council held at Nicaea, which drew up a statement of faith which is the basis of the Nicene Creed we recite at Mass. Dr Ken Carleton, Deacon of the Brentwood diocese, who has a doctorate in Church History, will explore the issues debated at the Council. The study day will be held on **Saturday 7th June 2025** from 11.00 a.m. until 2.00 p.m. at the parish of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park, RM2 6DH. Coffee available from 10.30 a.m. Please bring your own lunch. In-person attendance is encouraged but you can also watch on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) No prior booking necessary for this free event. A recording will be available subsequently on the website.

**THE BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY** invite you to join them at their Summer Luncheon! Join us for an elegant afternoon on **Friday 13th June**, 12.30 - 3.30 p.m. at The Lawn - a stunning Grade II listed Georgian manor house in Rochford. Enjoy exclusive use of the venue as we serve a delicious two-course luncheon in the Orangery, overlooking beautifully landscaped gardens. Tables of 10, price £37.50 per person.

Tickets are available now. Reserve your place by visiting our website: [www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/](http://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/)

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** Join the St Vincent de Paul Society for a pilgrimage to Walsingham in this year of Jubilee. A wonderful occasion to gather members from all across the Society, taking place on **Sunday 6th July 2025**. The day will include Mass, Anointing of the sick and Benediction. Full details can be found in the flyer, including how to register. If you have any questions, get in contact: [bethant@svp.org.uk](mailto:bethant@svp.org.uk)

**THE DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 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 886666 or book online: Brentwood Lourdes Pilgrimage - Tangney Tours

**ST JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S CAMP 2025.** For children aged 9-12 years old (school years 5-7), a week of great fun, activities including climbing wall and zip wire, fishing, football, archery and much more, all in a beautiful setting. The Camp has a Catholic ethos, and exists to give children a magnificent holiday. **26th July - 2nd August**. For more details, and application information: [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk). The Camp is a special work of Caritas Diocese of Brentwood.

**“WE BELIEVE” - NATIONAL FESTIVAL OF CATHOLIC LIFE.** July 25th - 28th 2025, Oscott College, near Birmingham organised by the Guild of Our Lady of Ransom. Celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope with Catholics from across the country and a wide range of inspiring speakers. Day tickets available, or come and camp for the long weekend, or stay nearby. Currently a significant “Earlybird” booking discount is still available - full weekend passes are just £70. All the details are at [www.webelievefestival.com](http://www.webelievefestival.com)

**VACANCY** ` St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Goresbrook Road, Dagenham are seeking to appoint a **KS1 or KS2 Class Teacher**



from 1 September 2025, suitable for ECT's. Deadline date **2nd June 2025**. Please call the school office for more information on 0208 270 6524 or email [office@st-peter.bardaglea.org.uk](mailto:office@st-peter.bardaglea.org.uk).

**VACANCY** Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster are seeking a **General Kitchen Assistant**, APTC Scale 1 Point 2 (£14.56 per hour). Required from September 10 hours per week Monday - Friday 12.15 - 2.15 p.m. Please refer to the "Job Vacancies" section of the school website for a Support Staff application form and further details can be provided by contacting the Catering Manager, Mrs Sharon Flynn, [sflynn@mary.haverling.sch.uk](mailto:sflynn@mary.haverling.sch.uk) Closing date **Monday 2nd June 2025**.

**VACANCIES** St Joseph the Worker Primary School are seeking: **Admin Assistant**. Deadline for applications: **Tuesday 3rd June 2025**. For more information, see Essex Schools Jobs link: <https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=110571>

**Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA)**. Deadline for applications: **Friday 6th June 2025**. See Essex Schools Jobs link: <https://www.essexschoolsjobs.co.uk/Vacancies/Details.aspx?VacancyId=110629> for more information.

**VACANCY** St Aiden's Primary School, Ilford are seeking a **Headteacher** Deadline for applications: 12:00 (noon), **Monday 6th June 2025**.

**VACANCY** St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Romford are seeking a **Headteacher** for January 2026 (or sooner, if possible). Visits to the school are very warmly welcome; the application deadline is midday on **6th June 2025**. For further information and an application pack, please visit: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school-vacancies/>

**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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