



Our Lady Help of Christians & St Helens

Sunday 19th August – 2nd September 2018

Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Whisstock 27 Milton Rd, Westcliff-on-sea, SS0 7JP.

Phone: 01702 342324 Email: westcliff@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Website: www.shwos.co.uk (Newsletters are on the website)

Newsletter & Hall Bookings: julie@shwos.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/sthelenschurchwestcliff>

'Time to Say Goodbye' as Andrea Bocelli and Sarah Brightman sang in the 1990's

Yes, it's time for me to move to pastures new as requested by Bishop Alan. My final Sunday is on 26th August and I finally move out of the Presbytery two days later. I will not be moving into St Francis of Assisi, Halstead Parish until the last week of September, ready for the weekend of 29th/30th due to my annual holiday (planned before I knew of any move!).

The address where I am going is:

90 Colchester Road, Halstead, CO9 2EW

Tel. 01787 472477 email: halstead@dioceseofbrentwood.org

If you wish to visit then please do.

I have enjoyed my almost 9 years in the parish (my home parish) and it has been a privilege to have been part of your lives in various ways, not least sacramentally. There have been many joyous times (Baptisms, 1st Holy Communion celebrations, Weddings, Confirmations) as well as sad occasions (Funerals).

Thank you to you all for allowing me to be part of your community life here at St Helen's, Westcliff.

Please keep me in your prayers and I shall keep you in mine.

Fr Alex Poblador moves in on 29th August. I'm sure that you will welcome him as much as you welcomed me when I arrived on 1st October 2009.

I am sure that I will be making a visit to the parish, not least as the celebration of 150 years of the opening of the church occurs next year.

God Bless you all,

Our Lady Help of Christians - Pray for us

St Helen - Pray for us

Fr Joseph Whisstock

Please pray for the recently departed especially for;

Helen Chitiga RIP who died 10th August age 56, her funeral will take place here on Wednesday 22nd August at 9am followed by burial at Sutton Road.

Steve Jones RIP who died on 15th August, his funeral will take place on Wednesday 29th August 10am followed by cremation at Sutton Road.

Please keep both them and their families in your prayers

Confirmation Course @ St Helen's 2018/2019

Are you going to be in Year 9 or above from September 2018? If yes, then you are very welcome to join our confirmation course which is due to commence in September 2018. You will need to register your interest by calling **Nicola Nevin on 07740 287042**.

So that we can establish numbers and make necessary arrangements. We look forward to hearing from you!

Confirmation Helpers for 2018/2019

We are seeking additional adult helpers to assist with the next confirmation course which will run from September 2018. If you enjoy engaging with young people and have a desire to help them in their faith journey, then this could be for you! Please call Nicola Nevin on 07740 287042 for more info and a no obligation chat.

Also, if you are a young person who has completed your confirmation course and would like to assist in some way, for example with refreshments, tech skills, set-up or music/singing, I would love to hear from you!!

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sunday 19th August – Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - (B)

9.30am Regulo Di Mascio RIP (Volante)

11.15am Parish Community

6pm Private Intention

Monday 20th August – St Bernard, Abbot

9.15am Holy Souls (Box)

Tuesday 21st August – St Pius X

10am Mass @ Nazareth House

Wednesday 22nd August – The Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary

9am Requiem Mass: Helen Chitiga RIP

Thursday 23rd August

9.15am Maria Perca RIP

Friday 24th August – St Bartholomew

1-4pm Exposition in Adoration Chapel

2pm Wedding: Alan Witham & Marie Bartholomew

Saturday 25th August

10.30am Mr Manjonjori RIP

11am Confessions & Exposition

6pm Polish Mass

Sunday 26th August – Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

9.30am Victoria Millgate RIP

11.15am Abigail Peeler - Intentions

6pm People of Parish

Monday 27th August – St Monica

8.30am Mother de Sales Drisscol RIP

Tuesday 28th August - St Augustine

9.15am Ann Husk RIP

Wednesday 29th August – The Passion of St John the Baptist

10am Requiem Mass: Steve Jones RIP

Thursday 30th August

9.15am Private Intention

Friday 31st August

12.15pm Private Intention

Followed by Exposition in the Adoration until 4pm

Saturday 1st September

10.30am F.I.H.M Member's Intentions

11am Confessions & Exposition

6pm Polish Mass

Sunday 2nd September – Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Parish Community

11.15am Private Intention

6pm Private Intention

PARISH DIARY

Saturday 1st September

9am – Men's Prayer Breakfast

Second collection on 12th August for Rubbish Tip Kids raised £455 – Thank you

If you would still like to contribute please make donations by cheque to "The Rubbish Tip Kids" or by bank transfer to Barclays Bank BENFLEET Sort code 20-70-93 Account Name "Rubbish Tip Kids" Account No. 20630322

Reflection for 19th August 2018 By Fr Adrian Graffy

Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year B)

Gospel reading: John 6:51-58

Other readings: Proverbs 9:1-6 Ephesians 5:15-20

We continue reading from the sixth chapter of the gospel of John, which interrupts our regular reading of Mark's gospel on the ordinary Sundays of Year B. This is an opportunity to reflect on the words of Jesus about the Bread of Life, and indeed about the mystery of the Eucharist.

In today's passage the focus is on eating the flesh of Jesus. The Eucharist has throughout the ages been a source of controversy and misunderstanding. Many people have echoed the question of the Jews in this passage 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?'

In speaking of his flesh and blood which he gives to us Jesus is employing a metaphor for his very self. Just as he gave himself in bread and wine to the disciples as a sign of his coming gift of his life on the Cross, so whenever we celebrate the Eucharist we receive the real Jesus, his 'body, blood, soul and divinity', his full self, but in such a way that the real gift is hidden beneath the physical appearances of bread and wine.

Sharing in the Eucharist brings intimacy with Jesus: 'he lives in me and I live in him'. This intimacy is the pledge of eternal life. The ultimate focus is on the gift of life. As Jesus draws life from the Father, so we draw life from Jesus in the Eucharist.

Am I prepared to accept the mystery of the Eucharist and by frequent reception to deepen my intimacy with the Lord?

Am I faithful to the commitment to attend Mass each Sunday and on the major feasts?

We pray that we will allow the Sacraments to lead us further into the things of God.

We pray that our communities may grow in love of the Eucharist and reverent celebration of Christ's gifts of Word and Sacrament.

Reflection for 26th August 2018 By Fr Adrian Graffy

Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year B)

Gospel reading: John 6:60-69

Other readings: Joshua 24:1-2,15-18 Ephesians 5:21-32

With this gospel passage we come to the end of the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John, which we have been reading over the last several weeks. The followers of Jesus are said to be struggling with his teaching in the dialogue with the Jews which follows the working of the sign of the feeding of the five thousand. Jesus has spoken of himself as the 'bread of life'. Early in the chapter this referred to his life-giving teaching, but in the later verses Jesus began to speak of people eating his flesh and drinking his blood, in a clear allusion to the Eucharist. It seems to be this teaching about the Eucharist that is difficult for some of his followers to accept.

There is a contrast here between the followers of Jesus and the chosen Twelve. It is the Twelve who are then challenged by Jesus: 'Do you want to go away too?' One can understand the perplexity of the ordinary followers, but from those who have been with Jesus throughout the ministry greater insight and greater fidelity might be expected. The response of Peter comes in a firm commitment to Jesus: 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.' This speech of Peter, his profession of faith in the name of the others, recalls the reading from the Book of Joshua, in which the people newly arrived in the promised land renew their covenant commitment to be the people of God: 'We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God.'

Do I appreciate that the words of Jesus are truly words of life?

What has this chapter of John's gospel taught me?

We thank God for the gift of his Son, who is our Bread of Life.

We pray for those who have never known the words of eternal life, nor had the opportunity to commit themselves to the service of God.

St Helen's Catholic Church Building & Restoration Fund

For 5th August £26 was collected from envelopes. When grossed up for gift aid this comes to £27 against a weekly target of £150. The cumulative position since the relaunch is that £4,421 (including gift aid tax relief) has been collected against a target of £8,000.

We can only maintain St Helen's with your help, the Collection box is at the back of church. Thank you, Fr Joseph & Parish Finance Team

**Church Cleaning If you can spare an hour every Friday
9.15am to help clean church. Please just turn up!**

ADOREMUS

National Eucharistic Congress 7-9 September 2018, Liverpool

Prayer of the Angel, 1916

Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
I adore You profoundly, and I offer You most Precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which He is offended. And though the infinite merits of His Most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners.

Eucharistic Prayer (Our Lady, 13 May 1917)

Most Holy Trinity, I adore you! My God, my God,
I love you in the most Blessed Sacrament.

Brentwood Diocesan Notices

Saturday 1st September - Celebrate the "official opening" of Walsingham House at Abbotswick (Navestock Side, Near Brentwood, CM14 5SH). Grounds open 11am; Mass with Bishop Alan at 12noon. Live music and bouncy castles. You are welcome to bring a picnic; Barbecued food, Cream teas and ice creams will be on sale. For more Info www.bcys.net/WHAbbotswick and on the www.bcys.net events page.

Sunday 2nd September - BCCS Barleylands Fun Walk Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is inviting supporters from all over the diocese to come and take part in the Barleylands Fun Walk. Family event with a choice of walks on the site, the longest 3 miles and a shorter walk which is suitable for children & toddlers. Event starts with a BBQ at 12noon walks due to start at 1pm & finish around 2pm, opportunity for families or parish groups to have fun while raising funds for 'bccs'. For a sponsorship form and more information, please go to www.bccs.org.uk or contact Alison on arg.cardoness@googlemail.com.

Tuesday 4th September - Fashion Show @ St. John Fisher Hall Doors open 7pm, 7.30pm start Local Boutique Evie Bleau will supply fashions and accessories to include tea and coffee, Raffle and lucky ticket prize. Tickets £2.50 (Children and partners free) Contact: Sandy Rand 0787 5124159 sandyheretohelp@icloud.com

Saturday 22nd September - Rock 'n' Roll Party @ Mazonod Hall, St Peter's Eastwood - 12noon - 4.30pm Tickets are £8.50 per person (Children - 6 years and under free entry) (Includes lunch of fish/chicken/chips) Bring your own drinks & nibbles. Music by Michael with his FAB sound system playing some rock-n-roll music, please feel free to dress up rock 'n' roll style for the event! Fund raiser for St Peter's parish, for tickets please contact: Bruno - 01702 528766 or Ian - 07503 465249 or Ray 01702 525480

Tuesday 25th September - Charity Meal in Aid of Nazareth House The Knights of Saint Columba are organising a charity meal to support the exemplary work of the Sisters of Nazareth. Venue: **East Asian Restaurant, 33 Alexandra Street, Southend SS1 1BW, 7pm for 7:30pm.** Eat as much as you like buffet style Asian cuisine (some English dishes available) - **£16 per person.** Drinks extra available from the bar Raffle tickets sold on the night. Please book your place by contacting - Liam Rand 07952 954833 - Mark Moulding 01702 344965 - Sandy Rand 07875 124159 or email: liam.rand@btoopenworld.com

Saturday, 20th October - A Day of Reflection & Enrichment for READERS & PROSPECTIVE READERS - A day of reflection and enrichment has been arranged to take place at The Becket Centre, Woodford Green led by Dr Marian Tolley from Shrewsbury Diocese. Marian has travelled throughout Britain running courses for Readers for many years; has a highly respected reputation for running work-shops in liturgical music; the training of deacons and for speaking on various topics relating to the liturgy. The day will start at 10am with registration & refreshments and will end at 4pm. Please bring a packed lunch, tea and coffee will be available during the day. Book your place by the Doodle link <https://doodle.com/poll/h49mzkv7hxxqu8tw> or email us adeleangel@dioceseofbrentwood.org or Bernadette at richard.ebling@btinternet.com or phone 01206 385 881.

20th - 21st October 2018 BCYS Annual Outdoors on Mersea Island This event is open to those in school year 9 and above.

New cabin accommodation and brilliant range of outward bound activities. We will combine opportunities for climbing high ropes, abseiling, zip wires and more, guest speakers and workshops. One of our speakers for this Autumn will be the Fr Paul Keane, Vice Rector of St Mary's College, Oscott.

The cost includes lunch and dinner on Saturday 20th, breakfast and lunch on Sunday 21st, two Mersea activities, 2 BCYS workshops, and a night in a Mersea log cabin - all of this for just £50. This price is thanks to National Youth Sunday parish collections, to help us subsidise such opportunities Applications will open on the evening of 29th July, on our return from Lourdes. You can apply by creating an account at www.bcys.net and applying on the Events page. Gabriella Skinner - BCYS Pilgrimages & Events Co-ordinator 01277 373959

27th October 2018 - Conference for Mother & Daughters @ Aylesford Priory "The Catholic Mothers Apostolate" is offering a retreat for teen girls and their mums. Join them at Aylesford Priory in October for a day dedicated to learning more about women's issues, including what it means to be a Catholic woman; how to improve mother-daughter communication; how fertility affects our lives at every stage; and how to grow in the faith. Tickets are £120 per mother-daughter pair, with an Early Bird rate of £100. For more info Visit: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/catholicmothers/177368>