



Our Lady Help of Christians & St Helens

Priest: Fr Alex Poblador, rcj

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

Newsletter & Hall Bookings: westcliff@dioceseofbrentwood.org

1st Sunday of Advent (Vol. 1 – Lectionary, Cycle C)

Gospel reading : Luke 21:25-28; 34-36

Other Readings : 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2 / Jeremiah 33:14-16

Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 24) : To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Gospel Reflection

Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus!

We are in the first Sunday of the season of advent, the beginning of a new liturgical year, (year C) in the Church Calendar. This is the time of expectant waiting and in anticipation for something special, something worthy and someone will come to pay a visit to attend our individual needs – our Saviour, Jesus Christ!

While we await for this visit we must be vigilant. Advent invites us to prepare our soul to welcome the presents that is coming, it encourages us to contemplate our relationship with HIM while we wait.

“Christmas” is fast approaching, snowflakes falling gently, Christmas lights gleaming across the sky, the scent of roasting chestnuts mixed with exotic scents while Christmas songs and carols fills the air everything is leading to one marvelous event and that is the birth of “Christ the son of God” who is come in our midst. What a Joy!

Brothers and sisters the challenge remains. Let our waiting be meaningful and productive. Let us take time to pray while waiting because prayers open our eyes to the presence of God and His daily inspirations.

Lastly, may the Lord give us strength and protect us from all evil while we wait for His coming and in the spirit of joyful hope and serenity let us Welcome him. MARANATHA! come Lord, come! Amen.

Send O Lord, Holy Apostles into your Church!



Sunday 2nd December – First Sunday of Advent (C) (No Gloria)

World Migrant and Refugees Day

9.30am George and Mary Ortem and Family (FM)

11.15am Canon Patrick McKenna [FM] / **Baptism – Albert Charles Maddison**

6pm Ints. Helen Wallace and family

Monday 3rd December *St. Francis Xavier, pr. Migrants' Day (Memorial)*

9.15am Peter Suarez (RIP)

Tuesday 4th December

9.15am Diony Angeles (RIP)

Wednesday 5th December

9.15am Ints. Abigail Peeler

Thursday 6th December

9.15am Ints. of Eileen Aitkin

Friday 7th December – St. Ambrose, Bp. D (Memorial)

9.15am Ints: Helen Wallace

2-4pm *Holy Hour/Devine Mercy in the Adoration Chapel*

Saturday 8th December – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM

10:30 F.I.H.M/ Death Annv. Fr. Bart Lynch

11-12nn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Confession

6pm Polish Mass

Sunday 9th December – Second Sunday of Advent (C) No Gloria

BIBLE SUNDAY

9.30am George and Mary Orton and Family [FM]

11.15am Souls in Purgatory

6pm Ints: Peggy McEnaney

Let us pray for the sick people of our parish especially: Maria Davis, George Kennedy & Maria, Eileen Aitkin, Kotouckova, Alex Boldon, Margaret Jones, Mo Gillis, Lorna Jones, Alex Baldwin.

Christmas Dinner on 9th of December 2018. (Sunday after 11:15am Mass) Any help will highly be appreciated.

Sunday Masses:

The Praying of Rosary Must start 30 minutes before each Sunday Mass.

Morning Prayer 8.30am Monday to Thursday

All are welcome to join for morning prayers

and a decade of the Rosary before Mass

Any Mass Intentions, either see Fr Alex after Mass or during office hours westcliff@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 01702 342324

Mass Intention Envelopes – at the back of the Church

Church Diaries for 2019

Available at the back of the church
Suggested Donation GBP 1.0

St Helen's Parish Notices

PARISH DIARY

Monday 3rd December

2pm – Friendship Group

7pm – 8.30pm — Legion of Mary
(Meeting in the Sacristy)

7pm – 8:30 - SVP meeting

Tuesday 4th December

7-30pm — 9pm –

Adoration in the Chapel

Every Tuesday Evening - silent adoration
30 minutes followed by Rosary and
prayers.

St. Helen School Reconciliation Day

10:00am. Year 4&6

Wednesday 5th December

10.30am – 12noon –

**Women's Bible Group -
in the Sacristy**

(For More information contact:
Nicola Nevin on 07740 287042)

7pm – 8.30pm - The RCIA Programme

St. Helen School Reconciliation Day

10:00am. Year 3&5

Thursday 6th December

11am — 1pm Every Thursday -

Pro-life prayer group - In the Adoration
Chapel please join us to pray for babies in
danger of death.

Friday 7th December

2-4pm – Every Friday

*Holy Hour/Devine Mercy
in the Adoration Chapel*

CHRISTMAS COMPETITION!

We invite children of all ages to
join Fr. Alex and Fr. Philip in the
Parish Hall on Sunday 16th
December to design and color a
Christmas card/poster. Please
bring your own pencils etc, card
and paper will be supplied. 12noon
til 4.00pm. Parents are welcome
to stay. Pizza and drinks will be
provided.

All designs will be displayed in
the hall for all the parish to
enjoy and judge. Cash prize
donated by Fr. Alex for all
winners. Be part of it!!!!!!

***Card making for up to 11yrs old
Poster making from 12-15yrs
old***

First Holy Communion 2019

Registration packs are available at the back of the
church.

*Please note to commence the course children must
have been baptised and currently be in school year 3 or
above.*

Dates for First Holy Communion are:

Saturday 11th May 2019 &
Saturday 18th May 2019

Going Forth Mass 9.30am – 26th May 2019

Please return registration forms by Sunday
9nd December 2018

Parish Collections:

Sunday 25th November 2018

Giftaid: £350.37 Loose plate: £520

Total: £ 870.97 Thank you!

Parish Announcements

Calling all those who are interested to join as Lay Ministers of the Eucharist and Mass Readers. We shall organize a training course in January 2019. Please inform/e-mail the Parish office if your interested. We need You! C/o Fr. Philip Golez, rcj

SUNDAY 9TH DECEMBER 2018

OUR SECOND COLLECTIONS AT ALL MASSES WILL BE FOR THE PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND. WE RELY ON THE GENEROSITY OF HEARTS.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

St Helen's Catholic Church Building & Restoration Fund

The cumulative position since the relaunch is that £4,792 (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 Alex & Parish Finance Team

Lourdes Pilgrimage

27th – 31st May 27th – 2019 (Half Term)

Travelling by air from **Southend-On-Sea Airport** and staying at the 4* Hotel Grand Moderne Full Board.

Please think and pray if You are being called by our Lady to visit the special shrine in Lourdes.

Adults £545, Children under 12 (£420) For details contact **Sue Baillie 07979746707**

The Parish Hall is available for Rent Please contact the Parish Office for more details. This is subject to terms/conditions.

Church Cleaning Every Friday – 10am

If you can help clean church on Friday Mornings from 10am, please contact Helen Wallace on 07753 329934 as she is arranging a Rota.

Brentwood Diocesan Notice

Saturday 1st December 2018 - Healing Service at English Martyrs, Hornchurch
if you are feeling stressed, anxious, emotionally/psychologically broken or generally struggling with life, you are warmly invited to attend the English Martyrs' **Healing Service from 6-8pm** for emotional, psychological and spiritual healing.

To register your attendance please email HealingService@English-Martyrs.com or contact Mandy on 07801 470516.

English Martyrs Catholic Church,
240 Alma Ave, Hornchurch RM12 6BJ.

Please avail of the copies of the vision document, shaping our future by the stewards of the gospel at the back of the church.

Please grab the last issue of Brentwood News due to economic constraint no more further publication will be printed again.