

Issue 851

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FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Dear Parishioners,

“The compassion of the Samaritan: loving by carrying the pain of others” is the theme chosen by Pope Leo XIV for the 34th World Day of the Sick, to be celebrated on 11 February 2026, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. This theme invites us to return to the heart of the Gospel, a love that draws near, bends down to heal wounds, and re-fuses to pass by. It challenges us to open our hearts to the suffering of others and to respond with genuine care and empathy.

In today’s fast paced world, where indifference and busyness often keep us from noticing those in need, the parable of the Good Samaritan calls us to live differently. Jesus Himself is the true Good Samaritan. He approaches wounded humanity, pours out the oil of consolation and the wine of hope, and continues to do so today through the sacraments and the life of the Church. This is the revolution of love that Pope Leo XIV encourages us to embrace, a love capable of transforming suffering into healing, hope, and encounter.

Compassion is not just a feeling, it is a choice. It means stopping, becoming involved, and taking responsibility for the suffering of others, especially those facing illness, loneliness, or poverty. To see with the eyes of the heart is to recognize Christ in every wounded person and to act with kindness, mercy, and love.

Healed and loved by Christ, we too are called to be signs of His compassion in the world. May this World Day of the Sick inspire us to carry the burdens of others, offer our care freely, and live with hearts open to God’s mercy every day.

God bless you all

Fr Saji Thomas RCJ

FLAG CALL: Thanks to everyone who participated in this. It is hoped a display will be created as a result to help highlight our year of celebrations for our centenary.

R.C.I.A Parish celebration for sending of catechumens / candidates to the Rite of Election is on the **15th February**.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME, March 2026 – St Bonaventure’s School St Bonaventure’s Catholic School, East London, is raising funds to support students taking part in a pilgrimage to Rome. This pilgrimage is a faith journey which will allow young people to visit important holy sites, walk in the footsteps of the saints, and deepen their relationship with Christ and one another. We kindly ask for your prayers for our students as they prepare for this pilgrimage, and for any financial support you may be able to offer. Your generosity will help ensure that all students, regardless of circumstance, have the opportunity to take part in this life- changing experience of faith. Donations can be made online at: <https://www.goodhub.com/go/stbonspilgrimage2026> Thank you for your continued support and prayers.

VACANCY: The Governors of St Mary’s Catholic Primary School, Hornchurch, are seeking to appoint an inspirational and dedicated Head Teacher. **Closing date: Friday 6th March 2026 at 5pm / Interview Date: Friday 20th March 2026.** Enquiries can be made by email to admin@stmcps.co.uk, or phone 01708 448430.

A NEW ARCHBISHOP. The Holy Father has appointed Bishop Richard Moth as the new Archbishop of Westminster; he will be installed in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday, 14th February. As Archbishop of Westminster, he is also the Metropolitan Archbishop for our Diocese. The Metropolitan area of Westminster includes Brentwood. East Anglia, Northampton and Nottingham! Let us keep him in our prayers.

SERIES OF FOUR LENTEN LECTURES 2026: Will take place at Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall commencing Wednesday 25th February 2026 at 7.30pm
The theme this year is: “What does it truly mean to be Catholic?”

This invitation is to the whole Diocese of Brentwood. All Welcome!

Talk 1. Wednesday 25th February. Abbot Hugh Allan, O Praem. “I Believe...”
Living and Proclaiming the Catholic Faith. 7.30pm

Talk 2. Wednesday 4th March. Rev Msgr Kevin W Hale, VG. Being Catholic and the call to holiness as seen in the lives of some recently canonised saints. 7.30pm

Talk 3. Wednesday 11th March. Mr Mauro Iannicelli. Prayer as the Foundation of our Catholic Life. 7.30pm

Talk 4. Wednesday 18th March. Rev Msgr John Armitage. The uniqueness of Catholicism for British Society. 7.30pm

BISHOP ALAN WILLIAMS Bishop Alan will be 75 in March, and this is the age for retirement for Bishops. So let us remember him at this time and pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the appointment of a new Bishop of Brentwood.

Please pray for the soul of Feliciano Manansala, (Grace's dad) who has died. Remember also, his Family and Friends, at this difficult time.

Please pray for all who are sick, including:

Fr. Victor Camilleri	Aryia Tony	Andre Scafe	Colin Smyth
Bridget Tully	Bernadina Santy	Andy Brett	Davey Jose
Cora Bantog	Berthilia Riviere	Anne Flynn	Enzo Zechariah Riley
Gemma Yao	Callista Hudson	Anthony Kearney	Francis Seaman
John Maughan	Gemma Faulkner	Chidera Harvey	Gillian Pepper
Madonna Beupierre	Ireneo Oreiro	Gilbert Jacob	Jeanette Steele
Mary John	John Peppard	James Towns	Joe Fitzgerald
Ranjith Mendes	Loly Antonio	Louise Simmons	Lassyhani Janahan
Seamus Peppard	Mary Fitzgerald	Natalie Williams	Natalie McCarthy
Thomas John	Myrna Gonzales	Olympia Pahati	Stephen Laviniere
Tom Morgan	Nia La Foucade	Onat Sarmiento	Joy Pereira
Ullrick Scafe	Regina Peppard	Paula Joseph	Winston Scafe
	Piper Phelan	Philip Crangle	Veronica Scafe

PARISH FINANCE 01ST FEBRUARY, 2026

Envelopes	£	792.53
Plate	£	1,026.10

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sun 8th To Lourdes

Mon 9th

Tue 10th Prayer Group meet in Church - 7.30pm

Wed 11th FHC meeting for Parents in Church - 7.30pm

Thu 12th

Fri 13th Return from Lourdes

Sat 14th FHC Children meet, Church – 9.15am

Sun 15th Communion to the Sick/Housebound - 1.30pm

COMING EVENTS

Liturgy Meeting on Tuesday 17th February

Ash Wednesday 18th February

Canon Bob's 80th Birthday party, Saturday 21st February

Sat 7th First Mass of Sunday
6.00 pm Filomena Jardin RIP

Sun 8th FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
7.30 am Parish Family
9.00 am Oscar Alphonso RIP (Kelvin & Teresa D'Souza)
11.00 am Sherlin Jerald (Peter)
3.30 pm Malayalam Mass

Mon 9th
8.45 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Lucita Nebrija F.M.
9.40 am Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tue 10th St. Scholastica, V
8.45 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Mercy Antony Anniv. (Family)
9.40 am Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wed 11th OUR LADY OF LOURDES, Principal Patroness of the Diocese
8.45 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Margaret Cole (Angela Nee O'Dea & Family)

Thur 12th
8.45 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Thanksgiving (Ramel Mendoza)
9.40 am Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Fri 13th
8.45 am Morning Prayer
9.00 am Grace Manansala RIP (Chris & Maria)
9.40 am Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Sat 14th St. Cyril, M & St. Methodius B
11.00 am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and
Sacrament of Reconciliation.
11.45 am Mid-day Prayer, Benediction and Angelus
12.00 noon William Gerry RIP (Family)

Sat 14th First Mass of Sunday
6.00 pm Parish Family

Sun 15th SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
7.30 am Alvin Joe Angatine Ordination to the Diaconate(Nevin Augustine Family)
9.00 am Monica Lehane Anniv. (Family)
11.00 am Sreya Rajan & Nelson Rosario RIP (Rajan Family)
4.00 pm Syro Malabar Mass