

SATURDAY 22nd 17:00 at Greenstead
SUNDAY 23rd 09:00 at Greenstead
 10:45 at Greenstead
MONDAY 24th 09:15 at Greenstead
TUESDAY 25th 09:15 at Greenstead
WEDNESDAY 26th 09:45 at Greenstead
THURSDAY 27th
FRIDAY 28th 19:00 at Greenstead
SATURDAY 29th 12:00 at Greenstead

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Solemn Mass *Ann Holland RIP & Joan Marsons RIP*
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Solemn Mass *Our Parish Community*
Solemn Mass *Ruby Kane – RIP*
ST BARTHOLOMEW, Ap
 Mass
 St Louis
 Mass
 Feria
 Mass
St Monica
 NO MASS
St Augustine, Bp, D
 Mass
The Passion of St John the Baptist
 Mass

Because numbers are limited to 30 in the church, all parishioners must pre-register their details and Mass preferences in writing to Fr Jon before attending.

CONFESSIONS are now available, but by appointment only.

Chantry List for the coming week:

We pray for the happy repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially for those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time: *Teresa Garroch (15); James Killen (13); Kathleen McAloon (13); Olive Bell (02); Ken Hytch (00).*
May their souls rest in peace. Amen.

Our prayers for the Sick & Suffering include:

Ellen Kirby, Violet Felton, Lily Dopson, Pat Croucher, Angela L, Barry S, Kerri H, Betty B, Sid B, Maura G, John F, Gary R, Marjorie S, Elaine S, Genette F, John W, Teresa H, Noel K, Christopher D, Dean K, Carmelo S, Peter W, Gina O, Samantha B, Jenny C, John, Isaac Nelson, Ann Mary B, Alice R, Brian B, Steve F, Kay Shaw, Sophia, Jasintha Anton de Madonsa, Catherine Ford.

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR AUGUST. The Maritime World: We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

CONTACTS:

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Gene Horgan – *Hall Administrator* – ☎07939 086034

Petrina Murphy - *Health and Safety Officer.*

The Canonesses: 74, Howe Close, Colchester, CO4 3XD – ☎867296

Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092

St John Payne Catholic Parish

Greenstead, Ardleigh and Mistley

We of St John Payne Catholic Parish seek to reflect the joyful life-affirming power of Christ's Living Presence among all where Essex meets East Anglia.



TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Week beginning 23rd August 2020

Peter The Rock

We rejoice today that Christ chose Peter in spite of his human failings to be the rock on which he built his Church. The reason for that choice lies in the unfathomable depth of God's wisdom. 'The Lord is high, yet he looks on the lowly.'

Entrance Antiphon: Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

1st Reading:
 Isaiah 22:19-23 I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder.

Responsorial Psalm **R/. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.**

2nd Reading:
 St Paul to the Romans 11:33-36 All that exists comes from him; all is by him and from him.

Gospel Acclamation **Alleluia, alleluia!**
God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.
Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:
 Matthew: 16:13–20 You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.



We would respectfully ask that you please ensure that all mobile phones are switched off while you are in church.

Fr Jon's SCAM WARNING: It has come to my attention that some of you have recently received emails, coming from 'chairmmanenquierey' and using **my name**, so, claiming to be from me, asking for help of one kind or another. More specifically, some people have been asked to purchase '£500 of Amazon gift vouchers' and forward the details to the above email address.

THESE EMAILS ARE NOT FROM ME. PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND TO THEM!!

FR JON WRITES: I am aware that a few people are registering for Masses on the 'off-chance' that they **might** attend. We have now reached the maximum number allowed in church for the Sunday 9am Mass and are close to the maximum for the 10:45am Mass. So as not to unfairly prohibit others attending Mass, it is essential that people only register for the Mass they **will** attend. It is my absolute number one priority to enable as many as possible to have access to Mass. Accordingly, I respectfully ask that people only register for Masses they **mean** to (not **may**) attend.

Please note, facemasks MUST now be worn in church. Of course, these will have to be removed in order to receive Communion. The protocol for this is as follows; On leaving your seat, and just prior to entering the centre aisle, you should remove your facemask (not merely pulling it down under your chin) and approach the Communion station in the usual way. You should replace your facemask once you have retaken your seat.

If you have a medical exemption certificate from wearing a facemask this must be shown to the steward when entering church.

Children under the age of 11 years are not required to wear face masks.

Also, once you have been allocated a seat, you must remain there throughout Mass, only leaving your seat to receive Communion or a blessing. Baskets for your offerings are placed at both the entrance and exit to the church.

Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or who has any reason to believe that they have been in contact with someone who has, should not attend church or volunteer in any capacity until they have received medical advice that it is safe to do so.

HOME COMMUNION: As the more vulnerable members of our parish are not yet able to attend Mass due to shielding, Fr Jon will continue to bring Communion to individuals, or to groups of up to five, in open areas and private gardens.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.

I love you above all things

and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.

Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,

come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.

OFFERTORIES: Last week's offertory collections amounted to £324.04; Fr Berhane £112; Donation £100

You can make regular or one-off donations at any time. By going to the following website <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/donations/?parish=greenstead-with-ardleigh-and-mistley> where you can also find Gift Aid forms if you are a taxpayer. To set up a standing order please email sipchurch@btinternet.com for details.

THE LECTIO DIVINA GROUP (Sacred Reading) have changed their meeting day to **Tuesday** of every week in Judy's garden/carport at 10.00a.m. for about 45 minutes to pray the following Sunday's Gospel. If you would like to join us there or spiritually from your own home phone Judy on 01206 869601 for details and to enable group numbers to be arranged in line with present rules.

CARITAS DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR: The Diocese is diverse, vibrant, and full of dedicated volunteers running projects which bring to life the Gospel mandate to recognise and serve Christ in the poor and those on the edges. If you have a heart for such work, and the skills to develop and strengthen it, this could be your perfect job! Application deadline 2nd October 2020; Start January 2021. Full details: <https://www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/developmentcoordinator>

MARY'S MEALS: The second Mary's Meals Family Hour takes place at 7pm on Thursday 27th August on our YouTube channel. We have a host of wonderful speakers lined up including: 10 year old Zac who ran 100 miles in 50 days to raise funds for Mary's Meals; our country director for Zambia, Panji Kajani who will discuss how we are reaching hungry children through the pandemic; our founder Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow who will answer your questions about Mary's Meals and our supporter engagement officer, Caoimhe McCann who will join us from Belfast to share stories about what our amazing supporters are doing in Northern Ireland. Join with us for an hour of inspiration and celebration with your Mary's Meals Family! Join us live on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeiTb-SmlO6oStslhA5GqSw/featured>

NEWSLETTER: Send items for next week's newsletter by Wednesday evening to Carol Batchelor in the Church Office at sipchurch@btinternet.com For GDPR reasons emails should not be sent to Carol's private email address.

View newsletters online at www.stjohnpayne.org.uk/weekly-newsletters

FR JON'S PRAYER FOR THE WHOLE PARISH:

May Our Lady's love embrace us;

May St Michael guard and protect us;

May St John Payne, and all the saints pray for us;

And may Almighty God bless us, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

21st Sunday of the Year

Year A

Peter The Rock.

*We rejoice today that Christ chose Peter in spite of his human failings
to be the rock on which he built his Church.
The reason for that choice lies in the unfathomable depth of Christ's wisdom.
The Lord is high, yet he looks on the lowly.'*

(Readings: Isaiah 22: 19-23. Romans 11: 33-36. Matthew 16: 13-20.)

I wonder how many of us actually like ourselves, that is to say, how many of us are completely happy with the way we are?

That is not quite as silly a question as it may first seem. If we are honest, we all know things about ourselves we don't like very much. And that being so, the 'dislikes' we have of ourselves are often accentuated and emphasised by the qualities we see in other people, qualities that we admire, and even envy.

That said, the fact that we are able to recognise our unwanted traits, those certain things we do not like about ourselves, can actually be a positive and healthy attitude to have. For example, it can be a positive thing if our admiration of certain qualities in the lives of other people inspire us to emulate them, encouraging us to strive to be the best person we can be whilst, of course, still being ourselves.

Jesus said to Peter, "You are a rock." – If there is one thing Peter didn't appear to be, it was a rock, for in truth, he was impetuous, temperamental and hot-headed. Anyone else addressing Peter might have said, "You are both unstable and volatile." But Jesus looked deeper! And he saw so much more, declaring, "You *are* a rock", as solid, and as steady, and as firm as a rock.

That was how Jesus dealt with people, *honestly*, never making them out to be something they were not. Instead, he tried to show them who they really were, and helped them to realise it. He never made them feel he was attributing unreal or contrived, fawning qualities. His mission was to discover, to reveal, and to help develop the possibilities that were already there. – That should come as a great encouragement to us. – The worst thing that anyone can do is to attempt to make someone become something they are not, nor ever could be.

Again, think how discouraging it might have been if Jesus had said to Peter, "You ought to be a rock." With that approach, there is every possibility that Peter might never have become the man he was called to be. He may well have gone through life, merely reproaching himself for what he *was*, and dreaming wistfully of what he would *like* to be. What a tragic mistake that would have been. And yet, that is *precisely* what we do to ourselves. How often, for instance, do we say to ourselves such things as, "You're pathetic. You ought to be this. Or, you ought to be that. Shame on you!"

And how many times, in a world that demands strength of character, have we thought that we are weak, that we were born that way, and that we'll probably always stay that way? Such negative, self-effacing thinking can only discourage us.

But, if we would allow our Lord to participate in times of such self-disparaging thoughts, he would turn our lives around completely. He would say to us,

“You are *not* weak! And you are *not* pathetic! Buried within you, you have great qualities of character, undiscovered and undeveloped. Come, let us join together in an adventure of discovery and development.

The *real* you is strong! And there is no reason for you to limp through life as though you were a helpless weakling.”

What a tremendous difference that would make to us, if only we would allow our Lord to have his say, and to listen to his honest appraisal; to his judgement of our lives, instead of our own.

As Christians our mission in life is to learn who we are, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, to *be* who we are – to discover within ourselves the God-given qualities that are already there, and with the help of the Holy Spirit, to develop those qualities.

The question we all have to ask ourselves is, “Who is the real me?” And, having asked the question, we must be very careful with our answer, for a great deal depends on it.

If we had put that question to Peter, there were days when he would have said, “I’m an impetuous fool. I’m weak, and I’m a coward.” And yes, he seemed to be *all* of those things at one time or another. But Jesus’ answer was the right one, “You are a rock.” Somehow that appraisal took hold of Peter’s heart and did not let go until he became the man he really was, the man whom the world has admired for more than two thousand years.

So, back to the question; Who is the real you? Who is the real me?

But let us not answer that question until we have spent time with the one who knows us best, and who believes in us most, Jesus Christ our Lord, for he will help us discover who we really are. It is only once we have discovered the answer, that we will be able to see more clearly, who we are, and where we are going, and so, have a right impact on the lives of people we meet.

If our impact on people is improper, pathetic or weak, it could be because we’ve not yet discovered our *real* selves; not yet using our full potential; not yet, who we are created by God to be.