

SATURDAY	23rd	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) Solemn Vigil Mass
17:00		
SUNDAY	24th	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) Solemn Mass
09:00		
10:45		Solemn Mass
17:00		SOLEMN VIGIL MASS <i>Holy Souls in Purgatory – RIP (GO’C)</i>
MONDAY	25th	THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (B) <i>Holiday of Obligation</i>
09:00		Solemn Mass <i>Pamela Jones + Family – Int (GO’C)</i>
10.45		Solemn Mass <i>Thomas Ravensdale Sr. – RIP (Fr Jon)</i>
TUESDAY	26th	ST STEPHEN, The First Martyr Mass
10:00		
WEDNESDAY	27th	ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Ap, Ev Mass <i>Edith Archer – RIP (JH-A)</i>
10:00		
THURSDAY	28th	THE HOLY INNOCENTS, Mm Mass
10:00		
FRIDAY	29th	ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, Bp, M Mass
19:30		
SATURDAY	30th	Sixth Day of the Christmas Octave Mass
12 Noon		
17:00		Solemn Vigil Mass for THE HOLY FAMILY

CONFESSIONS heard on Saturday 23rd December from 10:15-11:45 or by appointment.

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: *Leokadia Beres (17); Delia Dinsdale (19); Maurice Teahan (89); Cornelius Okusi (11); Harry Cook (04); Molly McCutcheon (07); Mary Moore (91); Eileen Sabini (07); Edward + Kathleen Kearns (09); Michael Lyness (03); Charles Fahie (09); Mary Walkden (92); Frank Smith (03).* **May they rest in peace. Amen.**

Our prayers for the Sick & Suffering include: Angela L, Barry S, Kerri H, Betty B, Maura G, Sid B, John F, Gary R, Lily Dopson, Marjorie S, Elaine S, Genette F, John W, Teresa H, Noel K, Dean K, Christopher D, Peter W, Gina O, Carmelo S, Samantha B, Jenny C, John, Isaac Nelson, Ann Mary B, Brian B, Kay Shaw, Grace Gosling-Campbell, Joan Kerins, Beth Thompson, Jenny Crane; Evelyn Korinth.

CONTACTS:

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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.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

24th December 2023

(Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers)

Mary, The Ark Of God's Covenant

Today's Mass is a great song to the everlasting love of God revealed in his covenant (love-pact) with his people. We praise the mystery of his love kept secret for endless ages, but now revealed through a new ark of the covenant, Mary of Nazareth.

Entrance Antiphon: Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

1st Reading:

Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16

The Kingdom of David will always stand secure before the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

R/. I will sing forever of your love, O Lord.

2nd Reading:

Romans 16:25-27

The mystery, which was kept secret for endless ages, is now made clear.

Gospel Acclamation

R/. Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the handmaid of the Lord: let what you have said be done to me.

R/. Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:

Luke 1:26-38

Listen! You are to conceive and bear a son.



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

THE POPE'S INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER: Let us pray that volunteer, non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Father Jon wishes you and your loved ones the Joy and Peace of Christ's Nativity and a truly blessed New Year.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Every 1st Sunday of the month between 4 – 5pm, beginning with Evening Prayer, we have a Holy Hour of hymns, prayer, and readings before the Blessed Sacrament, *'the source and summit of our faith'*. Next Date: **Sunday 7th January 2024.**

WOULD YOU VALUE SOME FRIENDLY SUPPORT DURING A TIME OF LOSS OR EMOTIONAL ANXIETY? Confidentiality will be respected. If you are interested in finding out more why not drop into SJP Church Hall on the **second Wednesday of every month**, between 10.30-11.30 am, or phone Judy on 07530956440.

LECTIO DIVINA PRAYER GROUP meets every Tuesday, in the SJP Church Hall, from 10.00 – 10.45. Come and join this friendly group as we pray one of the readings for the following Sunday. Copies of the reading are supplied. There is usually a bit of social time afterwards. For further information see Judy after Mass or tel. 07530956440.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE STAFF AND TRUSTEES OF BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: "We would like to wish everyone across Brentwood Diocese a very happy and blessed Christmas. As we prepare to celebrate our 40th year in 2024, we would like to thank everyone who has supported our work by making a donation at one of the parish crib scenes across the Diocese since the charity was formed. This steadfast support has allowed us to give hope to thousands of children, young people and families by offering them the specialist care they need. Thank you all." **All proceeds from our parish crib collection will be donated to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society, to support children and families in our Diocese.**

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND 2024 DIARIES are now available to purchase from the St John Payne Church Repository.

HELP DECORATE OUR CHURCH WITH CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: DONATIONS WELCOMED. Please put donations in the collection, in an envelope marked "Flowers", or hand to Fr Jon or Ann Roughan. Many thanks!

PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS –Please send **all** correspondence, and Newsletter items (by midday on Thursday) to: greenstead@brcdt.org

OFFERTORIES: Week ending 10th December 2023: Offertory £401.15; World Youth Day £5.00; Prisoners Sunday £10.00; Food bank £190.00. **Thank you!**

COLCHESTER FOOD BANK - THANK YOU FOR HELPING THOSE IN NEED: Thank you to all parishioners for your generous donations. **The next regular collection for the Colchester Food Bank from SJP will be on Sunday 14th January 2024**, or you can donate at any time: just call me on 07582 502188.

The Foodbank has particular need of: washing powder/tabs; washing-up liquid; shaving foam; toilet roll; cooking oil; flour; tomato ketchup; chocolate spread; peanut butter; mayonnaise; nappies sizes 5, 6 and 7.

Thank you! James

THE SVP ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WILLING TO HELP CHILDREN PUT THEIR FAITH INTO ACTION. COULD THIS BE YOU? The St Vincent de Paul Society have primary school groups called Mini Vinnies, and volunteers would support teachers or youth leaders wishing to start a group in their school or parish. They will talk to children about how they can make a difference to those living in poverty and share resources to support the group. The role is flexible but does need people with some availability during school hours (at least 2 mornings or afternoons per month) who are willing to travel within the diocese (all costs are covered). You do not have to have previous experience of working with children as all training will be given. Our next initial training day is on **Tuesday 27th February 2024**. If you are passionate about helping children discover how they can make a difference in their communities, please email Sarah for more information on youngvincentians@svp.org.uk

SUPPORT CAFOD'S ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL: CAFOD's Country Programme Representative Middle East, Elizabeth Funnell, writes: "Right now, people are literally trying to stay alive. It's virtually impossible for people to leave Gaza so there's no way for civilians to escape the current Israeli bombardment. Over 1.5 million Gazans are displaced, and the lack of food, water or shelter is having disastrous humanitarian consequences". To donate go to cafod.org.uk

CALAIS LIGHT - HELPING REFUGEES IN THE UK: Calais Light is seeking donations and volunteers in Essex to help support refugees, make their lives in the UK more bearable, and give them a sense of belonging. Refugees in the UK are facing a harsh political and financial climate, and a crisis of destitution. You can volunteer to help Calais Light extend the values of kindness, tolerance and respect to our fellow human beings by emailing the local Lead Volunteer, John Bradley, at johnbradley9255@gmail.com

To donate, please visit the website:

www.calaislight.com

View Parish Newsletters online at:

<https://stjohnpayne.org.uk/newsletter>.