PARISH NEWS

CHRISTMAS MARKET – EVERYONE WELCOME!!!

Come along and join us for some festive fun! Christmas gifts and stalls, meet Santa, refreshments and delicious food. Saturday 28th November after 6.30pm Mass, Sunday 29th November, 12 Noon – 3.30pm, after 11am Mass. St. George's Hall, Most Holy Redeemer Church, Harold Hill. Bring your family and friends and help support our parishes. Everyone is welcome!

HUGE THANK YOU – A Huge thank you to everyone who helped in any way with our mini-Christmas market. It was lovely to see parishioners from both parishes coming together and supporting one another. All the money raised will go towards our Christmas Market. Thank you again to everyone for your generosity, time and support

NEXT S.V.P. MEETING – The next S.V.P. meeting will take place on **Monday 30th November** at 5pm in St. Dominic's Hall. We look forward to welcoming both our existing members and any new members who would like to join us.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP – Please note that the Bereavement Group meeting scheduled for **Wednesday 2nd December has been cancelled**. We apologise for any inconvenience.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2027 - Confirmation application forms are available at the back of the church. Forms must be completed in **CLEAR BLOCK LETTERS**, particularly the section relating to the Confirmation Certificates, to avoid spelling inaccuracies. Completed forms must be returned by **Sunday 6th December**. For further details, please contact Francesca Uche, Confirmation Coordinator.

FESTIVE COFFEE/TEA MORNING – A lovely way to start the festive season! Join us for a festive coffee/tea morning after the 11am Mass on **Sunday 6th December** in St. George's Hall, Most Holy Redeemer Church, Harold Hill. Come along, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, tuck into some delicious mince pies, enjoy a glass of mulled wine and have a lovely catch-up with fellow parishioners. Everyone is welcome, and we have a special festive treat in store for the children too!

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY – **Tuesday 8th December** celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This special feast reminds us that Mary, by a unique grace from God, was preserved from original sin from the very first moment of her conception, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, our saviour.

CHRISTINGLE SERVICE – **Friday 18th December** at 5pm. All families are welcome at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, St. George's Hall. All children are most welcome to come along in Christmas Jumpers to add to our celebrations. Please bring along an orange to decorate. Donations for the Salvation Army Food Bank would be greatly appreciated. If possible, please consider bringing along one item from the list: tinned fruit, UHT milk, tea bags, coffee sachets, tinned soup, instant pasta, scarves, hats, new toys. Thank you for helping to make a difference! Light refreshments will be served. See Theresa for information.

CHRISTMAS HAS ARRIVED IN OUR REPOSITORIES - Get ready for Christmas! Both parish repositories have a lovely selection of seasonal items available, including Christmas cards, Christmas calendars, Christmas gifts and gift ideas. Please visit the repositories at Most Holy Redeemer and St. Dominic's.

DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTION FOR WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY - **ST Dominic's** raised £55.86, and **Most Holy Redeemer** raised £295.62. The full amount collected remains £351.48. Thank you for your kind generosity and your continued support.

RECENT BEREAVEMENT – **Brian Capps,** aged **89,** of Waterson Vale, Chelmsford, passed away peacefully on Sunday 8th November. His Requiem Mass will be held at **Most Holy Redeemer Church, Harold Hill,** on **Thursday 3rd December at 11am,** followed by cremation at **South Essex Crematorium at 12.30pm**. Please remember him and his family in your prayers. May he rest in peace.

DIOCESAN & COMMUNITY EVENTS

THE INAUGURATION OF ADVENT - The Inauguration of Advent Sunday 29th November at 4pm celebrated by Bishop Alan Williams, sm at Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT. This is always a beautiful Service to begin the Advent Season, with lessons and Advent Carols, and other beautiful music. All are welcome.

INSTALLATION OF NEW BISHOP OF BRENTWOOD - Bishop Timothy Menezes will be installed as our new Bishop on the Feast of St Francis Xavier**, Thursday 3rd December.** Bishop Timothy's installation will be live streamed from Brentwood Cathedral on 3 December via the diocesan website. The link will be: https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/bishop-timothy

BISHOP TIMOTHY MENEZES INVITES YOU TO A MASS OF THANKSGIVING.

All parishioners from across the diocese are warmly invited to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving to be celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes following his appointment as Bishop of the Diocese of Brentwood. Masses will be celebrated in three locations: **Tuesday 8th Dec: 11:00 am** – Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT. **Tuesday 8th Dec: 7:30 pm** – St Antony of Padua Church, St Antony's Road, Forest Gate, London E7 9QB. **Wednesday 9th Dec: 7:00 pm** - St James the Less and St Helen Church, Priory Street, Colchester CO1 2QB

CATHOLIC AUTISM UK MEETING - The next meeting of Catholic Autism UK will be on **December 6th** between 6pm and 7 pm. The group is for autistic Catholics; their families and anyone interested in promoting greater inclusion for autistic people in the life of The Church. Please contact Deacon Mark Paine at dcn.mark.paine@rcaob.org.uk if you wish to receive a link to the meeting.

READING THE BIBLE THROUGH ADVENT & CHRISTMAS- Fr Adrian Graffy, parish priest of Gidea Park and member of the Pontifical Biblical Commission, has just published Reading the Bible through Advent and Christmas. Full information about the book can be found on the homepage of the website www.whatgoodnews.org.

BCYS ADVENT RETREAT AT WALSINGHAM HOUSE: 12th-13th December A weekend of festive fun, friendship, prayer and reflection exploring the meaning of Advent. Open to anyone in school years 10-13. All information and applications at www.bcys.net/events

ST MARY MOTHER OF GOD – HORNCHURCH - The Christmas Bazaar is on **Saturday 5th December**, 10am – 2pm. It is a week later than before, to be closer to Christmas. Please give it every possible support that you can. Look out for great Bazaar items and bring them to church in advance. On the day, support the Bazaar – invite friends and family too. Perhaps you can volunteer for part or all of the day? Let Annette know, via the parish office – there is always plenty to be done!

ST URSULA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY APPLICATIONS - St Ursula's Catholic Primary School is pleased to announce that we are currently accepting applications for our Nursery from September 2027. As one of the only Catholic schools in Havering offering Nursery provision, we warmly invite families from all Havering parishes to consider joining our welcoming community. Whether you are planning to continue your child's education at St Ursula's or another Catholic primary school, we are committed to supporting your child's development and providing a strong first step into Catholic education. For more information, please contact the school office: 01708 345200 or office@stursulasprimaryschool.co.uk. We look forward to welcoming your family to St Ursula's.

LOTTERY BONUS BALL WEDNESDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2026

Bonus Ball Round 1: No 9 "Marichel Salcedo" £25.00

Bonus Ball Round 2: No 10 "Roll Over" £37.50

Congratulations to the winner! Thank you to everyone who supports our Parish Lottery!

First Sunday of Advent (B)

Saturday 28th November - Sunday 6th December 2026

MASS TIMES	MASS INTENTIONS
Saturday 28th November	Vigil Mass of the First Sunday of Advent (B)
(MHR) 6.30pm:	Margie Martin & Ray Smith-C. Hunt
Sunday 29th November	**First Sunday of Advent (B)**
(StD) 9.00am:	People of the Parish
(MHR) 11.00am:	Linus Ezugwu RIP- Tina & Family
Monday 30th November	**St Andrew, Ap, Patron of Scotland**
(MHR) 9.30am:	**Mrs Maureen Patricia Jones RIP 10th Anni – Mr Noel Jones**
Tuesday 1st December	**Tuesday of the First Week of Advent**
(StD) 9.30am:	Agnes Fraser RIP – F/M
Wednesday 2nd December	**Wednesday of the First Week of Advent**
	No Mass
Thursday 3rd December	**St Francis Xavier, Pr**
(StD) 9.30am:	No Morning Mass
(MHR) 11.00am:	Funeral of Brian Capps
Friday 4th December	**Friday of the First Week of Advent**
(MHR) 9.30am:	Diane Vassiliou RIP – Tim & Janet O'Brien
(MHR) 10.00am:	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions
Saturday 5th December	**Vigil Mass of the Second Sunday of Advent (B)**
(MHR) 6.30pm:	**Holy Souls for Ong Family - Susie**
Sunday 6th December	**Second Sunday of Advent (B)**
(StD) 9.00am:	Oluwanifemi Akingbotolu Thanksgiving
(MHR) 11.00am:	People of the Parish

***Morning Prayer*: Before Mass at 9.15am, Mondays and Fridays.**
***Rosary*: Recited *after* morning Mass Mondays and Fridays at Most Holy Redeemer and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at St Dominic's.**
***Confessions* at Most Holy Redeemer are available by request. Please contact the Parish Office on 01708 343492 or email haroldhillmhr@brcdt.org to arrange a suitable time.**

Please pray for all who are sick or housebound within our parish community.

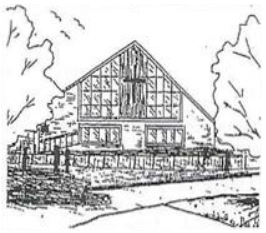
Brian Angel, Jason Angel, Rita Bracher, Christine, Deborah DiMoriaku, Stacey Doyle, Mary Eckett, Louise Flores, G. Golding, Tania Kavanagh, Daniel Kelleher, Karen Kennedy, Billy Koseda, Luke, Madeleine, Charlotte Massey, Susan Newman, Elsie Pridemore, Dee Skene, William Taylor, Tony Tyres, June Warrington, Eileen Lacey, Andrew White, Lynsey Mitchell, John Barry, Trish Connolly, Fran Manderson, Veronica & John Campling, Sarah Harding, Claire Monkcom, Andy & Doreen, Nadia Bolton, Donna McKearney, Tina Perotti, Brenda White, Ann Carr, Janet O'Brien , Jacqueline Pears and Steve Stripe, Paul Singleton, Mary Boyle, Tom Green, Val Kelleher, Nicky Burgess, Eve Lawrence, Sue Edwards, Stephanie Bedding, Ken Page, Sheila Murphy, Baby Emily, Lydia Luke, Joseph Exley, Suzanne Bonelli, Elizabeth Yee, Margaret T, Francis and Shaun, Rose Louise McDonagh, Amie Hughes, Will Manderson, Baby Arthur Connolly, Bridget Geraldine Carr, Lukose Vadakara, Matthew, Josie Piper, Bailey Merritt, Chris Lewis, Tracy Stuart, Maisie & Baby Theodore James, Peter Hayes, Lauren Johnson, Jo-ann Edwards, Vaughan Jones, Terry Hammond, Roy Farrance, Gavin Golding, Jodie (nee) Goulding, Susie Midson, Rowan George Judd.

Anniversaries of the Deceased.

George Smith, Marilynn Forster, Fr. Francis Branney, Sr. Lucy, Zygmunt Siedlaczek (Funeral), Henry Price, Ann Freeland, Teresa Nolan, Maureen Jones, Robert Friswell, Andrew Manning, David George, Fr. James Hannon, Kathleen Connelly, Margherita Perotti, Ellen Balfe, Gladys Bardill, Sharon Heckmann, John Cross, Fr. Brian Drea, Vincent Pisani

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

The Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Church
and
St Dominic's Catholic Church



Parish Priest: Fr Joseph Tan
Tel: 01708 343492
Email: haroldhillmhr@brcdt.org



Most Holy Redeemer
Petersfield Ave
Harold Hill
Romford
Essex RM3 9PB

Parish Website:
www.mostholyredeemerharoldhill.org.uk

St Dominic's
281 Straight Rd
Harold Hill
Romford
Essex RM3 7JS

First Sunday of Advent (B)

29th November 2026

First Reading: Isaiah 63:16b-17, 64:1, 3b-8 Second Reading: 1 Cor 1:3-9 Gospel: Mark 13:33-37

The central theme of today's readings is Jesus' warning to us to be alert, watchful and prepared because Christ's **Second Coming**, coinciding with the end of the world, can occur at any time. People, in general, have a paranoid fear about the end of the world. It was expected it in AD 204, 999 and 2000. The title of a best-seller published in 1988 was *101 Reasons Why Christ Returns in 1988.*

An extremely popular film released in 1999 about Christ's *Second Coming* was *Omega Code,* and another film released in 2005 was *Left Behind.* Excessive fear of the tribulations accompanying the end of the world led the followers of a religious cult led by Jim Jones (in 1978), and followers of another cult called *Heaven's Gate* (in 1997), to commit mass suicide.

But Jesus, in today's Gospel, gives us the assurance that we need not be afraid of the end of the world, Christ's Second Coming, and the Last Judgment, if we remain alert and prepared. The Church invites us on this first Sunday of Advent to prepare for Christ's Second Coming, 1) by properly celebrating during this Christmas season the fond memory of Christ's first coming 2000 years ago, 2) by experiencing Christ's daily advent or coming in every Eucharistic celebration, in the Holy Bible, and in the worshipping community, and 3) by preparing daily for Jesus' Second Coming which, for us, will happen at the unknown moment of our death or the equally unknown moment when the World will end. The answer will be God's Advent gift to us that day.

The Brentwood Diocese Trust is a Registered Charity No:234092