

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Parish News

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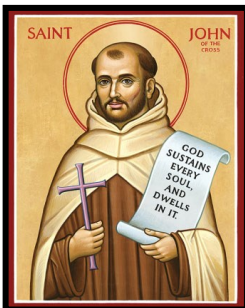


Twinned with the Parish of Ermelo in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

10th December 2017

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ST JOHN OF THE CROSS

Feast Day: 14th December

John of the Cross is known for his writings. Both his poetry and his studies on the growth of the soul are considered the summit of mystical Spanish literature and one of the peaks of all Spanish literature. He was canonised as a saint in 1726 by Pope Benedict XIII. He is one of the thirty-six Doctors of the Church.

Born in 1542. Following the death of his father, when he was three, he and his brother attended a school for poor children and received a basic education. Whilst studying there he was chosen to serve as acolyte at a nearby monastery of Augustinian nuns. At the age of 19, he professed his vows as a Carmelite and he studied theology and philosophy in Salamanca.

John was ordained a priest in 1567. During this year he met a Carmelite nun called Teresa of Jesus. She talked to him about her reformation projects for the Order, looking to restore the purity of the Carmelite Order by observing the 'Primitive Role' - study and devotional reading, the celebration of Mass and times of solitude. Teresa intended to found another monastery of nuns. John was enthused by her ideas and went on to found a new monastery for friars - the first for men following Teresa's principles. The friars were to spend time evangelising the population around the monastery. They were given the use of a derelict house and in 1568 the monastery was established. On that same day, John changed his name to 'John of the Cross'.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes: £700.45. Loose: £372.83. Gift Aid Standing Orders: £503.39. Total: £1,576.67. Thank you.

SICK PARISHIONERS:

Those who receive Holy Communion at home or in hospital:

Anne-Marie Wardrop, Barbara Brabon, Marie Day, Gwen Rushton, Val Harding and Kathleen Haigh.

ANNIVERSARIES: Jim Hailstone, Debbie Joan Gibson, Pauline Cox, Kathleen O'Keeffe, Herbert (Bertie) Shelock, Barry Brown, Patrick Corcoran, Patrick O'Sullivan, Michael Swan, and Licia Bryant, May they all rest in peace.

SECOND COLLECTION: **This weekend**, there is a Second Collection for Christmas flowers for our Church. Gift-aiders please use Second Collection envelopes.

REFRESHMENTS: Available after the **9.00am** and **11.00am Sunday** Masses.

FUNERALS: Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Anne Elizabeth Foster** - her Requiem Mass is on **Tuesday 12th December**, at **11.00am**, in the church, followed by cremation at the Three Counties Crematorium. Also pray for **Martin O'Connell** - his Requiem Mass will be on **Thursday 21st December**, at **12.30pm**, in the church, followed by cremation at the Three Counties Crematorium. May they both rest in peace.

WEDDING: Congratulations to **Dan Kirk** and **Ursula Murphy** who will be married, in our church, this **Saturday 9th December**. We wish them well in their future life together.

PARISH BAZAAR: The Bazaar made a profit of **£5,347.80** - a fantastic achievement! Thank you to everyone involved once again and to all of you who visited on the day. A breakdown of the money taken on each stall is on the noticeboard at the back of Church.

MASS AT ST FRANCIS SCHOOL: Please note: Mass on **Wednesday 20th December**, will be at **9.30am**, St Francis School.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 2016-17: A summary of the accounts for the financial tax year 2016-17 is now on the noticeboard at the back of church.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Will take place on **Tuesday 12th December** at **7.30pm**. Fr Liam Sweeney will be assisting Fr David with individual Confessions.

ALTAR SERVERS: New rotas have been emailed this week. Please put your name down on the list, in the Sacristy, if you are able to serve at the Christmas Masses. Thank you.

REPOSITORY: Someone has recently ordered some medals for St Bernadine of Siena and St Alphonsus. These are ready for collection. Please contact Liz on 01376 323705.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES: New Directories for 2018 are now available at the back of church - £2.75 each. Please put the money in the 'papers' box in the wall. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY: We have a large box full of lost property at the back of church - if you have lost anything during the past few months then please have a look. Any unclaimed items will be taken to a charity shop by **12th December**.

STEWARD OF THE GOSPEL: Further to the information last week, we need to advise **The First Formal Proposal for the Renewal and Restructuring of Our Diocese** can be viewed at <http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/development/>.

SUPPORTING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS - BY BISHOP ALAN WILLIAMS: Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic Schools.

THE CAFOD GROUP: With the generosity of the Parish we have raised enough money for just over four cows from CAFOD World Gifts for poor farmers in developing countries. We need to raise the udder half to make it five cows. We will be continuing with our 'name a cow' raffle after Christmas, but if you would like a ticket for £1 now, contact Ruth & Martin Barlow or Peter Braley. Thank you so much for all your support for the world's poorest people.

ST JOHN PAYNE SCHOOL - ADVENT SERVICE: This service of prayer and reflection will take place on **Tuesday 19th December**, at **7.00pm**, in Aquinas Hall. All welcome.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Bishop Alan will lead our annual pilgrimage from Monday 23rd to Saturday 28th July 2018. We shall be accompanied by an experienced medical team and there is plenty of help for those with mobility needs. The pilgrimage is no less ideal for couples, individuals, and groups of friends; all are welcome. There is a full programme to opt in and out of. There are brochures at the back of the church. For more information or for a brochure, please 'phone the pilgrimage administrator, Cathy O'Connor: 01206 735623.

MASS FOR TRAVELLERS: On **Saturday 24th February, 2.30pm**, at Westminster Cathedral. Celebrated by Bishop Paul McAleenan, for members of the Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities. For information, contact Fr Dan Mason on 01277 624891.

OUR SCHOOLS:

St Francis Primary School, Gilchrist Way, Braintree, CM7 2SY

Headteacher: Vicky Jackson

Telephone: 01376 320440 / Website: www.stfrancisbraintree.co.uk

St John Payne Secondary School, Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford, CM1 4BS

Headteacher: Anthony Schular

Telephone: 01245 256030 / Website: www.sjp.essex.sch.uk

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 9th December - Vigil Mass	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 10th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)	9.00am 11.00am	The Cunningham Family RIP Sister Oliver
Monday 11th December	9.30am	Communion Service
Tuesday 12th December REQUIEM MASS RECONCILIATION SERVICE	9.30am 11.00am 7.30pm	Lily Moore RIP (A) Anne Elizabeth Foster RIP
Wednesday 13th December St Lucy	9.30am	Pauline Cox RIP (A)
Thursday 14th December St John of the Cross	9.30am	Debbie Gibson RIP (A)
Friday 15th December	9.30am	Bertie Shelock RIP (A)
Saturday 16th December	9.30am	Ints Cecilia Omoyinbo
Saturday 16th December - Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Nora Carroll RIP (A)
Sunday 17th December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Gary Gall RIP

CONFESSIONS IN CHURCH ON SATURDAY - 10.00-10.30AM

Rosary	Church	Monday (except Bank Holidays)	8.00pm
Women's Group	Jubilee Hall	January 2018 (to be advised)	2.00-4.00pm
Faith Group	Jubilee Hall	Tuesday 19th December	7.30pm
Youth Club	Jubilee Hall	Saturday 16th December	7.00pm

COUNTERS OF COLLECTION

10th and 17th December	R&B Sewell
24th December and 31st December	M Wetton and J Hull
7th January	G Myddleton-Evans and J Baglin

CHURCH CLEANERS

Week commencing 11th December	S Paul and P Santomauro
Week commencing 18th December	P Mohan, D Dobrowolski & C Gleeson
Week commencing 25th December	S McKay and M Leyden

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING

Friday 12th January	T Seward and A&B Paul
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