

OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

Parish News

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

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

3rd February 2019

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The story of Jesus' visit to Nazareth, which we began reading last week, is placed by Luke at the very start of Jesus' ministry. The people are delighted by the 'gracious words', literally 'the words of grace', which he spoke. Quite suddenly the atmosphere changes and Jesus challenges the people's expectations. He knows that their approval is superficial. Prophets are generally rejected by their own.

Jesus illustrates this by referring to the two Old Testament prophets, Elijah and Elisha. Elijah encountered persecution in Israel and both prophets performed mighty works for those who were not Jews. Jesus stresses that the healing mercy of God is for all. The people of Nazareth react in annoyance, reject their own prophet and threaten physical violence.

Luke anticipates the different reactions to the preaching of Jesus in the rest of the Gospel. Acceptance, rejection and violence will be present.

What is my reaction of the preaching of Jesus?

Have I ever experienced being 'a prophet rejected by his own people'?

**We ask that Jesus' words of grace will
heal all bitterness and resentment.**

We ask that we, ourselves, will be 'good news' to the stranger.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Envelopes: £579.83. Loose Plate: £349.46. Gift Aid Standing Orders: £600.41. Total: £1,529.70. Thank you for your generosity.

SICK PARISHIONERS: We remember all those in nursing homes within the Parish: Elvira Kitteridge (New Deanery), Mary Davis, Kathy McBrierty, Bruna Read (Great Bradfords House), Colleen De Souza (Convent), Catherine Hughes (Millard House), and all at St Francis Residential Home.

ANNIVERSARIES: Joseph Guinan, Clare Guinan, Agnes Hedges, Harry Rigdon, Judy Gray, Dorothy May Miller (Margaret), Sharron Alliston, Martha Elizabeth Hayes, Eileen Ryan, Anastasia Pipe, Nora Connor, Denis Mayne, Mary Barlow, Irene Cleary and Fred Benfield. May they all rest in peace.

REFRESHMENTS: Refreshments are available after the **9.00am** and **11.00am Sunday** Masses, in the hall.

BAPTISM: This weekend, we welcome **Edith Clare Humpoletz**, daughter of Elizabeth and James, into the family of the Church. May God bless her at this special time.

PRAYERS: Please pray for **Mieczyslaw Dzierza (Mietek)** who has recently died. His funeral will be on **Wednesday 6th February**, at **12noon**, in the church, followed by cremation at the Three Counties Crematorium. May he rest in peace.

SECOND COLLECTION: Next weekend, **9th/10th February**, there will be a Second Collection for **The Lourdes Sick and Helpers Pilgrimage Fund**. Your generosity is most appreciated. Gift-aiders please use one of your pink envelopes (spare ones are at the back of church but please ensure you cross out the pre-printed number and put your own gift-aid number on instead) - thank you.

MASS: There won't be a Mass or Confessions on **Saturday 9th February** at **9.30am**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: We welcome our First Holy Communion children and their families to the **9.00am** Mass, on **Sunday 10th February**.

FRIDAY COFFEE MORNING: On **8th February**, after the **9.30am** Mass, in the hall.

PARISH COUNCIL: Following on from this week's meeting, it has been decided there should be a Social Sub-Committee formed. If anyone feels they can offer some time to assist with social activities, to help improve the camaraderie of our parish community, then please speak to Sue Howell or email her at braintree@dioceseofbrentwood.org.

100 CLUB: Congratulations to our January winners: **First Prize (£200):** Teresa Seward. **Second Prize (£50):** Sheila McKay. Just to clarify, each month we receive £500 from the 100 members who each pay £5 per month. £250 is given out in prize money and £250 is retained, by the parish, for church funds. Since we started the 100 Club in July 2018, we have raised £1,750. If you would like to join the Club, please complete a form which is at the back of the church. Thank you for your continuing support and congratulations to all our winners so far.

LOST PROPERTY: We have numerous items held in the Presbytery - coats, scarves, gloves, rosaries, crosses, toys - if you think you have lost anything, please contact us.

INTER-CHURCH ALPHA COURSE: A group of Braintree Christians will be getting together in The Hut, BYPC, South Street (opposite the fountain) at **9.45am**, on **Monday 11th February**, to plan an Alpha Course, which will start after Easter, in April. You are welcome to join them - please express interest through the OLQP Facebook page or by contacting Kate Manning on 07967796227.

VISION DOCUMENT - SHAPING OUR FUTURE: Bulletins for January are available at the back of the church. If there are none left, then see Sue in the office.

ANNUAL LOURDES MASS: This Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan at **3.00pm** on **Sunday 10th February** at Our Lady of Lourdes, Leigh-on-Sea. During this Mass there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. It will be lovely to see all those of you who have a particular devotion to Our Lady of Lourdes.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: On **Friday 1st March**, at **10.00am**, at St Paul's Church, Hay Lane, Braintree, CM7 3DY. Refreshments after the service. All welcome.

LUNCHTIME AT CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: Every **Friday** from **11th January** to **5th April. 12.30-1.15pm**. Admission: Free. Refreshments available from 12noon or feel free to take your own. More information on the noticeboard or visit www.chelmsfordcathedral.org.uk.

ST JOHN PAYNE SCHOOL - AFTERNOON TEA DANCE: On **Saturday 16th February**, from 2.00-4.30pm, at the school. To raise funds for a new school minibus. Tickets: £5 each to include tea/coffee cake. There will be a raffle. Contact: pta@sjp.essex.sch.uk for more details.

CHANGE THAT COUNTS CAMPAIGN: Ever wondered how you could help homeless people sleeping rough in Braintree? Reluctant to get involved or unsure what money gets spent on, ie alcohol, drugs? This Campaign is a new partnership formed between homeless charities Hope House and The Salvation Army to help provide shelter, food, toiletries and vital support such as welfare and counselling to help individuals make a positive change. Please visit: mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/changethatcounts. Any donation, small or large can make a massive difference with this initiative. If you are concerned about someone sleeping rough, please call Braintree District Council's 24-hour number 01376 552525 or visit www.streetlink.org.uk, where trained workers can help. More information is also available on our noticeboard. Thank you.

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK: On **Saturday 9th February**, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. www.GoodCounselNetwork.com.

ANGLIA SINGERS' CONCERT: On **Sunday 17th March**, at **4.00pm**, in our church. Tickets available from the presbytery - £8 each (under 16s free). Fauré - Requiem and John Rutter - Feel The Spirit. Conducted by Christopher Green OBE.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday 2nd February Vigil Mass	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 3rd February FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)	9.00am 11.00am	Peter Breed RIP (A) (Breed) Linda Lynn RIP (A) (Lynn)
Monday 4th February	9.30am	Communion Service
Tuesday 5th February St Agatha	9.30am	Peter and Cis Hanlon RIP (A) (Pannell)
Wednesday 6th February St Paul Miki and Comps FUNERAL SERVICE	9.30am 12noon	Ints Mary Maher (Bridget) Mieczyslaw Dzierza RIP
Thursday 7th February	9.30am	Ints Bill Paul (Baker)
Friday 8th February	9.30am	Judy Gray RIP (A) (Gray)
Saturday 9th February	-----	NO MASS OR CONFESSIONS
Saturday 9th February Vigil Mass	6.00pm	Tony Lamb RIP (Leyden)
Sunday 10th February FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)	9.00am 11.00am	People of the Parish Harry Rigdon RIP (A) (Rigdon)

CONFESSIONS ON SATURDAYS, 10.00AM-10.30AM, IN THE CHURCH, EXCEPT FOR SATURDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

Rosary	Church	Mondays (except Bank Holidays)	8.00pm
Women's Group	Jubilee Hall	Thursday 7th February	2.00-4.00pm
Faith Group	Jubilee Hall	Tuesday 19th February	7.30pm
Youth Club	Jubilee Hall	Friday 8th February	7.30pm

St Francis Primary School Headteacher: Vicky Jackson Gilchrist Way, Braintree, CM7 2SY 01376 320440 www.stfrancisbraintree.co.uk	St John Payne Secondary School Headteacher: Tom Coen Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford, CM1 4BS 01245 256030 www.sjp.essex.sch.uk
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