

The Parish of Holy Cross and St Luke's

Tracyes Road, Harlow, Essex, CM18 6JJ

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Parish Priest

Rev. Father Bernard Soley

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Rev. Anthony Rowley

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Parish Deacons

Rev. Michael Smith

Number: 07765948293

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The Brentwood Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No. 234092

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday 5.30pm, Sunday 9.00am, Sunday 11.00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

After Saturday 5.30pm Mass, prior to Sunday 9.00am Mass, and by appointment

Parish Schools

Holy Cross Preschool, Holycrosspreschool50@gmail.com, Natalie

Holy Cross Catholic Primary Academy, 01279 424452, Headteacher: Mrs Alison Kerrell

St. Luke's Catholic Primary Academy (part of Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Multi Academy Trust), 01279 423499, Executive Headteacher: Mr Ian Kendall

St. Mark's West Essex Catholic Academy, 01279 421267, Headteacher: Mr John Taylor

Safeguarding

For any safeguarding concerns, please contact Rev. Anthony Rowley by email only (please see above).

Hall Hire

For any enquires to hire the hall, please contact Sheila Underdown by text only, on 07590533511

Easter Sunday Year A

Dear friends

We cannot begin to imagine what it must have been like for Christ's followers. They were faced with the fact that, although he had been crucified and died, he was now alive! The Resurrection is a mind-boggling event. It means that the ultimate threat to humanity, death itself, no longer has power over us. That is because the Resurrection is not something that just happened to Jesus. It reaches us too. For we Christians are now alive with a life that goes beyond mere existence. We are alive in God through Jesus Christ. To live Resurrection life means that we can believe. Life ceases to be futile. We have the faith to recognise that all creation comes from God and is redeemed by Christ's victory over death. We profess with our tongues and with our lives that God is so concerned about us that he

sent Jesus to show us how to live and how to usher in the Kingdom of God. To be alive with the life of the risen Jesus means that we are able to trust. Life ceases to be hopeless. We know that God did not abandon Jesus in his hour of need and he will not abandon us either. The Resurrection gives us the confident hope that, wherever we turn, we will find God on our side. Sharing the risen life of Jesus means that we can care. Life ceases to be noxious. God cared about us to the point of giving us his all. We, too, learn to care about others with a superhuman strength made possible by God's grace. We can give our all, nothing held back till it hurts. Believing, trusting, caring - faith, hope, love. When we find these, then we are fully alive.

At the Easter Vigil we welcome, Becky, Gift, Katie, Matthew, Jacqueline, Jonathan and Kerry into full communion with the Church. We share their joy and pray for them and their families as they deepen their faith and love in God.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Blessed Easter. May the Risen Lord always light up your lives. A word of thanks to all involved with Holy Week and the Easter Celebrations - the music group, Extra Ordinary Minister of Communion, Readers, Altar Servers, Flower arrangers, Ushers, Church Cleaners.

God Bless you all Father Bernard.

Upcoming Masses

Saturday 4 th April 2026 8pm Easter Vigil (For all Parishioners) 7.15pm Divine Mercy Novena Day 2
Sunday 5 th April 2026 9.00am Easter Sunday Mass (Calogero Giambrone RIP) followed by Divine Mercy Day 3
Sunday 5 th April 2026 11.00am Easter Sunday Mass (Jim Bridle RIP) followed by Divine Mercy Day 3
Monday 6 th April 2026 10.00m Easter Monday (Barbara Vernan) Divine Mercy Day 4
Tuesday 7 th April 10.00am Easter Tuesday (Eucharistic Service) Divine Mercy Day 5
Wednesday 8 th April 2026 9.00am Easter Wednesday (Eucharistic Service) Divine Mercy Day 6
Wednesday 8 th April 2026 6pm Vigil for Mary Hooker
Thursday 9 th April 2026 11.00am Easter Thursday Requiem Mass for Mary Hooker
Thursday 9 th April 2026 Divine Mercy Novena Day 7
Friday 10 th April 2026 10.00am Easter Friday (Newell and Bridle Families RIP) Divine Mercy Day 8
Saturday 11 th April 2026 5.30pm Vigil for Divine Mercy Sunday (For all Parishioners) Divine Mercy Novena Day 9 at 5pm
Sunday 12 th April 2026 9.00am Divine Mercy Sunday (Len Rebello RIP)
Sunday 12 th April Divine Mercy Holy Hour
Sunday 12 th April Divine Mercy Sunday (Bridget Brennan RIP)

Liturgy of the Word

Response to the Psalm: at the Vigil Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Mass of the Day This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Collection:

First Collection: £589.97p

Baptism Key Dates

Next Baptism Registration Meeting: Monday 11th May 2026, 6pm.

Next Baptism Catechetical Talk: Monday 18th May 2025, 6pm.

Legion of Mary

Legion of Mary meet up every Wednesday at 10.30am. New members always welcome. For more information, please contact Steven on 07930304001.

First Holy Communion

As part of the First Holy Communion Programme, children will receive homework assignments each weekend during Mass. Completing these assignments is an essential element of their preparation and participation in the programme.

In addition to completing homework, regular attendance at Mass is also required. This commitment helps the children to become more involved in the parish community and to deepen their understanding of the faith.

Reconciliation Retreat afternoon Saturday 11th April 2.00-5.00 (during this session they make their second sacrament)

Mass 5.30. Saturday 11th April

Walsingham House Team 26/27:

applications are now open for the Walsingham House Team 26/27. Being on the team is a wonderful opportunity to work with young people from across the diocese, live in community and to share and deepen our faith. Applications are open to those aged 18-23 (current Yr13 and above). For more information including the application form please see the website <https://bcys.net/whabbotswick/be-on-team/> or email michaelkearns@brcdt.org.

Brentwood Diocese - Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine & Co. Mayo

Led by Bishop Alan Williams Monday 15th June 2026: Depart London Stansted 07:05 - Arrive Knock 08:30 Friday 19th June 2026

Depart Knock 09:35 - Arrive London Stansted 11:00 Monday 15th June 2026 Depart UK. 20 Minutes transfer to Knock Shrine.

Mass in Apparition Chapel celebrated by Bishop Alan. Tour of Museum and Grounds. Hotel check in. Dinner. Tuesday 16th June 2026 Morning Mass in Ballintubber Abbey with Tour of Grounds. Onwards to Croagh Patrick and Famine Memorial. Self-Guided tour of Kylemore Abbey. Return to hotel for dinner. Exposition in Apparition Chapel. Wednesday 17th June 2026 A Day in Knock. Mass in Basilica celebrated by Bishop Alan. Prayer Guidance. Confessions. Dinner & Free evening. Thursday 18th June 2026 Morning Mass in Fr. Peyton Centre with tour. Lunch. Afternoon in Knock. Farewell Dinner and Entertainment. Friday 19th June 2026 Return flight to London Stansted Price of £799.00 per person Package includes: Return flight from Lon Stansted - 10kg check in bag. 4 nights Dinner, B&B in Knock House Hotel. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours. Assistance from Knock Pilgrimages representative. Single room supplement £250.00. Maximum 3.

Contact: Patricia Tel: 01268 762 278 Mob: 07740 175 557 knockpilgrimages@gmail.com
Q4853 Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association, membership number Q4853. Knock Pilgrimages, Unit 14576, PO Box 6945, London, W1A 6US

St John Bosco Children's Camp. Summer 2026.

Applications are now open for children currently in school year 5 - 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. 25th July - 1st August or 1st - 8th August. Activities include archery, fishing, AquaPark visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at <https://boscocamp.co.uk>. Places are likely to go quickly - early applications are encouraged.