

# 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

Email: [michaelsmith@brcdt.org](mailto:michaelsmith@brcdt.org)

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](mailto: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

## Pentecost Sunday Year A

Dear Brothers and sisters

With this feast we celebrate the birthday of the church because it was on the first of Pentecost Sunday that the infant church was launched on course and took on its missionary role. Sunday 24th May 2026 11.00am Pentecost (Maddy Kelly RIP) the scriptures tells us that while the apostles were at prayer with Mary in the upper room, suddenly there was a roaring wind and the Holy Spirit descended on them in the form of tongues of fire and gave these timid and frightened men the courage to rush into the street and fearlessly preach the word of God to friend and foe alike. The Spirit of the Lord which was poured out and transformed the apostles from a fearful to courageous men announcing the good news about the mighty acts of God, was not a one-off happening which took place only at the beginning of the church. Ever since, the Holy Spirit has been a permanent presence and a tower of strength in guiding, guarding and directing its course.

The action of the Spirit continues in our time and is evident first in our lives at baptism. It was on that occasion that the seed of eternity was planted within our being bringing us into a loving relationship with God, who invited us to become his adopted sons and daughters. Pentecost and the coming of the Holy Spirit is Jesus announcing that God our Father has breathed his life into our bones giving us an opportunity to share his eternal life. Heaven has been placed within our reach but entrance into the kingdom does not happen unless we are prepared to change our ways and make room for the Spirit of the living God to dwell within us. The starting point for accepting the gift of the Holy Spirit is to increase our prayer life, which helps us into a loving relationship with God - the Spirit came upon the apostles while they were at prayer. Without an attitude of prayerfulness, it is difficult to discover our special talents and the particular role we are called to play in the mission of the church. Once we discover our own particular gifts there is an obligation on us to use them in building up the Body of Christ.

God bless you all, Father Bernard

### ***Upcoming Masses***

Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2026 5.30pm Vigil for Pentecost (For all Parishioners)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 9.00am Pentecost (Augustine Dowd RIP)
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 11.00am Pentecost (Maddy Kelly RIP)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 10.00am Mary, Mother of the Church (Eucharistic Service)
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 NO SERVICE TODAY
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 9.00am St Augustine of Canterbury (Eucharistic Service)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 9.00am Our Lord Jesus Christ, Universal High Priest (Betty Hurley's Ints)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026 9.00am Feria (Eucharistic Service)
Saturday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 5.30pm Vigil for Trinity Sunday (Carole Hyde's Ints)
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 9.00am Trinity Sunday (Mary Borganah RIP)
Sunday 31 <sup>st</sup> May 11.00am Trinity Sunday (Yan Wodzislawski's Ints)

### ***Liturgy of the Word***

*Response to the Psalm: Send forth your Spirit O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.*

**Collection: £862.79p**

### ***Baptism Key Dates***

Next Baptism Registration Meeting: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 6pm.

Next Baptism Catechetical Talk: Monday 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

## ***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](mailto: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

## ***RCIA***

We will be starting the new RCIA course in September on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm. This is an introductory session and a chance to register your interest. If you are an adult and are not a Catholic, then this is your opportunity to explore the Catholic faith with no commitment. There may be others who have been baptised, and you are more than welcome to join the course and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at Easter.

## ***Confirmation***

For anyone who is in year 9 and under the age of 18 you may wish to be confirmed. Details about the course for next year will be available later in the year as soon as we know when the bishop's visitation is going to be.

## ***Holy Hour***

Just to remind you that we do have a Holy Hour on a Tuesday and Thursday after the 9am Mass, please however check the newsletter as due to other things it may have to be cancelled. We begin

with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, followed by a Rosary. Then we have the Divine Mercy at about 10am followed by Benediction. If you are free you are warmly invited to join us.

### ***Hospital Lay Chaplain- Basildon Hospital***

A vacancy has arisen for a Hospital Lay Chaplain.

All applicants should have strong communication skills and be able to deal with the private and confidential nature of the role.

The post will be part-time working 5.25 hours per week - during the hours of 8am - 8pm. One day per week.

The salary is £13.45 per hour

The closing date for applications is 29th May 2026 and suitable applicants will be invited to attend an interview.

If you have any queries or if you would like to apply, please send your CV to [basildon@brcdt.org](mailto:basildon@brcdt.org)

