

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

Corpus Christi Year A

Dear Brothers and sisters

The feast of Corpus Christi was instituted to focus special attention on the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. In a sense it is a repeat of Holy Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper. The sad memories associated with Holy Week tend to overshadow the Lord's breaking of bread and his farewell promise that we would be with his church all days until the end of time. It is a celebration of the generosity of the Lord to us, in offering himself as food to satisfy our spiritual and material hunger as we journey through life. On this day, the church makes us sit down, stop and consider the great miracle of God's love among us. We thank the Father for the gift of his only Son as our redeemer and Saviour, as Lord and friend. God has given us everything he could in the life of his Son. The feast is not only about the Eucharist - it is also about the community that assembles to celebrate the Eucharist. Hospitality is at the heart of the Gospel message. If our hearts are not open and ready to share with those in need in our ordinary life, we cannot be united in our

celebration. There is no way we can offer the Eucharist and not reach out to the poor as Jesus did. It is the daily life we live during the week that gives us something to bring to the community Mass on Sunday. We cannot take a worldly lifestyle to the altar and celebrate it as Christians. By living lives of service to others, we begin to appreciate what the Eucharist is all about. It sends us out to touch the lives of our neighbours as the healing presence of a helping hand or a sympathetic voice, changing despair into hope and suspicion into trust.

One cannot be truly present at the Eucharist without a desire to change and set out on the road travelled by Christ, trying to live as he did in a caring and sharing way. Every celebration is an invitation to give ourselves as completely as possible to Jesus to surrender ourselves to the power of his love, which will change us and bring us eternal life. When we are deeply scarred by sin the eucharist binds up our wounds, restores our strength and pours peace onto our troubled souls. The very fact we celebrate this feast indicates that we are people of thanksgiving, a community which knows how to praise God for the basic gift of life, family, friends, food and clothing. Above all, we thank God because of what he has done for us in Christ.

God bless you all, Father Bernard

Upcoming Masses

Saturday 6 th June 5.30pm Vigil for Corpus Christi (For all Parishioners)
Sunday 7 th June 9.00am Corpus Christi (Maureen Porter's Ints)
Sunday 7 th June 11.00am Corpus Christi (Moesha Anna Rose Chalawila)
Monday 8 th June 2026 7.30pm Feria (Margaret and Ray Slee RIP)
Tuesday 9 th June 2026 9.00am Feria (Rene and Brian Rowley RIP) Followed by Holy Hour
Tuesday 9 th June 2026 2.30pm St Luke's Yr 2 Prayer Service
Wednesday 10 th June 2026 9.00am Feria (Eucharistic Service)
Thursday 11 th June 2026 9.00am St Barnabas (Fr Bernard's Ints) Followed by Holy Hour
Friday 12 th June 2026 8.15am Sacred Heart of Jesus (Staff and Pupils of St Mark's School)
Saturday 13 th June 5.30pm Vigil for Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (For all Parishioners)
Sunday 14 th June 9.00am Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Victor Keviee RIP)
Sunday 14 th June 11.00am Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Jacqueline Vyapory RIP)

Liturgy of the Word

Response to the Psalm: We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

Collection: £618.35p

Baptism Key Dates

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

Next Baptism Catechetical Talk: Monday 13th July 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.

RCIA

We will be starting the new RCIA course in September on Thursday 3rd 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

GIFT Conference: September 19th 9.30am-5pm at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay

- Are you disillusioned with your existing First Holy Communion Programme?
- Would you like to place families at the heart of parish renewal and support them to engage and connect with their faith?
- Does the idea of approaching sacramental preparation in a fruit-bearing way excite and inspire you?

Join us for this **one-day conference** which explores the GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) model of family catechesis. GIFT re-imagines how parishes can accompany and encourage families in their faith journey and prepare them for the sacraments.

Whether you have already started your GIFT journey or are looking for a different way to support your families, this conference will share what the GIFT model could look like in your parish and explore why it is transformative for the Church.

You and your catechists can book a place by following this link:

<https://brushfire.com/divinerenovationministry-uk/GIFTConference/627818>

Parish Administrator

A vacancy has arisen for a Parish Administrator, with financial experience, to provide administrative and financial support to the Parish Office by implementing and maintaining office systems, processes and procedures and delivering a welcoming, appropriate service to those attending the parish office. The role be based at Rochester House, 145 New London Road, Chelmsford , CM2 0QT. The post will be full time working 35 hours per week, Monday to Friday.

The salary is £14.50 per hour

The full job description is available on our website www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us

The closing date for applications is 7th June 2026 and we will then invite suitable applicants to interview.

If you have any queries or if you would like to apply, please send your CV and/or completed application form to office@chelmsfordcatholic.co.uk or by post to Rochester House, New London Road, Chelmsford , CM2 0DT.