

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, 01God279 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

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dear brothers and sisters.

Today's gospel reading is 1 of 6 feeding stories with bread and fish in the gospels there are two each in Matthew and mark and one in John and one in Luke. Today is the feeding of the 5000 with 12 baskets leftover, this represents the Jewish people the 12 tribes of Israel. In chapter 15 of Matthew's gospel we have the feeding of the 4000 with seven baskets leftover, this represents the gentiles. God has planned to feed the whole world with the bread of the Eucharist, these feeding stories our gift from God that helps us in our spiritual journey towards a homeland in the Kingdom of heaven. It is worth pondering on how the evangelists represent these stories in their gospels.

May God bless you in everything you do, Deacon Tony.

Saturday 1 st August 5.30pm Vigil for Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (For all Parishioners)
Sunday 2 nd August 9.00am Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Ann Grochowska RIP)
Sunday 2 nd August 11.00am Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Margaret Gleeson RIP)
Monday 3 rd August 10.00am Feria (Vincent Luan RIP)
Tuesday 4 th July 2026 9.00am Feria (Private Intention) Followed by Holy Hour
Wednesday 5 th August 2026 9.00am Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus (Our Ancestors)
Thursday 6 th August 2026 9.00am The Transfiguration (All Souls) Followed by Holy Hour
Friday 7 th July 2026 10.00am Feria (In Thanksgiving)
Saturday 8 th August 5.30pm Vigil for Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (For all Parishioners)
Sunday 9 th August 9.00am Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vincent Luan RIP)
Sunday 9 th August 11.00am Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (James Galvin RIP)

Liturgy of the Word

Response to the Psalm: You open your hand and fulfil us, O Lord.

Collection: £484.73p

Baptism Key Dates

Next Baptism Registration Meeting: Monday 7th September 2026, 6pm.

Next Baptism Catechetical Talk: Monday 14th September 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

The programme will begin on 5th September where pictures will be given out that will be needed for the programme, this will be every week. Enrolment is online through the Parish website. The cut-off date for this is 27th September. All work must be completed before then. You and your child will be expected to attend Mass each week. There will be a meeting with Fr Bernard, Dn Tony and Dn Michael. Parents Meeting 8th January, the lesson will begin 22nd January, then February 27th, March 20th, March 26th, April 17th. The communion Mass will be in May.

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.

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>

HEADTEACHER

Join Our Team at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Upminster

Are you ready to lead a joyful, ambitious Catholic school community where children are known, loved and inspired to flourish?

The governors of St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Upminster, are seeking to appoint an inspirational, practising Catholic Head Teacher to lead our happy and welcoming two-form-entry school from January 2027. Rooted in Gospel values and with Christ at the centre, St Joseph's is a school with strong foundations, delightful children, dedicated staff, supportive families and an ambitious governing body.

This is a wonderful opportunity for a visible, faith-filled and values-led leader to build on all that is already strong, while shaping the next stage of our school's journey with confidence, warmth and vision.

CLOSING DATE 5PM ON 2ND SEPTEMBER 2026

[Headteacher Advert](#)

[Letter from the Chair of Governors for HT Recruitment](#)

[St Joseph's Headteacher Job Description](#)

[Person Specification - Headteacher](#)

[Headteacher Application Form](#)

[Notes for Applicants](#)

[Consent to Obtain References Form](#)

[Recruitment Monitoring Form](#)

[BDES Guidance on Definition of Practising Catholic for Reserved Posts](#)

VISIT OF STATUE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA - The Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, accompanied by relics of Saints Francisco and Jacinta will be coming to Brentwood Cathedral on **Saturday 12th September 2026**- the Feast of the Holy Name of Mary [Patronal Feast of the Society of Mary].

WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA: On Saturday, 12th September the Diocese of Brentwood will host the Visitation of the National Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco, at the **Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Helen, Brentwood**. This will be a Day of Prayer & Devotions, with the opportunity for the veneration of the relics. Bishop Alan accompanied by Priests of the Diocese will concelebrate Holy Mass, this will be followed by the Consecration Prayer of the Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Bishop Alan.

As this is a Day of Prayer, we ask all those participating to bring a packed lunch, teas and coffees will be available in the Cathedral Parish Hall. Following lunch, there will be a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, with recitation of the Chaplet of Adoration and Reparation. Communal Recitation and reflection on the Joyful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary. The Divine Mercy Chaplet will be prayed, and then a Docu-film and Talk in the Parish Hall on "Fatima Message for the World." Finally, the Enrolment and Investiture of the Brown Scapular will be facilitated in the Parish Hall. Please see poster for full details.

Sue Karolak

We are sad to announce the passing of Sue Karolak, may she Rest in peace. Please keep Kieran and Ryan in your prayers as well as the rest of the family. Her Funeral Service will take place here at Holy Cross on Tuesday 11th August at 1pm, followed by burial at Parndon Wood.