CATHEDRAL
MASSE TIMES AND INENTIONS

Sunday  FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)
27 November 8.00 a.m.  People of the Parish
         9.30 a.m.  Peggy Wareham R.I.P.
         11.30 a.m.  Peter Anderson R.I.P.
         6.30 p.m.  Robert Westmacott R.I.P.

Monday         9.15 a.m.  Geoffrey Ball R.I.P.
28 November

Tuesday         9.15 a.m.  Intentions of Sister Gabi
29 November

Wednesday  ST ANDREW
30 November 9.15 a.m.  Paul Cassidy R.I.P.

Thursday        9.15 a.m.  Intentions of Rosemary Gordon
1 December  5.30 p.m.  Maureen Brookes R.I.P.
            (Grange)

Friday          9.15 a.m.  Intentions of the Tolan Family
2 December

Saturday   Sr Francis Xavier
3 December 9.15 a.m.  Hilda, Francesco and Rosaria Calabritto R.I.P.

Sunday  SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)
4 December  8.00 a.m.  Bruce Dickerson R.I.P.
         9.30 a.m.  Caroline Ann Coppin R.I.P.
         11.30 a.m.  Sheila and Jim Hennessy R.I.P.
         6.30 p.m.   Patrick Ryan R.I.P.

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity No. 234092
These coming weeks before Christmas are a time of shopping, wrapping, eating and drinking. This is as it should be because these human, worldly ways of preparing to celebrate Christmas remind us that in Jesus, God took human flesh, that he really did come into our world. But Advent is also an opportunity for us to prepare spiritually – to prepare to celebrate Christ’s birth but also to prepare ourselves for when he will come again.

St Cyril of Jerusalem reminds us of this double meaning of Advent:

We do not preach only one coming of Christ, but a second as well, much more glorious than the first. The first coming was marked by patience; the second will bring the crown of divine kingdom. At the first coming he was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a manger. At his second coming he will be clothed in light as in a garment. In the first coming he endured the cross, despising the shame; in the second coming he will be in glory, escorted by an army of angels.

Below are a number of services and events that will help focus our spiritual preparation on the true meaning of Christmas: Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, who dwelt among us and brought to perfection, the saving work the Father gave him to do.

Choral Vespers: At 4.00 p.m. this afternoon (27th), you are warmly invited to this beautiful and uplifting service in the Cathedral to mark the inauguration of Advent. The music will include popular Advent hymns and Choir Carols sung by the Cathedral Choir.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place every weekday morning from 8.00 a.m. to 8.45 a.m. Come and spend some time in quiet prayer before our Lord.

Morning Prayer will take place at 8.45 a.m. each weekday and 8.55 a.m. on a Saturday morning.

Evening Prayer (Vespers) will take place at 6.30 p.m. every weekday. On Wednesday evenings, Sung Vespers will take place at 6.30 p.m.

Advent Reconciliation Service will take place at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 20th December. This is a graced opportunity to experience the mercy and healing that only God can give us. There will be a number of priests available to hear confessions. Do make a commitment to come along.

Walk With Me: These small books – A Journey of Prayer for Advent and Christmastide – are now available in the narthex and Holy Cross. £1.

Christmas Change the World Project: Last year we raised the fantastic sum (in the first week of Advent!) of £750 and bought, via CAFOD, a community water supply which provided clean, safe water for a community. This year we’re going to aim even higher and see if we can buy (again, via CAFOD) a HEALTHCARE CLINIC and play our small part in saving many lives. The cost of the clinic is £4,000. Do you want to make a real difference to the world around you this Christmas? Then, please give generously. Our ‘Tiny Tims’ will be at the doors as you leave Mass and if you want to gift aid your donation, please use a CAFOD envelope.

The Cathedral Crib: This year our crib is going to be present in the Cathedral throughout Advent. Each week we will add new figures to the crib until the final figures are placed in the crib on Christmas Day. In this way, week by week, we remember that Jesus is at the centre of all our celebrations and we pray together, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” Offerings for the crib go to the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society that responds to the needs of the most vulnerable children in our diocese.

Carol Singing: We will be inviting our young people to join us in singing carols in some local residential homes, including the Marillac. The singing of carols will bring joy to those who hear them and make the message of Christmas ring out. Watch the newsletter for further details.

Christmas Cards: This year we will be inviting all our children to take a Christmas card, colour it in and to complete the sentence (perhaps with the help of mum or dad): I would like Jesus to give the world............this Christmas. Then please return to Father Martin and Father James before the 24th December! These cards will be displayed on the notice boards. We are also going to send Christmas cards to our twinned parish, Maria Ratschitz in South Africa and to our brothers and sisters in some of our local churches – see the newsletter for further details.

Christmas Tree: You will be able to write your own personal prayers on special tags that will be available soon, and hang them on the tree.
COFFEE after the 9.30 a.m. Mass today will be hosted by the Scouts, whilst next week will be the turn of the Justice and Peace Group.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of May O’Brien, Maggie Taylor’s mother, who died in Ireland on Tuesday and for Sheila Slater, mother of Peter, who died on Thursday. May they both rest in the peace of Christ and we offer Maggie, Peter and their families our prayers and sympathy at this time.

ADVENT 2011: Into Great Silence, a series of three evenings to prepare spiritually for Christmas, will take place in the Conference Centre on Tuesdays, 29th November, 6th and 13th December from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. See the poster on the notice boards for details or phone Sister Nuala on 265255.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The next session for the children is on Saturday, 3rd December, commencing with 9.15 a.m. Mass in the Cathedral.

OUR MONTHLY YOUTH MASS will be celebrated in the Cathedral next Sunday, 4th December, at 6.30 p.m. If you would like to take part in the music at this Mass please come along to a rehearsal in the Cathedral at 5.30 p.m. – and if you play an instrument, please bring it with you.

THANK YOU for the collection on the 20th November: £2,591.66 (Gift Aid £1,481.70). Holy Cross £485.45 (Gift Aid £297). National Youth Sunday collection: £544.88/£66.45. Retiring collection this weekend for BEEF – Brentwood Ecclesiastical Education Fund which supports the education of seminarians. The money is needed as we currently have seven students in formation at a cost of well over £100,000 per year. This includes their tuition, accommodation and living costs. We would also ask for your prayers for all our seminarians – David, Matthew, Nick, Patrick, Eamonn, Gary and Brenden – as well as those considering an application in 2012. There is a Special Mass for Vocations at St Basil the Great, Basildon on Thursday 29th December at 11.30 a.m., followed by lunch for seminarians and those enquiring about vocation: please email frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org, for more information. For any contribution you can make to the BEEF collection, thank you. For information about leaving a legacy to BEEF please contact Father Dominic by email or on 01268 553425.

THE CHILDREN’S LITURGY GROUP are looking for new helpers, men, women, young people (Confirmandi welcome!), to assist leaders and meet the growing numbers of children at the 9.30 a.m. Mass. Do you enjoy working with children? Do you want to play a vital role in helping the children of our parish grow in their relationship with Jesus? If you are interested or just want to find out more please contact Father Martin on 265235 or at cathedral@dioceseofbrentwood.org. To comply with Diocesan Child Protection procedures, all helpers will need to be CRB checked.

THE CHRISTMAS JOURNEY - an original Musical by Edwin Fawcett and Elizabeth Swain at the Brentwood Centre on the 1st/2nd December: Each night over 400 children from Catholic primary schools from across our Diocese are coming together to perform a joint musical nativity, and the evening will also include carols and Christmas songs performed by each school. (St Helen’s will be performing on the Friday evening). The cost of the tickets is £13 for adults, £9 for concessions, and £35 for a family ticket (2 adults, 2 concessions) and any money raised will be shared between the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society and the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. Tickets can be purchased from 08712 241113 or at nationalboxoffice.co.uk. Come and enjoy this wonderful start to the Christmas season.

BRENTWOOD URSULINE CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL will be celebrating all things Christmas at their festive market from 11.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. on Saturday, 3rd December. Lots of stalls and activities to interest young and old.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: If you wish to buy an appropriate present for elderly and needy parishioners, please do so in time for the SVP to make the distribution. It is suggested that biscuits, chocolates or similar, or even sherry, would be appropriate. SVP members will be offering reminder tags after each Mass on the 4th December. The gifts should be wrapped (attaching a brief description of the contents) and left at the back of the Cathedral by no later than Sunday, 11th December. If you know of any people that the parish should remember, please supply their names and addresses to the SVP, c/o Clergy House, before then. Many thanks.

ST HELEN’S INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS CHRISTMAS FAYRE is being held next Sunday, 4th December from 2.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. in the Junior School Hall. Please join us for this wonderful event and come and meet Father Christmas.

SING MESSIAH: The popular Singalong Messiah will take place in the Cathedral on Saturday, 10th December at 7.00 p.m. This is a fantastic opportunity for anyone to sing one of the greatest choral works ever written with professional soloists and instrumentalists. There will be a rehearsal on the day at 4.00 p.m. and an optional run through on Wednesday, 30th November at 7.30 p.m. There will be plenty of people in the choir who know it well and who can help those who are trying it for the first time so there is no need to be shy. It costs just £10 to take part. You can download a booking form from http://www.cathedral-brentwood.org or full details are available from David Worsfold on 221445 or david.worsfold@zen.co.uk. Alternatively, if you just want to sit back and enjoy an inspirational piece of music please join the audience and tickets are priced £10 (£5 all concessions).

CALLING ALL KNITTERS: Thanks to all who replied to my request for toiletries for the seafarers – we received 380 items in just one week – imagine what we could do over a year! Your generosity is overwhelming. Adele (232948)
MINISTERS AND READERS: Please put your name on the lists in the narthex if you are available for a Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. ALSO please contact Lorna Green (205923 or philandlorna@aol.com) with any known absences between 18th December and 19th February – no later than Sunday 5th February.

THE CAMPION SCHOOL SENIOR CITIZENS PARTY: This annual Christmas party takes place on Sunday, 11th December from 1.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. and parishioners from the Cathedral and Holy Cross are cordially invited to attend. Places for this popular party are always limited, so please put your name on the lists in the narthex and at Holy Cross THIS WEEKEND. Transport is available if required and if you add your telephone number to the list someone will contact you.

OUR SENIOR CITIZENS CHRISTMAS PARTY will take place on Wednesday, 14th December, starting with Mass at 12 noon followed by Christmas lunch. If you, or anyone you know, would like to attend please contact Liz Murrell on 217792. Transport can be provided if required.

THE INVISIBLE PROVINCE: For those of you interested in reading Father Martin’s blog, please go to http://theinvisibleprovince.blogspot.com

CATHEDRAL PARISH HALLS BOOKINGS: Please email Roisin Cassels at cathedralhallbookings@yahoo.co.uk or phone her on 07756 765567.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL? If you or a relative is going into hospital please contact us in Clergy House so that we can advise the chaplain or the parish which serves that hospital to ensure that the patient’s spiritual needs are looked after.

THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK is available to anyone who is gravely ill or is about to have an operation, so if you know someone who should receive this important sacrament then please speak to one of the clergy.

THE SICK: Please pray for all our sick and housebound parishioners and friends, including Joy Breslin, Iris Clarke, Joe Brown, Curtis, Kyle and Nathan Coe, Marie Cooper, Karen Cox, Joan Cutter, Bernadette Dawson, Sylvia Dean, Mary Dowse, Dane Doyle, Tony Evans, Rebecca Florendo, Don Fox, Jean French, Dennis Furlong, Heather Gash, Ged Gilligan, Mary Gilsenan, Mike Gray, Amos Grossmith, Michael Haxton, Tom Horan, Tony Kidd, Stefan Krafcak, Wanda Kwiatek, Ann Mallon, Chloe Mansell, John Mansworth, Tony Marsh, Pam Maule, Pat McCarthy, Bernadette McGuinness, Rosie Nicholson, Siobhan O'Leary, Bill Pateman, Christine and Brian Perrett, Angela Pumford, Maureen Quinn, Michael Quinn, Mary Rodgers, Anne Rowe, Pat Shaw, Daisy Simpson, Catherine Smith, Richard Smith, Sr Stephen OSU, Margaret Mary Toal, Sheila Ann Towler, Sylvia Vaughan, Christine Vincessa, Mario Tinenti, TCT, Jacques Visser, Jarlath Wills, Abigail Witchalls, Preston Wood and all our sick in the Marillac, Mascalps Park, Brentwood Community, Queens, Nuffield and Hartwood Hospitals and St Francis Hospice.

CATHEDRAL ANNIVERSARIES:- Please remember the following, whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bridie O’Dea, Stephen Hegarty, Eileen Butterwick, Kathleen O’Regan, Anne Greenaway, Patrick Roche, Geoffrey Ball, Joan Murtagh, Florence Watts, William Smythe, Mary Carter, Sister Lucy OSU, Mrs N McMahon, Rosina Kairis, William Purdy, Stephen Delee, Doris Tweed, Julia March, June Musto, John Avis, Terrence Vaughan, Caroline Coppin, Elly Hayes, Elizabeth O’Regan, Patrick Redmond, Peter Ball, Edward Lambert, Cornelius Culivan, Alfred Walsh, Rita Smith, Julia Brooking, Luisa Capereoe, Mary Harrington, Anna Wong, Agnes Payne and Robert Francis.

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WARLEY NEWS

CHILDREN’S LITURGY at 11.00 a.m. Mass will take place today (27th), 4th, 11th and 18th December.

QUIZ NIGHT on Saturday, 3rd December at 7.30 p.m. in St Peters Hall with Quizmaster Dennis Neal. Tickets are £5 and include a glass of mulled wine, soup and a roll. Bring your own drinks and nibbles. Tickets on sale after Masses or you can contact Breda on 226852.

THE HOLY CROSS CHRISTMAS FAIR will be on Sunday, 11th December after 11.00 a.m. Mass. There is a box at the back of the Church for your gifts of bottles, toiletries, jewellery etc. We will welcome cakes for the cake stall on the day.

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

Saturday
26 November 6.30 p.m. Holy Cross Patrick Ryan R.I.P.
Sunday 10.00 a.m. Marillac Connie Reader R.I.P.
27 November 11.00 a.m. Holy Cross Kathleen West R.I.P.

Saturday
3 December 6.30 p.m. Holy Cross Lena McHugh R.I.P.
Sunday 10.00 a.m. Marillac Carlyle de Prazer R.I.P.
4 December 11.00 a.m. Holy Cross People of the Parish

ANNIVERSARIES:- Please remember the following whose anniversaries occur at this time: William and Jane Shale, Sister Mary Francis, John Meehan, Brendan Daly, Elsie McElligott, David Bexley and Alfred Hegarty.

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