

# OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE

## Parish News

**Parish Priest:** Monsignor David Manson  
**Address:** The Presbytery, The Avenue,  
Braintree, CM7 3HY  
**Telephone:** 01376 326779  
**Email:** braintree@dioceseofbrentwood.org  
**Website:** www.olqp.co.uk  
**Office Hours:** Tue/Wed 9am-5pm, Thu 9am-2pm



Twinned with the Parish of Ermelo in the Diocese of Dundee, South Africa

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT (A) 21st/22nd March 2020

We are aware that all our parishes and communities are praying for all those affected by the Coronavirus emergency – the following prayer can unite us with fellow Catholics and many others across Europe:

Cardinal Hollerich SJ and Cardinal Bagnasco, Presidents of the European Bishops' Conference have published a prayer for this time of infection with the COVID-19 virus for use in our communities across the continent of Europe.

*God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us you sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and our bodies, look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dismay in many regions of Europe and the world, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief, deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick, comfort their families, give wisdom to our rulers, energy and reward to our doctors, nurses and volunteers, eternal life to the dead. Do not abandon us in the moment of trial but deliver us from all evil. We ask this of Thee, who with the Son and the Holy Spirit, live and reign for ever and ever. Amen.*  
*Mary, mother of health and hope, pray for us!*

We have also received the following from the Rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes – our Principal Patron of the Diocese:

**The Notre Dame de Lourdes Sanctuary is open for individual prayer. Each morning a prayer for the world is being recited, non-stop, at the Grotto from 7.30am to 8.30pm (9.30pm on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays) asking the Virgin Mary, the Immaculate Conception, who herself was protected by God, to protect her children.**

## **INFORMATION**

Even though Masses are cancelled as from this Saturday morning, 21st March, the church itself will remain open, for private prayer, from 9.30am to 6.00pm.

If you know of anyone who would appreciate support, please contact Fr David or Sue in the Presbytery.

**OFFERTORY COLLECTION:** Thank you for your generous offerings. Envelopes: **£436.31**. Loose Plate: **£166.75**. Standing Orders: **£510.74**. Total: **£1,113.80**.

**SICK PARISHIONERS:** Please let us pray for all our parishioners in this uncertain time. We remember especially: Gwen Rushton, Elvira Kitteridge, Mary Davis, Kathy McBrierty, Catherine Hughes. Cecilia Omoyinbo, Val Harding, Kathleen Haigh. Mary McGrath, Mary Rooney, Peter Beard, Megan Delaney, Isaac Barry, Sandra Gilbert, Bernard Boylan, Chris Brodie, Barbara Mansell, Janet Cash, Mary Delaney, Josie Pullum, Frances Weaver, Rachel Stokes, Bob Bothello, Brenda Sewell and Maria Wray.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Doreen Ashburner, Nicholas Williamson, Archie Hill, Hugh Donlor, Margaret Francis, Winifred Finneral, James Rooney, Laurence O'Keeffe, Mary Peagram and Bob Beagley. May they all rest in peace.

**TAKING PART IN MASS:** During the present crisis when we are unable to come to Church for Mass, Bishop Alan is encouraging us to continue to share in the celebration of Mass. A number of Churches are live-streaming Mass. They can be found by googling for this. Particularly recommended are the live-streams from the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham and the shrine of Our Lady of Knock. Each can be found on their respective websites: [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk) and [www.knockshrine.ie](http://www.knockshrine.ie). Also, although I am unable to celebrate Mass in public, I shall be doing so privately every day and during the Mass I will pray for you and your families and ask for God's protection for us all at this difficult time. Fr David.

**APF RED BOXES:** Envelopes are available at the back of the church to empty your boxes. Please return envelopes to the Presbytery before the end of March. Thanks.

**GIFT AID:** Thank you to those parishioners who joined the Gift Aid Scheme last week. If there is anybody else who would like to join, or requires more information, then please call Chris Dayer directly on 01376 324460. We would also like to remind anyone who is already a donor in the scheme, to collect their envelopes from the back of the church, so we can clear the table before Holy Week. Thank you.

**DONATIONS BY STANDING ORDER:** If there is anyone who wishes to continue making payments to the church, despite Masses being cancelled, this could be set up via a standing order with the Bank. Standing Order Forms are available from the Parish Office or if you would like further details, please contact Chris on 01376 324460. Thank you.

# READINGS FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT:

## **First Reading**

*1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13*

The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons.' When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed stands there before him,' but the Lord said to Samuel, 'Take no notice of his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him: God does not see as man sees: man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart.' Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' He then asked Jesse, 'Are these all the sons you have?' He answered, 'There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes.' Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said, 'Come, anoint him, for this is the one.' At this, Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

## **Second Reading**

*Ephesians 5:8-14*

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of darkness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said: 'Wake up from your sleep, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you'.

## **Gospel Reading**

*John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38*

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored. His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a Sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked how he had come to see he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God; he does not keep the Sabbath.' Others said, 'How could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again. 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away. Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you..' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Whilst all church public services, ie Masses, have been cancelled until further notice, Fr David will still be saying a **private Mass**, daily - **just him within a locked church**.

If you have a Mass booked in the diary, then you have three choices:

Mass for that person/people can still be said but with only Fr David present.

The Mass Intention could be postponed until a later date.

The Mass could be cancelled, money refunded and a new date booked, by yourself, once we are holding Masses again.

### **Fr David will be saying the following Private Masses:**

Saturday 21st March <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b> Sunday 22nd March	Int Janet Boxall, Lucy and Family Alan Doleman RIP (A) and Ints Dee Doleman (Burford)
Monday 23rd March	
Tuesday 24th March	Ints Franciscan Sisters
Wednesday 25th March <b>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</b>	Sharon Ann Williams RIP (Cranmer)
Thursday 26th March	Ints Marie (née Price)
Friday 27th March	Ints Kim and All Doctors' Receptionists
Saturday 28th March <b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b> Sunday 29th March	John Driscoll RIP (Wallen) Harold Rigdon RIP and Ints Eileen Rigdon (Rigdon)

<b>St Francis Primary School</b> Headteacher: Vicky Jackson Gilchrist Way, Braintree, CM7 2SY 01376 320440 <a href="http://www.stfrancisbraintree.co.uk">www.stfrancisbraintree.co.uk</a>	<b>St John Payne Secondary School</b> Headteacher: Tom Coen Patching Hall Lane, Chelmsford, CM1 4BS 01245 256030 <a href="http://www.sjp.essex.sch.uk">www.sjp.essex.sch.uk</a>
--	--