PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

LATELY DECEASED:
Maria Jesus Mosquera
May she rest in eternal peace

ANNIVERSARIES:
Andrea Battistini, Antonio Cancello, Mr Gerald Duggan, Charles Green, Beryl Jannece, Anne Alfano, Walter Pert, Derek Faulkner, Kathleen Ivens, John Mulligan, Teresa Camp, Mary James, Betty Neilson, Gladys Ratnayake, Mary Roberts, Kathleen Stokes. Cecelia Chaplin, Annie Connolly, Harry Deamer, Sister Cyril Donnelly, Brendan O'Loughlin, Dorothy Knight, Rory Maguire, Joseph Neary, Oscar Reyk, Henry White, Laura Cannon, Bertha Aplonia Noronha, Nell Farrelly

Maranatha at Upminster 19th November 2026
Maranatha Come Lord Jesus! All are warmly invited to an evening of prayer, praise and worship, including Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament where we come together to encounter the Holy Spirit and share fellowship in a Catholic context. At St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Upminster RM14 28Y on Thursday 19th November 2026, 7.00pm to 9.00pm, with refreshments afterwards. Not been to Maranatha before : why not come and see?

The Ursuline Academy Ilford is looking to recruit an HR Administrator
From: 30 November 2026
Closing Date: Friday 27th November 2026 noon
Please see website for further details
www.uai.org.uk/joining-us/come-work-at-uai

SECOND COLLECTION
WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY
There will be second collection after masses on Sunday, 22nd November

SUNDAY MASSES
1st Mass: 6pm Saturday;
8.30am; 10am & 11.30am Sunday
(The 11.30am Mass is recorded)

Join us for tea/coffee after Sunday Mass in the Becket Centre

10am Chigwell Convent

WEEKDAY MASSES
10am St Thomas'
9.30am Chigwell Convent except on Saturday's when mass takes place at 10am

CONFESSION
Saturday 10.30am - 11am and 5.15pm - 5.45pm

BAPTISMS
1st and 3rd Sundays of the month

Baptism Course Dates
The next baptism course will take place on **Wednesday, 11th & 18th November.** Parents are required to attend both dates to complete the course. To register, please visit the parish website or contact the parish office directly.

St Vincent De Paul Society
Are you in urgent need - financial or other? Please call 07547 491 067 and leave a message - we will call you back.

Confirmation Programme 2027
**** CLOSING DATE EXTENDED ****
We would like to invite baptised parishioners in Y10-13, who regularly attend Mass, to apply to join our 2027 programme. Sessions will take place on Thursday evenings; all dates can be found on the parish website. Full attendance is required. Please visit our website to complete the application form. The closing date for applications has been **extended** to; Monday **23rd** November 2026.

Chigwell Convent Folk Music Mass at 10am
The next folk music Mass at Chigwell Convent will be on Sunday 22 November at 10am for the feast of Christ the King. The choir and musicians will provide enhanced music settings to our hymns. We do hope you can join us to sing praise to God**.**

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
Woodford Green
Served by the Franciscans
A FAIRTRADE PARISH

Parish Office: 020 8504 1686
Friary: 020 8504 1688
Email: parishoffice@stthomaswoodford.org
Website: www.stthomaswoodford.org
Facebook: @STOCWoodford
Twitter: @STOCWoodford

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
SUNDAY 15TH NOVEMBER 2026

Please note the nearest Fire Exit to you whilst you are in the Church

Today on the World Day of the Poor we are reminded that faith in God is something that is to be lived out in our actions. We have all been given different God given gifts, and we all have a role to play in sharing God's mercy and love with others.

First Reading Proverbs 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31
A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. She will serve others and care for those who are poor.

Responsorial Psalm:
Blessed are all who fear the LORD

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Keep awake, for the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

Gospel Matthew 25:14-30
A master gives his servants talents before going on a journey. On his return he rewards those who have been faithful.



Pope Benedict XVI On Talents

The Gospel passage recounts the famous Parable of the Talents, related by St Matthew (25: 14-30). The "talent" was an ancient Roman coin, of great value, and precisely because of this parable's popularity it became synonymous with personal gifts, which everyone is called to develop. In fact, the text speaks of "a man going on a journey [who] called his servants and entrusted to them his property" (Mt 25: 14). The man in the parable represents Christ himself, the servants are the disciples and the talents are the gifts that Jesus entrusts to them. These gifts, in addition to their natural qualities, thus represent the riches that the Lord Jesus has bequeathed to us as a legacy, so that we may make them productive: his Word, deposited in the Holy Gospel; Baptism, which renews us in the Holy Spirit; prayer the "Our Father" that we raise to God as his children, united in the Son; his forgiveness, which he commanded be offered to all; the Sacrament of his Body sacrificed and his Blood poured out; in a word: the Kingdom of God, which is God himself, present and alive in our midst.

This is the treasure that Jesus entrusted to his friends at the end of his brief life on earth. Today's parable stresses the inner disposition necessary to accept and develop this gift. Fear is the wrong attitude: the servant who is afraid of his master and fears his return hides the coin in the earth and it does not produce any fruit. This happens, for example, to those who after receiving Baptism, Communion and Confirmation subsequently bury these gifts beneath a blanket of prejudice, beneath a false image of God that paralyzes faith and good works, thus betraying the Lord's expectations. However, the parable places a greater emphasis on the good fruits brought by the disciples who, happy with the gift they received, did not keep it hidden with fear and jealousy but made it profitable by sharing it and partaking in it. Yes, what Christ has given us is multiplied in its giving! It is a treasure made to be spent, invested and shared with all, as we are taught by the Apostle Paul, that great administrator of Jesus' talents.

The Gospel teaching that the liturgy offers us today has also had a strong effect at the historical and social level, encouraging an active and entrepreneurial spirit in the Christian people. The central message, however, concerns the spirit of responsibility with which to receive God's Kingdom: a responsibility to God and to humanity. This attitude of the heart is embodied perfectly in the Virgin Mary who, on receiving the most precious gift of all, Jesus himself, offered him to the world with immense love. Let us ask her to help us to be "good and faithful servants" so that we may one day enter "into the joy of our Lord".

** CALLING YOUNG PEOPLE WHO HAVE RECEIVED FIRST COMMUNION **

Something we are proud about as Catholics is our tradition of altar servers who bring dignity and dedication to our liturgy. We are looking for servers particularly at the 6.30 on Saturday evening and the 8.30 on Sunday morning. We will give them training and see that they enjoy being an important part of our parish life.



First Holy Communion
**** First Confession ****
Confessions will take place from
30th November to 11th December.
Look out for sign up sheets at the back of the church for parents to put their child's name down for their First Confession. Children will need to bring along their "*I Belong*" book with them.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE
We require a team of volunteers and helpers on Friday 27th November to move items from the church to Trinity School from 5pm AND again on Saturday, 28th November to move things back again after 4pm. If you are able to help please contract Susie on 07504990906



Charity Christmas Luncheon
Join BCCS for a delicious two-course meal, exclusively hosted in the beautiful Grade II listed Georgian House. Friday 4th December - 12:30-15:30 - The Lawn, Rochford, SS4 1PL
£38.50 per person - book now:
www.bccs.org.uk/christmas/christmas-luncheon
Any questions contact Julie:
jabbott@bccs.org.uk | 07912277413

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE
World Youth Sunday: 22nd November
There will be a second collection for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service, supporting events, retreats and pilgrimages for young people in Essex and East London.
If you wish, you can also donate online at www.bcys.net/donate, and please do visit the website to find out more about how to get involved.



Mass Intentions

15th November to 22nd November 2026

Sunday 15th November
8.30am - Rita Zanelli RIP
10am - Peg Martin RIP
11.30am - Brian Francis Beveridge anniversary
Chigwell - Deceased of Dias family

Monday 16th November
Margaret & Jack Bryan RIP
Donald Raecke
Chigwell - Sister Lyn health

Tuesday 17th November
Matthew Insole RIP
Chigwell - Deceased Sisters SHJM

Wednesday 18th November
Derek Faulkner anniversary
Alan Miles RIP

Thursday 19th November
Gerard Power RIP
The Meyler family RIP

Friday 20th November
Jennifer Little - anniversary
Maria Vaughan - sick

Saturday 21st November
10am - Relations & friends of Murphy & Costello families
6pm - In memory of William Correya & Thomas Carvalho

Sunday 22nd November
8.30am - Doreen & Stuart Ritchie RIP
10am - People of the parish
11.30am - Michael Spillane RIP

Masses offered each day of November for those named before the altar.

Church Cleaning
Thursday, 19th November at 9.00am
Sue Mansbridge, Jackie John, Srimathie Crusz, Margaret Parkinson, Chelsea Chaplin

November Dead List
November is the month for remembering. You are invited to write the names of all you wish to be remembered in the envelopes provided. If you wish you may include a small donation. All names will be placed in the box before the altar where masses will be offered for them each day through November. It is the communion of all saints – living and dead.

St Anthony's School Applications
Father Michael Copps will be available to sign **certificates of practice** on the following;

17th November at 3.15pm - 5.00pm
18th November at 3.15pm - 5.00pm
7.00pm - 8.00pm

No need to book, just come along to the Church. More dates will be offered in December if needed.

Invitation to a Mass of Thanksgiving
All parishioners from across the diocese are warmly invited to attend a Mass of Thanksgiving to be Celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes following his appointment as Bishop of the Diocese of Brentwood. Join us as we gather in prayer and thanksgiving to welcome our new Bishop and seek God's blessing upon his ministry. All are welcome.

Masses will be celebrated in three locations:
*Tuesday 8th December: 11:00am
Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT

*Tuesday 8th December: 7:30pm
St Antony of Padua Church, St Antony's Road, Forest Gate, London E7 9QB

*Wednesday 9th December: 7:00pm
St James the Less and St Helen Church, Priory Street, Colchester CO1 2QB

CHAPTER OF CANONS MASS will take place in the Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen, Brentwood on Monday, 14th December at 10.30am. Celebrated by Bishop Timothy Menezes. All are very welcome to attend. In the New Year there will be an opportunity for each deanery to welcome Bishop Timothy.