



First - Third Sunday of Advent (A)

30th November - 14th December 2025

Parish Priest
Father Martin Boland

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GENERAL PARISH NEWS

Bishop Thomas McMahon RIP (1936 -2025)

Bishop of Brentwood 1980 - 2014

During the past week, Bishop Thomas McMahon died. May he rest in peace and rise in glory. Please keep him in your prayers:

Grant, we pray, Almighty God, that the soul of your departed servant Bishop Thomas, to whom you committed the care of your family, may, with the manifold fruit of his labours, enter into the eternal gladness of his Lord. Who lives and reigns for ever & ever. Amen.

For more information about Bishop Thomas's life of service go to www.dioceseofbrentwood.net

Funeral details are available on the parish website www.ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com

ADVENT These coming weeks before Christmas are a time of shopping, eating and drinking. These very human ways of celebrating Christmas remind us that in Jesus, God took human flesh and that he really did come into the material reality of our human lives. But human beings are not just matter, we are spirit, as well. We are body and soul.

Advent is an opportunity for us to prepare spiritually to celebrate Christ's birth but also to prepare ourselves 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.

HOLY COMMUNION At the Vigil Mass on Saturday 29th, a young man, PETER CLARES WERY will receive Holy Communion for the first time and then on Sunday 30th at the 9.30 a.m. Mass, two of our parish children, YESENIA ONUCHINA-TANG and EMILIA TROTTIER, will receive their Holy Communion for the first time.

Please pray for Peter, Yesenia and Emilia and their families.

OUR PARISH PILGRIMS GO TO LOURDES. On Friday December 5th, a group of parishioners will head off to Lourdes, France and they will be there for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. If you have any prayer intentions that you would like prayed for while they are, please write them down and give them to Fr Martin or pop them into Clergy House.

SVP/WEDNESDAY CLUB CHRISTMAS SOCIAL would like to invite you to our Christmas Social on Wednesday 17th December from 2.00-4.00 p.m. in the parish hall where you can enjoy an afternoon of music, food and a glass of wine. If you require transport, please contact Don O'Driscoll on 07923 608074.

LEGACY FOR THE PARISH We are very grateful to the late Mr Roderick Sime for remembering the parish so generously in his will. For many years, Roderick was our organist and choir master, enhancing our worship of Almighty God with his many musical gifts. A convert to the Faith, he also prepared and guided many people into the Catholic church through the *Journey in Faith* formation. Above all, he was a man of profound faith and a friend to many.

Mass will be offered for the repose of Roderick's soul and a memorial plaque will be placed in the organ loft to give thanks to God for all he gave our parish community.

We are grateful to all those who remember the parish in their wills and thus contribute to its ongoing mission in the future.

THANK YOU for making the Autumn Fayre such a resounding success. The fantastic amount raised was £3,261.62

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY Thank you for your most generous donations. The amount raised was £1,411.11

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA YOUTH CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

are delighted to invite our young parishioners to take part in this year's Christmas Competitions. These creative opportunities encourage children and young people to reflect on the meaning of Christmas while sharing their artistic gifts with the parish:

▫ **Nativity Painting Competition (Ages 4-11)** Children are invited to paint or draw their own Nativity Scene, and to choose a favourite Bible passage to include with their artwork.

▫ **Christmas Photography Competition (Ages 8-18)** Young people are encouraged to capture a Christmas altar or Nativity scene through photography and accompany their image with a Bible passage that reflects the spirit of Christmas.

All entries will be displayed in church and selected pieces will be entered in the national competition, with the chance to win money prizes. So encourage your kids to get their paintbrushes and cameras out to explore the Christmas story!

Use QR code on posters for more information. ***Deadline 21st December. Hand in to Clergy House.***

Grand Christmas Raffle Please support our Grand Christmas Raffle which will take place on 21st December 2025. Tickets are £2.00 each and a book of 5 £10.00 and will be on sale after Mass in the porch.

Money will go towards the running of the Parish Centre with 25% going to our nominated Charity CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young).

1st Prize £150 Cash

2nd Prize £75 Cash

3rd Prize Fortnum & Mason Hamper

4th Prize Bal Beauty £100.00 Voucher

Other Prizes include two 45 min piano lessons with Ladislav Ondercin (a parish organist and professional musician), which will be in the Church, Enigma voucher, and other incredible prizes Good Luck and thank you for supporting the Social Committee throughout the year.

NEW WEEKLY EVENING MEDITATION GROUP every Thursday 8:15 -9:15 p.m. in the parish hall. For further information email Brendan at brendanweakliam@gmail.com

There is no need to have meditated before and some information guidance can be given on mediation practice and how you can go about embedding a practice into your daily life.

Should you be interested in further group meditation every week and are free on a Tuesday morning, there is an already established weekly daytime mediation group in the parish hall who meet for an hour from 10:50-11:50 a.m.

OUR PARISH DECEASED Please pray for the repose of the souls of

- *Patrick Andrew* whose funeral will take place on Thursday 4th December at 10.00 a.m. Committal at City of London Cemetery.

- *William (Bill) Reilly* whose funeral will take place on Wednesday 10th December at 10.30 a.m. Committal at St Patrick's Cemetery, Leyton.

- *Efren Cacayorin* whose funeral will take place on Tuesday 16th December at 10.00 a.m. Committal at City of London Cemetery.

- *Patricia Shore* whose funeral will take place on Wednesday 17th December at 10.00 a.m. Committal at Manor Park Cemetery.

May they be welcomed into the mansions of the saints.

UPDATE ON THE RESTORATION OF THE TABERNACLE TO THE OLD HIGH ALTAR.

While these works are taking place, weekday Masses will be celebrated in the Parish Centre. There will be no Adoration on Fridays during the time of these works. Thank you for your continued patience and understanding.

SATURDAY MORNING CHURCH CLEANS Following the works taking place in the church during the week, the church will need to be cleaned for each weekend. We need help with this cleaning. *Would you be willing to give a hand with this?* Just turn up to the church between 9.00-10.00 a.m. on Saturday mornings.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PRIMARY SCHOOL is seeking a Mid-day Assistance on a needs basis from 12 p.m.–1.15 p.m. Monday to Friday during term time. Please contact Mrs Neal on 0208 989 9521 for further information.

PLEASE SUPPORT THE RUNNING, WORK AND MISSION OF THE PARISH by giving using any of the following ways:

- The easiest way to give is by setting up a regular Standing Order: www.ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com/offerings-and-donations/
- By scanning the QR code shown here with your smartphone
- Online DONATE via the Diocesan website www.dioceseofbrentwood.net
- Using the digital collection plate (DCP) in the main entrance.



If you are a tax payer, please gift aid your offering:
www.ourladyoflourdeswanstead.com/gift-aid/

For any queries please email wansteadfinancegiftaid@brcdt.org

Pastoral Assistants

Carmel Docherty Tel: 07906 406938
Frank Adesegha adesegha@aol.com

Parish Secretary - Eileen Crotty

wanstead@brcdt.org Tel: 0208 989 2074

Chair of Parish Council - Fiona Christison
flumblefly@hotmail.com Tel: 07812 766082

LOLO Site Manager - Bernie Dando

BernadetteDando@brcdt.org

Pastoral Centre Caretaker - Camille Mouquet
Tel: 07464 313389 (Text messages preferred)

To register as a new parishioner - Tricia Webb
wansteadregistrar@brcdt.org

WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 30th November First Sunday of Advent

6.30 p.m. Vigil Mass – People of the Parish
9.30 a.m. Mass—Dr Fortune Ezeah Ints.
11.30 a.m. Mass—Hugh Francis D’Souza & Muriel Clare D’Souza RIP
5.00p.m. Mass—Lorraine Campling RIP

Monday 1st December

9.00 a.m. Mass in the parish centre—Anne Abbott RIP

Tuesday 2nd December NO MORNING MASS

Wednesday 3rd December St Francis Xavier

9.00 a.m. Mass in the parish centre—Nigel Davies RIP

Thursday 4th December NO MORNING MASS

10.00 a.m. Funeral of Mr Patrick Andrew

Friday 5th December

9.00 a.m. Mass in the parish centre—Derek Jawed RIP
NO ADORATION

Saturday 6th December

NO MORNING MASS

*9.00-10.00 a.m. Holy Communion Formation Session No.3 in the
parish hall*

9.00-10.00 a.m. CHURCH CLEAN

CONFESSIONS 5.00—6.00 p.m.

6.30 p.m. Vigil Mass—Peter Byrne RIP

WEEKDAY AND SUNDAY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 7th December

9.30 a.m. Mass—Vera Donohoe RIP

Holy Communion Formation—Blessing for children and their families at the 9.30 a.m. Mass

11.30 a.m. Mass—Nora & Harry Pinnock RIP

5.00 p.m. Mass—People of the Parish

Monday 8th December

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9.00 a.m. Mass in the parish centre—Edgar de Souza RIP

Tuesday 9th December

NO MORNING MASS

Wednesday 10th December

NO MORNING MASS

10.30 a.m. Funeral of William (Bill) Reilly

Thursday 11th December

9.00 a.m. Mass in the parish centre—Zitta Eustace RIP

Friday 12th November

9.00 a.m. Mass in the parish centre—Fintan Cullen RIP

NO ADORATION

Saturday 13th December

NO MORNING MASS

9.00-10.00 a.m. RCIA in the parish hall

9.00—10.00 a.m. CHURCH CLEAN

CONFESSIONS 5.00—6.00 p.m.

6.30 p.m. Vigil Mass—Bridget Riley RIP

Sunday 14th December

9.30 a.m. Mass—Maggie Davis RIP

11.30 a.m. Mass—Frances Daniels RIP

5.00p.m. Mass—People of the Parish

