



Sunday 13th December 2009
Third Sunday of Advent (C)

Diocese of Brentwood - Registered Charity No. 234092

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE HOLY CROSS

Holy Cross Church

The Presbytery, Easington Way, South Ockendon, Essex RM15 5EJ

Parish Priest - Fr Philip Denton

Parish Office:

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Website: www.holycrossaveley.org.uk

Holy Cross School - 01708 853000

La Sainte Union Sisters - 01708 852707

Hall/Centre Bookings - 01708 853130

Child Protection - 01708 851990



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve – Thursday 24th December

Christmas Eve Family Mass at 5.00pm - Carols at 4.30pm

Christmas Midnight Mass - Carols at 11.30pm

Christmas Day – Friday 25th December

9.00am & 11.00am



Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th December – Normal Mass Times

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNING

...after the 9.00am Mass **in the Presbytery**, everyone is welcome.

SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION

A service of reconciliation is to be held at Holy Cross Church on **Thursday 17th December at 7.30pm.**

If you are unable to attend this service but would like details of services in other parishes, please ask Fr Philip for details.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COURSE

A reminder to the parents of children who have already applied to join the course. The first session of the course will be held on **Saturday 9th January 2010 at 10.00am in the parish centre.** There will also be a parents meeting and all children must be represented by an adult at the meeting.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

This year it is planned that the children will act out a play of the Gospel during the Christmas Eve Family Mass. Leaders are holding a practice session for children who would like to take part in the Christmas Eve Mass on **Friday 18th Dec at 3.30pm until 4.45pm in the Church.** The final practice will be on **Monday 21st December at 3.30pm until 4.45pm.**

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED!

We **urgently** need more people to join the rota to read during all Masses but especially 11.00am Mass on Sunday. If you are willing to volunteer to read, please speak to Fr Philip or call the parish office as soon as possible.

NATIVITY COSTUMES

If you have any unwanted nativity costumes, it would be useful to make them available to use for the nativity play at the Christmas Eve Mass. If you would like to donate them, please deliver them as soon as possible to the presbytery.

GIFT AID 25% INCREASE IN GIVING AT NO EXTRA COST! The envelopes for the next year are available at the back of the Church in alphabetical order.

Not a gift aider? Why not increase your donations to the Church by 25% at no extra cost to yourself? It doesn't matter how small or large your donation. It really does make a big difference. If you, your spouse or your partner pay tax, you can do this by joining the Gift Aid Scheme. No personal financial details are required. All records are kept in the strictest confidence and are known only by the gift aid organiser and the gift aid office at Brentwood. If you would like to join or would like more information, please contact the Presbytery on **01708 853130.**

CHURCH CHRISTMAS TREE

The church tree will be delivered on the morning of **Monday the 21st December**. If anyone is able to help decorate the tree and prepare the Church, it would be very much appreciated.

THE BELL FUND

The draw for October will take place on **Monday 4th January**. The prize fund currently stands at **£31** so far. **Each bell costs £2** with £1 allocated to the prize fund and £1 to the bell fund. The prize fund will increase as the bells are sold.

ADMISSION TO HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2010

If your child will be aged 5 between **1st September 2010 and 31st August 2011** they need to start school in **September 2010**.

Application is made by a "Primary School Application Form" – this is available from your local authority of via any primary school or online.

These forms are returned to Thurock, but this can be done via Holy Cross School.

Supplementary forms also need to be completed and returned directly to the school.

The closing date for applications for entry into Reception Class 2010 is **Friday 12th February 2010**.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL VACANCY

The school has a vacancy for a mid-day assistant from January 2010. For further information, please contact Mrs Cathy Reid at the school on **01708 853000**.

PLEASE PRAY for the Sick & Housebound, especially:

Gerard Allison, Jadesola Asaju, Christopher Azoba, Kathleen Baucutt, Sandra Barraclough, Ellen Brewer, Grace Bullen, John Cairns, Tony Chubb, Frank Courtney, Patricia Clancy, Minnie Cummings, Monica Daley, Rose Deighan, Peg Dennison, Grace Doherty, Tracy Edmeades, Veronica Edmund, Flora Elliot, Ian Gledell, John Gore, Val Griffiths, Alan Hamer, Josie Holly, Brenda Hopper, Kirstin Jones, Quentin Lewis, Eileen Lyons, Rita MacDonald, Gwen McCormack, Molly McGovan, Elsie Masters, Don Migone, Susan Murphy, Christopher Onukwuba, David Orme, Irene Robinson, Ronald Robinson, Ann Rowntree, Pat Saunders, Louise Scott, Robert Shean, Brenda Stephenson, Jean Stowe, Ciarann Stukins and Dot Wooding.

Please also remember in your prayers those who care for them.

COUNTING ROTA

14th Dec. – Rosemarie Edwards

21st Dec. – Lisa Knight

COFFEE MORNING ROTA

This Sunday – Team D

Next Sunday – Team E

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS' ROTA

This Sunday - Teams B/G/L (4)

Next Sunday - Teams C/H/M (5)

Offertory Collection

5th / 6th December £805.38
(£556.80 was gift aided)

2nd Collection – B.E.E.F.

£230.90 and £185.60 was
Gift aided.

Water Fund

Raised last week – £ 7.18
(£0 was gift aided)

Total from 21st Feb. - £1,149.28

Bell Fund

Raised to date £3,608.06

Dec. Draw Prize Fund =
*£ 31.00

*(This figure goes up as the bells are
sold each week)

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Before Saturday 9.30am Mass
.... or upon request.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:
Each **Monday** in **Holy Cross Church** from **10.00am – 11.00am**

The **Rosary** is said before all weekday morning Liturgies.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 12th December

People of the Parish 9.30am

Brigid McNamara R.I.P. 5.30pm

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9.00am *Marie Gadsden R.I.P.*

11.00am *Catherine McDonagh R.I.P.*

Monday 14th December 9.30am

St John of the Cross

Russell Crickmore R.I.P.

Tuesday 15th December 9.30am

Eucharistic Service

Wednesday 16th December 9.30am

Maxwell Ajibo R.I.P.

Thursday 17th December 9.30am

Chikaodili Ajibo R.I.P.

Friday 18th December 9.30am

Anthony McLoughlin R.I.P.

Saturday 19th December

Bernard Turmel R.I.P. (Anniv.) 9.30am

& Michael Bullen R.I.P.

Virginia Ajibo R.I.P.

5.30pm

SUNDAY 20th December 2009

Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

9.00am *William McLoughlin R.I.P.*

11.00am *People of the Parish*

Dates for your Diary

Sun. 13th December
Christmas Dinner

Thus. 17th December
Reconciliation Service

Thu. 31st December
New Years Eve Party